

**Minutes
Clarence Valley Access Committee
Held in the Maclean Committee Room and via Teams
On Wednesday 17 August 2022 at 11am – 12pm**

Attendance: Jennifer O'Brien, Cr Karen Toms, Cr Steve Pickering, Alana Brooks (CVC), Laura Smith-Khan, Ross McCann (CVC), Jennifer Obrien, Kath Armdell (CVC), Erin Brady (CVC), Justin Putze (CVC). Via Teams: Jason Kingsley, Dave Moran, Zoe Goodsell, Vanette McLennan, David Sutton (CVC) Stephen Tims (CVC), Murray Lane (CVC), Laura Black (CVC).

Chair: Cr Karen Toms

Minute Taker: Erin Brady

Guest Attendees: Justin Putze, Stephen Timms

Apologies: Bevan Sommerland, Jody O'Brien

ACKNOWLEDGEMNT TO COUNTRY by Cr Steve Pickering

We acknowledge the Yaegl people, Traditional Custodians of the land on which this meeting is taking place and pay tribute and respect to the Elders both past and present. We also acknowledge the Gumbaynggirr and Bundjalung Nations which lie within the Council boundary.

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION / DECISION FOR ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
Minutes previous meeting –		
Moved Laura Smith-Khan Second Jennifer O'Brien		
Previous Business:		

<p>Pippi Beach Access</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal– formalise parking, nose in, angled parking, proposed 2 disabled parking spaces, disabled and abled access to reserve and toilets. • David Sutton explained two current access path options – one going to toilet/reserve and viewing platform near toilets; the other to a viewing platform/stairs to beach and the toilets. It was noted these are not spots to get disabled people to beach. The plan is to provide disabled access to the toilets. David Sutton also noted in 80-year erosion modelling the structure would disappear. • Proposal is currently at design stage. • Laura Black – There’s no reason why it wouldn’t be sitting on a forward works program waiting for cost. Laura Black said the Open Spaces team were active in securing grant funding which may bring it forward. • Cr Karen Toms – This is a priority as we have disabled toilets people can’t access. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Sutton – get costings from Wagner.
<p>Turners Beach Access</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Sutton presented a plan proposed in 2011 – he said it was considered cost prohibited. Challenges: Crown Land, Native title, site investigation, environmental studies, REF, project funding, there has been no community engagement. • Cr Karen Toms and Jason Kingsley both said they didn’t remember this plan getting presented to the Access Committee in the past. • Dave Sutton showed photos of the track previously constructed – it is currently overgrown and 1m-1.5m drop at beach access point due to erosion from seas. Access onto beach is the problem. • Cr Karen Toms - Hopeful to progress it. • Laura Black – asked if CVC has any understanding of the costs. David Sutton is waiting for feedback from Wagner on costs. Sutton estimated around \$500,000 based on previous projects. • Laura Black – suggests Cr Karen Toms moves the Turners Beach Access from idea to Forward Works Program. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Sutton – get costings • Erin Brady to share plans with attendees

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cr Steve Pickering – is the overgrown path accessible? Could we repair it? David Sutton – would need major beach modification, but beach is very active and would require a long path. David Sutton said it was too vulnerable in current location. • Jennifer O’Brien – asked if disabled parking spaces would be moved? Cr Karen Toms said no. • Alana Brooks – is this the best beach to invest in? Cr Karen Toms – no beaches are ideal. Disabled surfing is held there and events. Jennifer O’Brien said Turners is the beach most people with disability would go to. Jason Kingsley – the only other beach that could provide disabled access in Yamba would be Main Beach. He also said disabled access is possible at Minnie Water Beach. • Jason Kingsley – Asked question to David Sutton: Considering proposal is 11 years old is it better to have someone look at this again for other options that are potentially viable? David Sutton – the plan is 11 years old. Technology has changed, the coastal process has changed. Would make sense to have another look at it. And consider coastal erosion. Is this the best spot for it? The process would be design, community engagement, then build. • Ross McCann – has concerns where current ramp hits the beach in flood times and rain. Turbulence. Consider matting material. • Jason Kingsley – said he has seen and used a combination of ramps and beach access mats on Gold Coast that are effective and not overly expensive. On the Gold Coast they work closely with SLSC to roll mats out and pull them in. 	
<p>TDCC DA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Latest plans were shared with committee, and a path beside the shared zone was highlighted. Committee happy with path and addition of different coloured surfaces incorporated into the design. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee also pleased their suggestion for more accessible options for PWD toilet door options have been added as a requirement of consent and shared with architect/project team. • Access Committee are pleased with outcomes. • Laura Black confirmed members of the public can access plans. • This DA will go to Regional Planning Panel for determination. No date set. 	
Access for Assistance Dogs in training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cr Steve Pickering was on the radio speaking about MindDogs. • Laura Black – suggested committee look at TOR to consider options. She suggested could council advocate or promote something in general through its channels? By creating awareness in community – it becomes community monitoring. • Jason Kingsley – Suggested adding to next month’s agenda a project he works on – Access at a Glance. The campaign provides stickers to businesses highlighting the accessibility they offer in their business. Promotes inclusion and disability. Jason Kingsley suggested in his capacity as engagement officer that he could go and see Grafton Shoppingworld centre management re access for Assistance Dogs in training and trainers. • Motion: Council endorse supporting the Access at a Glance campaign Moved: Jennifer O’Brien Seconded: Laura Smith-Khan Carried 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add Access at a Glance to September Agenda • Report to Council
Queen Street / North Street path update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alana Brooks let committee know this has been fixed. Sealed between footpath and road. 	
Arthur Street footpath	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A potential solution has been identified to move the existing bollards to other side of path. 	
Hospital Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alana Brooks presented proposed plan for increasing the number of accessible parking spaces for GBH. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cr Steve Pickering – noticed parking is reverse in and not nose in. Jennifer O’Brien said it was easier to get a wheelchair out with reverse in parking. Jason Kingsley agreed. • Jason Kingsley – suggested it would be good to extend the width of the disabled parking spaces – need a bit more room. 2.6m would be better as minimum. Jason Kingsley said reverse in is better if you’re mounting through the back of vehicle. Jason Kinsley also suggested if there could be set-down pads at the back of those spaces – not grass – that would be ideal. • Jason Kingsley – Asked for gutter ramps to be considered when locating disabled parking. Locate them between two carparks, not in the middle. • Alana Brooks– design is to off-road standard. There is a shared space in between to access the path. Jason Kingsley and Jennifer O’Brien both said they would appreciate wider parking spaces, rather than shared spaces. 	
Emergency Management Plan (EMPLAN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deferred to September meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add to September Agenda
TOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deferred to September meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add to September Agenda
Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robyn Monk CVC email • Jessica Summerhayes CVC email • Daniel Ramsden Complete Urban email 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robyn Monk CVC email moved to next meeting
DAs for Consultation	NIL	
General Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability Inclusion Action Plan update presented by Justin Putze (CVC). The 2017 DIAP was adopted by council. Seeking to extend the same document to end of 22/23 to enable council to draft new DIAP. NSW Govt has issued new DIAP guidelines – there’s a webinar 29 September 2022 - How to build new plan going forward. 	

