

Minutes



DISABILITY SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HELD IN THE COUNCIL'S COMMITTEE ROOM,
953 SOUTH COAST HIGHWAY, DENMARK
ON THURSDAY, 12 MARCH 2015.

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1. DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

11.20am – *The Presiding Person, Cr Morrell, declared the meeting open.*

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

MEMBERS:

Cr David Morrell (Presiding Person)
Mr Adrian Hinds, Community Member (Deputy Presiding Person)
Mrs Carolyn Birdseye, Community Member
Mr Peter Boyes, Community Member
Mrs Dale Fewings, Professional Member (Community)
Ms Gabrielle Rose, Disability Services Commission Representative
Mr Richard Keasy, Community Member

STAFF:

Ms Claire Thompson, Executive Assistant

APOLOGIES:

Ms Margaret Walker, Denmark Over 50s Association Representative
Mr Sam Barron, Health Service Manager, Denmark Health Service Representative

ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Nil

ABSENT:

Nil

VISITORS:

Nil

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Nil

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING

Nil

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1 COMMITTEE MEETING

The Mover of a motion to confirm the Minutes of a Council or Committee meeting has to have been present at that meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION & OFFICER RECOMMENDATION	ITEM 5.1
MOVED: Adrian Hinds	SECONDED: Carol Birdseye
That the minutes of the Disability Services Advisory Committee meeting held on the 12 January 2015, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings.	
CARRIED	

6. REPORTS

6.1 Document Distribution

At the meeting held on 12 January 2015, members resolved that all papers, from Council Officers or Committee Members, that have been not been distributed with this Agenda should be dealt with as the first item of business of the Agenda such that the Committee can determine whether to consider the matter at this meeting or schedule it for a subsequent meeting, or note the matter as no further action to be required.

Noted. Neither the Officer nor Members had any documents to distribute.

6.2 2013 - 2018 Disability Access & Inclusion Plan (DAIP)

A copy of the adopted DAIP has previously been provided to all members and a current version of the Implementation Plan is attached for consideration and action.

The DAIP has 7 overarching Outcomes, each Outcome has Strategies and each Strategy has Actions. Whilst keeping in mind each associated Outcome and Strategy, it is recommended that the Committee should concentrate on each Action and work towards achieving these within the next five years.

OFFICER COMMENT

Updates to the Implementation Plan since the last meeting have been highlighted yellow on the attached current version (current as at 12 March 2015).

6.2.1 AUDIT OF CBD PARKING & FOOTPATHS

The onsite visit and walk about the CBD took place prior to the meeting where members were asked to consider the following two strategies & actions in the DAIP;

1. Strategy 1.6 – Parking

- Investigate the position of on / off ramps, including signs, particularly at the northern end of Strickland St. It was previously noted that there were no ramps in north Strickland St carpark and limited 'connection' of on/off ramps between Supa IGA and carpark.
- Investigate the existing ACROD bays within the Shire of Denmark with respect to compliance (particularly width, condition of surface areas & access to footpaths) with current Australian Standards and consider upgrading in future capital works and line marking.

2. Strategy 2.2 – Footpaths & Trails

- Undertake an audit of existing footpaths, including on & off ramps, slopes, railing & tactile warning strips, within the Denmark Townsite, for consideration in the path development plan.

AUDIT ITEMS – DENMARK CBD

On – Off Ramps

- Location – do they 'match up'?
- Tactile retrofit?
- Rails?
- Other?

□ **Pathways**

- Slopes
- Rails
- Colour contrasts between different levels or surfaces
- Other?

□ **ACROD Bays - Existing**

- Location – considering getting in and out of vehicle / access to footpath
- Size
- Surface
- Other?

Outcome

It was agreed that members would write down the areas that they believe could or should be addressed within the CBD and submit them to the Executive Assistant for inclusion and discussion at the next meeting, including comments from the Chief Executive Officer and the Director of Infrastructure Services on the suggested improvements.

6.2.2 REVIEW OF DAIP – OUTCOME 7

Summary:

This report recommends that the Committee commence a review of the Shire of Denmark's Disability Access & Inclusion Plan ("the DAIP") and include the correction of the wording of Outcome 7.

Background:

The DAIP was adopted by Council on the 9 July 2013 following a review by the Disability Services Advisory Committee and a public advertising process.

It has been identified the wording of Outcome 7 of the DAIP is incorrect and requires correcting.

Consultation:

Council's Chief Executive Officer
Disability Services Commission

Statutory Obligations:

Regulation 8 of the Disability Services Regulations 2004 states as follows;

For the purposes of section 29(4) of the Act, a report about a disability access and inclusion plan must include information relating to —

- a) progress made by the relevant public authority and any agents and contractors of the relevant public authority in achieving the desired outcomes specified in Schedule 3; and*
- b) the strategies implemented by the relevant public authority to inform its agents and contractors of its disability access and inclusion plan.*

Schedule 3 of the Disability Service Regulations 2004 lists the seven (7) desired Outcomes of any DAIP.

