

Minutes

A4A Forum Accessibility for All

Friday 12 August 2016 – 10.00am
Wangapeka-Heaphy Room, Tasman District Council

Present

Cr Judene Edgar (Chair), Jenna Neame, Jeannie Homesley, Megan Bell (Tasman District Council), Cr Eric Davy (Nelson City Council), Ruby Aberhart, Mike Stevens, John Harwood (Hearing Association), Paul Richards, Heather Walker (Inclusive Sport)

Apologies

Dwayne Fletcher, Krista Hobday, Simon Horracks, Marg Parfitt, Brian Say, Donna Smith, Colleen Plank, Kaye Halkett, Gillian Clayton,

1. Confirmation of minutes from the meeting of 13 May 2016

Ruby wanted it noted that the idea for a Councilors blindfold/wheelchair workshop should be an 'accessibility' workshop – rather than just focusing on certain types of disabilities.

MOVED Judene Edgar
SECONDED John Harwood
CARRIED

Jenna Neame was introduced as standing in for the Councils Activity Planning Manager for Engineering (Dwayne Fletcher). It was noted that Judene would not be standing for Councillor this year but would still be present at the next meeting in November.

2. Matters Arising – Action List

- Mobility taxi in Motueka (Dwayne Fletcher) – Paul Hawkes was not able to be contacted in regards to progress of this – so there will be an update at the next meeting in November
- Cr Eric Davy advised that the new disability parks were now going in on Trafalgar Street. These will have ramps and will be enforced by the parking wardens.
- Founders park audit has been completed
- Tasman District Council Sandwich Board Bylaw – Jenna advised that this will be part of the Town Centre Plan Change which will be undertaken by Steve Markham's Team next year. They do not have the staff capacity to tackle it any earlier

3. Correspondence

- Nil

4. Nelson City Council Updates

Marg Parfitt was unable to attend. Hoping to have an update at the next meeting in November.

5. Queen Street Reinstatement Project

Jeannie Homesley provided an update on the Queen Street Reinstatement Project. The tender is currently being advertised, with major works programmed to start in February 2017. The design process for reinstatement is now focused on the street top amenities.

Jeannie sought feedback to inform this design process, which includes wayfinding signage, location for seating, and other aspects to improve the functionality and accessibility for people. She also asked the forum for ideas for communication channels during the construction period.

6. Champion Road/Salisbury Road Development

Judene presented the group with initial plans of the development and asked for some comment and input from the group. Judene would then pass this onto the Council to be considered before the resource consent is granted as there is a chance that they development could go through non-notified.

Feedback was around safety for pedestrians (including school children), accessible parking, increased traffic congestion and entry and exit to the site. Safe crossing of Champion Road and Salisbury Road was a major concern. Ideally, the group would like to see an underpass built for pedestrians, or have traffic lights installed instead of the proposal to increase the roundabout to two lanes.

7. Revision of the New Zealand Disability Draft Strategy

The draft strategy has been released for comment. There was overall agreement from the group that the draft was well of the mark. It raised some real concerns about who the government had involved in producing this document and the lack of direction that it had.

Judene asked for some feedback which she would then submit on behalf of the group.

This feedback included:

- No real directives
- Gives the impression it is written by academics who have no direct association with someone who has a disability. Find out who the 14 members of the New Zealand Disability Strategy reference group are, and how they were nominated.
- Seems to single out the blind and deaf rather than considering all disabilities

- Still focused in 'us and them' – brings up wider issue of the focus on separate strategies. Needs to address the universal issue of 'accessibility' and the principle of looking after all citizens.

8. Civil Defence information

A representative from Civil Defence could not make it to the meeting but passed on some Cd's and DVD's to distribute. We can pass on any comment about these and if needed a representative can attend the next meeting in November.

9. General Business

- Judene will be at the next meeting on 11 November 2016. The new chair will then be discussed
- Ruby A – Meal on Wheels. The quality has dropped and people are no longer ordering. Richmond numbers have dropped from 44 to 15. Worried that some people cannot afford to go for other options and so will cut down on meals. Why are the government subsidising meals that are not suitable? How do we get some action?

This brought up a wider issue of upcoming elections for DHB candidates. They are elected without the public knowing them or their policies. How do we raise concerns?

On 10 September there is an opportunity to meet candidates at the Stoke Hall – although this is more of a campaigning event.

Meeting closed: 12.00pm