

MINUTES

KINGBOROUGH DISABILITY INCLUSION & ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting No. 2022-4

Wednesday 10 August 2022



Minutes of a Meeting of the Kingborough Disability Inclusion & Access Advisory Committee held at the Kingborough Civic Centre, Kingston, on Wednesday 10 August 2022 2.00pm.

PRESENT

		PRESENT	APOLOGY
Chairperson	Cr Paula Wriedt	✓	
	David Vickery	✓	
	Kevin Brown	✓	
	Di Carter		X
	Fran Thompson	✓	
	Richard Witbreuk		X
	Wendy Nielsen		X
	Heather Anderson	✓	
	David McQuillan	✓	
	Don Hempton	✓	
	Bob Schnierer	✓	
	Anne Rathjen	✓	
Staff	Mel Staples (Community Development Officer)	✓	
	Anthony Verdow (Executive Officer Engineering)	✓	
	Heather Salisbury (Acting Director Environment, Development and Community)	✓	

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

The Chairperson acknowledged and paid respect to the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community as the traditional and original owners and continuing custodians of the land on which the Committee met and acknowledged elders past and present.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MOVED: Bob Schnierer
 SECONDED: Don Hempton

That the Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 8 June 2022 as circulated, be confirmed.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING

Plans for 2022

- **Keeping our Footpaths Clear brochure** - the brochure was circulated with rates notice.
- **Regular column in the local media** – articles in the Kingborough Chronicle and Kingston Classifieds to raise community awareness with real life stories on some of the issues that people with disabilities face.

Action: Cr Paula Wriedt to contact the Kingborough Chronicle

Action List Update

- **Meeting of Inclusive Customer Service Sub-Committee**

Action: Mayor Cr Wriedt to contact committee members (Don Hempton, David McQuillan, Di Carter or Richard Witbreuk) to arrange a meeting time.

- **Beach Matting at Kingston Beach** – the beach wheelchairs are now available for use thanks to partnership between Council and the Kingston Beach Surf Life Saving Club. It would be a good idea to trial wheelchairs and see how successful they are. Heather Anderson volunteered to give it a 'test drive'.

Mel provided update from Clarence Council. The Council has provided in this financial year's budget \$5,000 toward partnering with other organisations for beach matting at an appropriate site, likely Bellerive Beach. It was discussed that this would provide Kingborough with the opportunity to learn from their model and have a better idea of funding requirements.

Action: Mel to contact Clarence City Council to find out what model they are using for the matting (e.g. will it stay out or be rolled up each day)

Action: Heather Anderson to trial the beach wheelchairs at Kingston Beach at an appropriate time.

- **Taroona Bus Stop** – signalised crossing has been installed.

Action: Anthony Verdouw to check the timing for crossing

- **Mary Knoll Footpath** – the footpath hasn't been taken over by Council at this time. However, the gradient is very steep and engineers are following up with the advice provided by the development engineer. Anthony also confirmed that a new footpath will be completed on the northern side of Blowhole Road during this financial year.

Action: Anthony Verdouw to provide update at next meeting

- **Footpath Audit** – Anthony reported that Council was currently doing an audit of all the missing links. If members of the DIAAC notice areas where there is a deficiency, please contact Council, through Anthony.

- **Channel Court** - there are no new accessible carparking spaces in the area located underground next to the Woolworths entry. However, the Mayor noted that the 3 x 15 minutes spaces near the Post Office have been converted into 2 accessible spaces.

- **Kingborough Sports Centre** – Council is waiting on the engineering officer to return from leave to investigate the allocation of 2 accessible spaces in front of the Sports Centre. It was suggested that 2 of the 4 spaces in front of the Kingborough Gymnastics Centre be converted to parent/pram parking spaces.
- **Lightwood Park and Kingborough Fitness Centre** – Anthony is following up on the need to allocate spaces to these two facilities.
- **Kingborough Community Hub** – Mel provided an update on the works at the Hub and referred to the images provided.
 - Bike Racks to be removed from the wall and replaced by 3 racks with bikes angled at 45 degrees to prevent obstruction to public walkway. The bike rack area to be bordered by tactile floor tiles.
 - Tactile dots will be used to extend the end of each black strip on the stairs at the entrance to the Hub
 - Signage has been put in place at each of the exit doors of the Auditorium
 - Panic Bar vertical bolt catches have been quoted and are awaiting parts to proceed
 - Concrete pillars require some colour to ensure a delineation between the concrete slab and pillars. Options to tile, paint or do a community arts project.
 - Changing Places – the works have been completed and we are now waiting on Certification.

