



MINUTES OF MEETING

ACCESS COMMITTEE

HELD TUESDAY 17th FEBRUARY 2009

PRESENT:

Councillors

Cllr Jean Hay AM, Mayor (ex officio)	Manly Council
Cllr Barbara Aird	Manly Council
Cllr Adele Heasman	Manly Council

Other Representatives

Evelyn Shervington	Community Representative - Chairperson
Verity Shervington	Community Representative
Bourke Gibbons	Community Representative

Council Staff

Kathryn Fayle	Community Services Manager
Sandra Faase	Community Development Coordinator (minutes)

TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS OF THE COUNCIL

The **Access Committee** met on 17 February, 2009, to consider the matters referred to it and now reports having reached the decisions taken and recommendations stated hereunder:

OPEN	The Meeting Commenced At 2.05pm	
ITEM 1	APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE Nil	ACTION
ITEM 2	DECLARATION OF INTEREST Nil	
ITEM 3	ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON Evelyn Shervington was elected as Chairperson.	

ITEM4	STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR THE ACCESS COMMITTEE INCLUDING TERMS OF REFERENCE AND WORK PLAN Council's Community Services Manager made a presentation to the Committee. This presentation included information on: • Terms of Reference – the Committee is purely advisory and now meets bi-monthly • The strategic framework for 2009-2012. • Access and the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 • Access opportunities, which could be environmental, recreational, sporting, social and partnership opportunities. A discussion ensued in order to develop a Work Plan, with the Committee identifying access priorities. The Strategic Framework presentation is attached. The priorities for the Committee for 2009-12 are to be finalised at the April 2009 meeting. Recommendation The Committee requests that the General Manager and Council consider inviting 3 representatives from disability organisations to fill the remaining 3 vacancies in the Committee's membership.	ACTION To be actioned if approved.
ITEM 5	ACCESS REPORT UPDATE AND DISCUSSION A document was distributed showing the status of all items considered by the previous Access Committee. Disability parking cheats Recommendation The Committee asks Council to consider installing signage in the Whistler Street car park forecourt accessible parking spaces, preferably with the wording "Dob in a Disability Parking Permit Cheat", including the NSW Government Hotline set up for this purpose: 1300 844 899. Pedestrian Safety along Whistler Street and Market Lane The following Access Committee recommendation was adopted at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 21 July 2008: "That the safety issues at the entry and exits to the Whistler Street Carpark be dealt with urgently by the painting of line markings so it is clear that pedestrians have right-of-way: At the August 2008 meeting, the Committee requested that the Traffic Section carry out surveys to ascertain whether these locations meet the pedestrian crossing warrant criteria. The update from the Traffic section was that data has been analysed from the car park entry and exit gates that showed a maximum of 100 vehicles entering the car park per hour, and a maximum of 120 exiting the car park per hour. This did not meet the warrant criteria for pedestrian crossings - 500 vehicles per hour. Recommendation The Committee requests the Council to consider undertaking a	Customer Service Request to be sent to Chris Bradley Customer Service

survey at the entry to Market Lane to see whether this meets the criteria of 500 vehicles per hour.

Request to be sent to Prabaka Siva if approved.

Accessible taxis – pick up and drop off zones

Recommendation

The Committee requests that the Council consider undertaking an inspection of the Kiss and Ride zone on Belgrave Street to ascertain if a ramp could be placed there.

Customer Service Request to be sent to Prabaka Siva if approved.

Disability Parking in the CBD

Recommendation

The Committee requests that the Council consider providing a report on the results of the survey being undertaken in the CBD including the placing and timing of disability parking to a future meeting of the Access Committee.

Customer Service Request to be sent to Prabaka Siva if approved.

Timing of lights at Belgrave & Raglan Street intersection

Recommendation

The Committee requests the Council to consider requesting the RTA to check the timing of the lights over Belgrave Street on the tennis court side.

Customer Service Request to be sent to Prabaka Siva if approved.

Request to redesign of mobility parking permits

Mike Baird MP's office had submitted a further letter to the Minister for Roads in relation to the Committee's request for the MPS permit to be redesigned so that the photo is displayed to the outside, as per the UK parking permit.

A letter was tabled from RTA Chief Executive, Les Wielinga, dated 13 February 2009, advising the photo is displayed to the inside due to privacy considerations, and also due to the effect of sunlight on the photo.

Recommendation

The Committee requests the Council to consider writing to a peak disability lobby group e.g. Paraquad, to lobby for a redesign of the MPS permit.

To be actioned by Kathryn Fayle if approved.

Better toilet seats for disabled people

Recommendation

The Committee commends Council's Facilities Manager for the upgrade of accessible toilet facilities at Ocean Beach (opposite Corso), Rialto Square, Shelly Beach, Little Manly, and soon Queenscliff.

Access ramp – Manly Yacht Club

Recommendation

The Access Committee would like to congratulate Council's Civic and Urban Services Division on the design and construction of the ramp.

Steep kerb ramps – Darley Rd and Wentworth Street

Recommendation

The Committee requests clarification from Council on whether this work is subject to RTA approval, and requests confirmation that this work is scheduled for March 2009.

