

A4A Forum Accessibility for All

Friday 21 February 2014 – 10.00am
Wangapeka-Heaphy Room, Tasman District Council

Present

Cr Judene Edgar (Chair), Sarah Downs, Bettina Koessler, Sandra Hartley (Tasman District Council), John Harwood (Hearing Association) Mike Stevens, Brian Say, (Association of Blind Citizens), Gail Collingwood (Nelson/Tasman Positive Ageing), Simon Horrocks (Independent), Ruby Aberhart (Independent), Donna Smith (Independent), Marg Parfitt (Nelson City Council), Heather Walker, Lynn Crossland (Inclusive Sport Trust).

Apologies

Krista Hobday, Trevor Norriss, Kaye Halkett, Jane Chamberlain, Marion Edwin, Wendy Wadsworth

1. Confirmation of minutes from the meeting of 15 November 2013

MOVED Donna Smith
SECONDED Ruby Aberhart
CARRIED

2. Matters Arising – Action List

- 111 Txtng Service. Information has been distributed, however, Sarah yet to follow up on the progress of this.
- Brian to follow up with NBus about possible subsidized rates for those living with disabilities. He will need to get in contact with the new Councilors and Mayor of Nelson City to get things moving on this. There is a possibility that this could take the form of a draft annual plan submission.
- Donna has left several messages with Barrier Free NZ but to date has received no response to her enquires.

3. Correspondence

- a. Sarah has emailed both the Golden Bay and Motueka Community Boards to invite a member along to join future A4A meetings. A response is yet to be received.

4. Accessible Voting

In the absence of Kaye Halkett, Mike raised an issue on her behalf with regards to voting in the most recent elections. There was a low voter response from the visually impaired due to the lack of information available to cater for them. Mike is proposing that this issue be addressed for the next elections.

Sandra Hartley provided a response from Tasman District Council. She has researched the issue and solutions sought by other Councils, such as Wellington and Auckland. Solutions include making voting papers machine readable, provision of online voting, or allowing a friend to help with the voting procedure. She went on to say that New Zealand post is also

looking at solutions and are starting preliminary investigations. The Department of Internal Affairs is aiming for online voting to become available for local body elections in May 2016.

John Harwood added that this is an issue also faced by the hearing impaired and they also need to be taken into account when researching solutions. Ruby added that not all people have access to a computer or the internet, so this is something else that will need to be taken into account.

Sandra Hartley to investigate and provide feedback.

5. Tour of Mall Feedback

On the Wednesday 29 February 2014 Sarah, Kaye and Donna, along with Belinda, the Richmond Mall Manager, spent 2 hours walking around the mall assessing all aspects of the mall from the carpark, entrance, toilets etc to find areas that could be improved for those living with disabilities.

As a result, Belinda has put together a list of ideas which she has sent to the Tinline Project Manager for consideration. She will come back to the A4A Forum once she has received a response.

Belinda to be added to the A4A distribution list so she is kept up to date with outcomes of forums meetings and the ideas and issues raised.

6. Inclusive Sports Trust

Lynn Crossland, co-ordinator of the Inclusive sports trust was invited to provide a presentation providing information on the Inclusive Spots Trust.

The Inclusive Sports Trust offers opportunities in sport for all ages throughout the Nelson Tasman Community. These activities are primarily, but not exclusively for players with supported learning needs. The trust seeks to make their activities as accessible as possible.

For further information, members of the forum are invited to visit their website www.inclusivesport.org.nz or contact Lynn by Phone (03) 543 2552 or email lynn@inclusivesport.org.nz

7. Nelson City Council Update

Marg provided the group with an update from Nelson City Council.

a. NCC and A4A

Letter to Mayor Reece has been received with regards to formalizing NCC's partnership with A4A. There is yet to be confirmation on who exactly will attend the meeting, either an elected member or a staff member. Cr Davy has expressed his interest in becoming involved with the forum.

b. Rocks Road Project

The Rocks Road Study has come about as a result of an arterial traffic study to improve walking and cycling along Rocks Road. This study is being led by Opus International Consultants. On the 11th of March Council will hold a workshop on the options which are put forward and from late April through to 28th May options will become available and go to public consultation for feedback.