Action: Mel to follow up on each of these to ensure that they progress.

- **Design of Public Transport Facilities** – Anthony met State Growth representatives. They are currently auditing all the bus stops to make a priority list for upgrades within each Local Government area. All the standard drawings for bus stops are also being upgraded.
- **Park and Ride Facilities** at Firthside and Huntingfield – the Firthside facility has been completed and there is a question about whether the users of the spaces are local Firthside workers or people who are actually using the Park and Ride. The Huntingfield facility is still under construction.
- **Shortage of Wheelchair Maxi Taxis** - Mayor Paula Wriedt wrote to the Minister for Disability Services and the Minister for Transport to inform them of the critical shortage of wheelchair accessible Maxi Taxis. A response was received from Minister Ferguson. David once again raised the question as to whether taxis are legally required to provide a return trip.

Action: Mayor Wriedt to write to the Attorney General requesting clarification on return trip.

Action: Mayor Wriedt to write to Minister Jo Palmer and Minister Ferguson to seek further incentives for taxis and other ride sharing services to increase supply of accessible vehicles.

Meeting with the Anti-Discrimination Commissioner 23 June 2022

David Vickery attended a meeting with 60 other members of the community. He said that there wasn't a lot of time to meet with the Commissioner in person and the items raised by members of the community were the same issues which repeatedly get raised over the years.

Accessibility Checklist for Public Amenities

Anthony has found a checklist online from Equal Opportunity Tasmania:

www.equalopportunity.tas.gov.au/resources/information_on_improving_building_access_for_all/5_toilet_facilities

Council's Public Toilet Strategy:

<https://www.kingborough.tas.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Kingborough-public-toilet-strategy-2020-Update.pdf>

A Buildings and Facilities Checklist document from Western Australia (attached to minutes) – please refer to page 49 for the Public Amenities section.

Correspondence

Correspondence in

- NAB Kingston Branch closure was discussed and it was decided to 'watch this space' regarding no other branches leave Kingston.

Other Business

- **Medical Centres** are no longer providing bulk billing – this was out of the scope for this committee; however, it was noted that two new medical centres are opening in Kingborough including Margate and Taroon
- **Kingston Community Health Centre Stage 2** – is there a plan for Stage 2 and will this model take any pressure off the Royal Hobart Hospital for patients to be seen locally?

It was also discussed that an Emergency Precinct be considered where the fire brigade, ambulance, police and SES are co-located in one Hub with the vision that Kingston has a 24 hour police and ambulance presence.

Action: Mayor Wriedt to write to Minister Rockcliff for an update on the progress of Stage 2 planning. Anne suggested that the Mayor also seek clarification on the funding that was provided for GP Clinics to open on a 24 hr basis. The Minister's Press Release is attached:

[Premier of Tasmania - GP After Hours Support Initiative boosting access to healthcare](#)

- **Easy Read Local Government elections information** – Mel is attending a meeting with other Southern Council members to discuss the development of some easy read instructions for voting in the upcoming LG election.
- **Workplace Behaviour Administrative Policy** was discussed. The Policy is very formal and lengthy which makes it difficult to read and understand. The Policy needs to be backed up by proper training for staff to ensure that everyone fully understands it. Don suggested that people with disabilities are least likely to make a complaint due to the bureaucratic process. Council's Complaints Policy is a recent policy based on advice from the Victorian Ombudsman. Fran suggested contact with Advocacy Tasmania if there are any unresolved complaints <https://advocacytasmania.org.au/>

- **Lightwood Park ramp to soccer oval** - Anne raised the issue that the path to the children's soccer oval is steep, slippery and dangerous due to the gradient, lack of handrail and large mud puddle at the end of the concrete.

Action: Anthony to follow up with Janelle and Daniel from Recreation Services

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Access Advisory Committee is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 12 October 2022 2pm at the Council Chambers.

CLOSURE: There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 3.40pm.