Customer
Service
Request to be
sent to Tony
Goninon

Update of the Manly DCP for Access

Recommendation

The Committee requests that the Council considers giving an update on the progress of the DCP.

Anthony
Hewton if
approved.

GENERAL BUSINESS

ITEM 6

Letter to Mayor re Synthetic Bowling Green for Seniors Centre

The Mayor tabled a letter she had received dated 27 January 2009 from KCL Sports. The letter details a meeting between KCL's Managing Director and the Manly Seniors Club Inc. Bowling Coordinator, who met to discuss an additional bowling green at the Seniors Centre to cater for disabled bowlers in wheelchairs.

The letter offers the Manly Club for Seniors Inc. a 12-month old used synthetic green, which is in "exceptional condition" for \$13,000 – less than half price than for a new surface. KCL advises they also offered the green to another client, and that "...we would need to have a contract, deposit and commence within 2 months" for the Club to take up this offer. Work that would need to be undertaken to install the green, including excavation work by Council would make the total cost \$38,550.00 plus GST.

Recommendation

The Access Committee supports the concept of a disabled bowling green at the Manly Senior Citizens Centre and requests Council to consider paying for and installing the synthetic bowling green at the Seniors Centre.

Kathryn Fayle
to develop a
budget bid.

Letter in relation to access to Seaforth shops

A letter to the Access Committee was tabled dated 10 February 2009 (attached) from Ms Athena McIver from Seaforth, in relation to providing additional access to a number of Seaforth Shops: the Newsagent, Arlingtons grocery store, and the Seaforth Pharmacy. Ms McIver requests that Council contact these shop owners to initiate the appropriate changes to provide for access.

Recommendation

The Committee requests that Council consider:

- writing a letter to the Seaforth Chamber of Commerce and/or Seaforth shopkeepers, providing details of how they can improve access to shops.
- Requesting that a Compliance Officer inspect these shops.

Kathryn Fayle
to action if
approved.

ITEM 7**NEXT MEETING DATE:**

Date: 21/4/09

Time: 2pm

Venue: Councillors' Room

Meeting closed at 4.15pm

Access Committee Strategic Framework

3 Year Plan
2009 -12

First Meeting of Committee

- Check which community members still need training
- Ensure all have received appointment letters and have signed and returned acceptance letter
- Strategic Framework Presentation
- Develop Work Plan with Committee
- Consider changes in Objectives to refer to General Manager and Council
- Any changes to membership of Committee refer to GM and Council

Terms of Reference

2. Objectives

This is a Special Purpose Committee, convened by the General Manager, to provide a forum for discussion and recommendation to Manly Council to:

- Advise Council to ensure all its programs, services and facilities properly address and consider relevant access and equity issues as defined under statute and in keeping with current state and national trends, and
- Act as a contact point for people with disabilities in the community to advise Council in decision-making regarding access to local buildings and services, particularly with regard to redevelopments in Manly.

The role of this Committee is purely advisory and may not commit Council resources.

Terms of Reference (continued)

- 3. Management
- A. *Membership of Committee*
- The Committee shall consist of:
 - Councillor representatives (and the Mayor ex officio):
 - Councillor Barbara Aird
 - Councillor Adele Heasman
 - 6 Community representatives -what shall we do about 3 vacancies?
- The Community members shall serve on the Committee in a voluntary capacity.
- Membership of the Committee shall be reviewed in September 2010.
- The quorum for the Committee is 5 members (unless decide to reduce membership)
- This Committee meets bi-monthly.

Strategic Framework for Committees

- Determine what we want to achieve over the Council term to 2012?
- Identify access opportunities?
- Identify what are the priorities?
- Develop a Work Plan

Access According to the Disability Discrimination Act 1992

- The Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) makes it against the law for public places to be inaccessible to people with a disability.
- Every area and facility open to the public should be open and available to people with a disability. They should expect to enter and make use of places used by the public if people without a disability can do so.
- The DDA does not require the provision of access to be made if this will cause major difficulties or excessive costs to a person or organisation. This is called "unjustifiable hardship".

Best Outcome for Access in Manly

Before deciding that providing access is justified or unjustified, the Access Committee should make recommendations to Council following:

Assessment

- thoroughly consider how access might be provided

Community Engagement and/or Benchmarking

- discuss access issue directly with key stakeholders

Research and Evaluation

- consult relevant sources of advice and review outcomes

Access Opportunities

- Environmental
- Recreational
- Sporting
- Social
- Partnerships
- Other

Key Outcomes	Measurement	Action
To consult and evaluate access options	Meeting minutes Access Reports Surveys	Access Committee will evaluate options via: Focus groups Benchmarking with other services/providers Literature reviews Committee consultation Guest speakers

Key Outcomes	Measurement	Action
To make recommendations to Council to improve access for people with disabilities	Access Committee Minutes	Access Committee identifies access issues or opportunities, and provides supporting evidence to better advise Council
To improve environmental, social, sporting and recreational access for people with disabilities in Manly	Access Committee Minutes Successful project developments completed	Access Committee will advise Council regarding opportunities for access improvements or enhancements

Committee Work Plan 2009-12

- What do we want to achieve by 2012?
- How can we better advise Council on access?
- What are the priorities?
- What should we tackle first?