In October NCC will look at the preferred option and this then needs to be committed to by 2018. This is only the first round of engagement and this will be a general and informal process. To be discussed at the next A4A meeting.

c. **Total Mobility**

Marg is currently looking at renewing the contract with the various assessment agencies. Operators, such as taxi companies, have been given a draft to consider. Currently still awaiting a reply from them.

Council may consider introducing ID cards in future. It was noted the scheme is currently oversubscribed and risks further reduction in subsidy to users. Discussion suggested that in submissions to Councils Long Term Plans a higher Total Mobility budget is set – requiring more support from NZTA and rates to cater for a predicted growth in numbers of clients meeting the criteria as our population ages.

Gail suggested that Sarah write a letter to support Marg's usefulness of being a part of this forum to Mayor Rachel Reece.

8. Three Brothers Corner

Judene recently attended the Tasman Regional Transport Committee Meeting. As a result Judene provided the group with a map of a stock effluent facility which is going to be constructed at Three Brothers Corner, to show the group the proposed truck movements, and provide an opportunity for feedback.

There was some discussion on the topic. There was a concern from some that this will cause an increase in accidents, however, most were in agreement that pedestrian movements were being considered in the design. The main suggestions were for better parking demarcation, signage and a pedestrian refuge facility.

The general comment overall was that accessibility issues are taken into account. Any further comments on this can be sent to Judene directly judene.edgar@clear.net.nz

General Business

a. Carpark Use

Ruby raised the issue of large carparks, as there is particular concern of the large carpark now situated at the Richmond Mall and Kmart. It was questioned who this carpark is actually for. Marg advised that carparks are legally referred to as a 'shared space,' where there are no rules as such and instead common courtesy is applied. It was suggested that this site in particular could be improved with speed limit and shared space signage. Brian to take the issue up at the next conference to discuss the issue at a national level.

b. Tasman Regional Transport Committee

Donna announced that she is now an advisor to the Tasman Regional Transport Committee.

c. Captel Phones

John advised that the installation of Captel phones is still ongoing. Sarah confirmed that Council is still negotiating the exact location of where the phones will be put in place, either Council's main office in Richmond, or at the Richmond Library. Once these are installed, it will be publicized.

d. Next Positive Aging Forum

Gail advised that the next Positive Aging Forum would be taking place on Monday 24 February.

e. Mapua Pedestrian Path

Simon raised a concern regarding the pedestrian path in Mapua. Although an excellent path, it leads straight onto steps, which is not helpful to those in

wheel chairs. The area needs better signage. Sarah to follow up with Beryl Wilkes in Parks and Reserves.

Meeting closed: 12:05pm

Next meeting: 9 May 2014

Action List

Action	Who	Timing
Accessible Voting - Sandra to investigate and provide feedback to A4A at a future meeting.	Sandra Hartley	Ongoing
Belinda to be added to the A4A distribution list so she is kept up to date with outcomes of forum meetings and the ideas and issues raised	Bettina Koessler	DONE
Sarah to write a letter to Mayor Rachel Reece supporting the value there is in Marg being able to attend the A4A Forum, and the possibility of her staying on as the representative for NCC.	Sarah Downs	ASAP
Request for better signage at the pedestrian path in Mapua. To be followed up with Beryl Wilkes.	Sarah Downs	ASAP
111 txtng service, information has been distributed and follow up needs to be completed.	Sarah Downs	ASAP
To make contact with new NCC Councilors' and Mayor with regards to subsidized Nbus rates. May also include a draft annual plan submission	Brian Say	Ongoing
Rocks Road Project – to be included as an agenda item at the next meeting.	Bettina Koessler	Next Meeting
A4A submission to Draft Long Term Plan and Annual Plan to both NCC and TDC regarding a higher Total Mobility budget.	Sarah Downs/Marg Parfitt may provide advice. Forum members to present	ASAP