Outcome 7 was added to Schedule 3 in June 2013. Prior to this, there were only 6 Outcomes.

Policy Implications:

There are no known policy implications.

Budget / Financial Implications:

Whilst there are no known financial implications upon either the Council's current Budget or Long Term Financial Plan relating to this particular report, there will be minor costs associated with advertising any proposed amendment of the DAIP.

Comment/Conclusion:

The DAIP Outcome 7 currently reads,

"Provide Information, Opportunities and Encouragement to Raise the Awareness of the Community Regarding Disability Access and Inclusion."

Schedule 3 of the Disability Services Regulations 2004 states that Outcome 7 should read,

"People with disability have the same opportunities as other people to obtain and maintain employment with a public authority."

Public Authorities can add as many additional outcomes as they choose and it is possible that the Council Officer, when reviewing the DAIP, found the wording for Outcome 7 from another public authority's DAIP believing it to be the correct wording for the new, Outcome 7 which was going to be included in the Regulations.

Whilst the correct wording for Outcome 7 needs to be included in the DAIP, there is nothing preventing the Committee from recommending that the Outcome be inserted rather than replace the existing Outcome (therefore creating a DAIP with 8 Outcomes).

The Officer, following consultation with the CEO, makes the following comments on the actions listed under the current 7th Outcome;

ACTION 1

- Refer issues identified through consultations which are not the responsibility of the Shire, to relevant parties, such as government agencies or local businesses.

Comment – this is already done as a matter of day to day business. Matters which are raised with Council that are not the responsibility of the Council are referred to the relevant responsible organisation. Recommend that this Action be removed from the DAIP completely.

ACTION 2

- Investigate Mentally Health WA's Act Commit Belong program to encourage people to take action to improve their mental health and wellbeing.

Comment – This could be incorporated under Outcome 1 – Strategy 1.2 and referred to the Manager of Recreation & Youth Services for consideration when developing future programs and activities.

The Officer recommends that the current Outcome 7 be removed.

The Officer recommends that the Committee recommends to Council that the DAIP be amended, considers Outcome 7 and discusses Strategies and Actions to achieve the Outcome.

Outcome 7

People with disability have the same opportunities as other people to obtain and maintain employment with the Shire of Denmark.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

ITEM 6.2.2

That with respect to the Disability Access & Inclusion Plan (DAIP) 2013-2018, the Disability Services Advisory Committee recommends to Council that the following amendments be made to the DAIP and that the proposed changes be advertising in accordance with statutory obligations;

1. Outcome 7 be replaced with the following words *“People with disability have the same opportunities as other people to obtain and maintain employment with the Shire of Denmark”*;
2. The first Action under 7.1 be removed;
3. The second Action under 7.2 be incorporated into Strategy 1.2;
4. The following Strategy(ies) be added;

5. The following Action(s) be added;

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

ITEM 6.2.2

MOVED: Adrian Hinds

SECONDED: Peter Boyes

That with respect to the Disability Access & Inclusion Plan (DAIP) 2013-2018, the Disability Services Advisory Committee recommends to Council that the following amendments be made to the DAIP and that the proposed changes be advertising in accordance with statutory obligations;

1. Outcome 7 be replaced with the following words *“People with disability have the same opportunities as other people to obtain and maintain employment with the Shire of Denmark”*;
2. The first Action under 7.1 be removed;
3. The second Action under 7.2 be incorporated into Strategy 1.2; and
4. That Strategy(ies) and Action(s) be developed and added by Council Officers, in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer and Directors, prior to putting this recommendation to Council.

REASONS FOR CHANGE

Members felt that Council Officers were in a better position than them to develop Strategies and Actions with respect to opportunities for people with disability to obtain and maintain employment with the Shire of Denmark.

11.55pm – Ms Rose left the meeting and did not return.

6.3 Paths & Trails Advisory Committee Representative Update

Mr Boyes, dual member of the Paths & Trails Advisory Committee, provided an update on matters relating to the Disability Services Advisory Committee on the following;

- *Mt Lindesay Riding Trail was discussed.*
- *Mokare Walk Trail was discussed, namely the following topics;*
 - *A sign had been erected on the eastern side advising people to watch their step.*
 - *There were still issues relating to Sword Grass but presence of Watsonia had diminished.*
 - *The Committee were still looking at different avenues with respect to better access on the eastern side, from the trail to South Coast Highway.*
 - *The Committee had heard that a price had been obtained for installing an accessible ramp on the southern, eastern side of the Trail, from the pathway to the Rail Trail Bridge and that it would be a substantial investment.*
- *The Next meeting of the Committee would be towards the end of the month.*

Cr Morrell stated that he was aware that Riverside Club were looking at incorporating an alternative accessible route from the eastern side of the Rail Trail (northern end) to South Coast Highway during Stage 2 of their development.