	<p>Main additions to updated 22/23 DIAP – intro and page 5+6 timeline that clearly outlines steps council will work through to develop new plan.</p> <p>Jason Kingsley – How many people with disability are employed at Clarence Valley Council? Has there been a survey? Is there an employment policy for people with a disability? What’s Council’s policy on reasonable adjustments for people with a disability? Are there workplace modification, flexible working arrangements, assisted technology to assist people to carry out their role?</p> <p>Jason Kingsley - Has there been a disability access audit done of Council offices? After the new office in Grafton was open? Jason Kingsley said this should be looked at and budgeted for in the future.</p> <p>Cr Karen Toms – At new Grafton Council Office people can’t access disability toilets independently cause not accessible. Need to make sure this doesn’t happen in the future with new buildings. Cr Toms said the Access Committee needs to get to plans before they’re in the final stages of approval.</p> <p>Jason Kingsley said the other important point to note with DIAPs was addressing the culture within certain sections of council around disability and access in community. Jason Kingsley said this focused on 1) community facilities and parks and 2) council buildings. Jason Kingsley said if it wasn’t for endorsement of Council we wouldn’t have disability access to parks, community facilities, and council chambers. Jason Kinglsey said there’s some understanding of disability within council staff that needs training.</p> <p>Laura Black – Council is quite reactive in its employment of people with disability. It’s a priority for us to review before December 2022.</p> <p>Endorse: Committee endorses DAIP for 2022/23 Move: Jennifer O’Brien Second: Jason Kingsley Carried</p>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disabled carparks in Maclean 	Deferred to September Agenda
Guest Speaker –	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stephen Timms, CVC, Streets as Shared Spaces project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stephen Timms has already spoken to committee about the project. Got \$500k funding to try out things that could become permanent. Trial - Oct 2022 – Feb 2023. - The project aims to make Grafton an exciting place to be and demonstrate to government and community what a good precinct plan could achieve. - Council did a mini-trial on Prince Street near Heart and Soul Café for a month. Stephen Timms said they had good feedback from that and learnt lessons. Critical to involve all businesses. - Changing car parking for Prince Street. Widening footpath – there’s lots of footpath to work with. - Disabled parking spaces – audit found disabled spaces are not up to standard in Prince Street. - Keen for Access Committee feedback on detailed design when it’s available. - Jennifer O’Brien – concerned extending pathways and nose in parking, is that leaving space for PWD to get wheelchairs out of boots in cars etc? Is there enough room? Stephen Timms said because Prince Street is such a wide road, we’ve got loads of room to work with. - Cr Karen Toms – Noted Access Committee has been pushing for nose-in parking on Prince Street for a long time. Jason Kingsley agreed. - Cr Karen Toms acknowledged Access Committee member Dave Moran has been working with Council on this project. - Stephen Timms - Disabled parking spaces in the plan are 3.2m wide. Jason Kingsley liked this. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Carrying EMPLAN and TOR over to next meeting.- Disabled Carparks Maclean carry on to next meeting.	
Meeting closed	12:45pm	
Next Meeting	Wednesday 21 September at 11am – 12pm (extended to 12:30pm agenda dependent).	

K. Toms.

Signed by Chairperson: Cr Karen Toms