Members discussed the ramp on the southern, eastern side of the trail (to the Rail Trail Bridge) noting that they believed it should be made accessible.

Outcomes

Cr Morrell to discuss access from the southern, eastern end of the trail to the Rail Trail Bridge to find out what options the Paths & Trails Advisory Committee had looked at.

6.4 Plane Tree Precinct Development Concept Plan

Members have been advised that won't necessarily be able to provide any further input into the detail of the works once funding was secured and the project commenced.

For this reasons, members referred to some areas of concern which had been identified, at a previous meeting, by the Manager of Health Services.

At the meeting held on 12 January 2015, Members requested a list of those items for consideration.

Mr Barron has provided the following notes;

1. There is not much rain protection on the semi-circle if the intention is for this to be used as seating to face a stage or activities eg street theatre situated on the corner.
2. I cannot tell if the semi-circle has ramped ends or is a small drop off. If it is a drop off the community member with disability may be limited to standing closer to the ramped entry which would be directly facing the sun in summer afternoons.
3. The ramp access needs to be greater than standard which I think is about 83cm, most times they build it so you can get past a pram or wheelchair but not if a wheelchair or two prams have to pass each other going in the opposite direction.
4. The area will be a skaters paradise so suggested some early thought around deterrence etc.
5. There does not seem to be a ramp to the building on the right hand side or west in the diagram.
6. Also there is very limited ambulance trolley access other than steps and that single ramp access unless it is up the back somewhere.

Officer Comment:

In terms of rain protection, it is suggested that the area was not proposed to be “all-weather” and that the theatre would not be used if it was raining.

With respect to skateboards, the Working Group had already considered this and aware that whilst there are design elements that can deter skateboarders, it is generally difficult to prevent completely, as with any footpath, retaining wall etc..

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION & OFFICER RECOMMENDATION	ITEM 6.4
MOVED: Adrian Hinds	SECONDED: Carol Birdseye
<p>That with respect to the Plane Tree Development Concept Plan, the Disability Services Advisory Committee request that the following points of potential concern be referred to the Chief Executive Officer for consideration in the detailed design, should funding be secured and the works proceed;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If the semi-circle has a small drop off, consider that a person with disability may be limited to standing closer to the ramped entry which would be directly facing the sun in summer afternoons. 2. Suggest that the ramp access needs to be greater than standard. Most times they build it so you can get past a pram or wheelchair but not if a wheelchair or two prams have to pass each other going in the opposite direction. 3. There does not seem to be a ramp to the building on the right hand side or west in the diagram. 4. There is very limited ambulance trolley access other than steps and that single ramp access unless it is up the back somewhere. 	
CARRIED	

6.5 Disability Services Commission E-Bulletin – March 2015

Attached is the latest E-Bulletin from the Disability Services Commission, for information.

Noted.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS**7.1 Hobbies are Healthy Art Workshops**

Mrs Fewings advised that she had received some further funding from Green Skills Inc. to facilitate more “Hobbies are Healthy” Workshops which were likely to be held sometime in June 2015. Mrs Fewings said that the focus of these workshops was for people to attend with a friend or relative who has a disability with a view to encouraging new relationships with others. Mrs Fewings stated that she hoped that it would provide a platform for attendees to get to know each other and perhaps pursue other common interests as a group in the future.

Mrs Fewings asked members to help promote the workshops amongst their networks.

7.2 International Day of People with Disability

Mr Boyes stated that members could start thinking about some ideas for this year’s International Day of People with Disability event or activity.

Mr Hinds suggested that perhaps if the Audio Loops were installed then the Committee could host a launch of the new system(s) on the day. Mr Hinds provided some more suggestions on potential activities that could be held as part of an Audio Loop launch.

Outcome

Cr Morrell suggested that all members could start thinking about some ideas and bring them to the next meeting for consideration and discussion.

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Disability Services Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, 14 May 2015, at the Council's Committee Room, commencing at 10.00am.

Mrs Birdseye & Mrs Fewings advised that they would apologies for the meeting.

9. CLOSURE OF MEETING

12.16pm – There being no further business to discuss the Presiding Person, Cr Morrell, declared the meeting closed.

The Chief Executive Officer recommends the endorsement of these minutes at the next meeting.

Signed: _____

Dale Stewart – Chief Executive Officer

Date: _____

These minutes were confirmed at the meeting of the _____

Signed: _____

(Presiding Person at the meeting at which the minutes were confirmed.)