

Disability Advisory Committee – Meeting Notes



Date: 17th May 2021

Time: 11:30 – 2.30 pm

Location: Trentham Neighbourhood Centre

Chair: Cr Mayor Lesley Hewitt

Facilitator: Kate Procter: Coordinator Early Years and Healthy Communities

1. Apologies:

- **Bruce Maclsaac** was going to provide updates on the REX project, but he could not attend due to an urgent reporting to the CEO
- **Alison Breach** could attend due health reasons.
- **Cr Lesley Hewitt** left at 12:30 pm as was booked for another event.

2. Acknowledgement of custodians of the land and

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

4. Actions arising from previous meeting:

- **Mineral Springs Tab**
Yusuf provided update: Followed this up with maintenance stuff during the working party meeting for the Central Spring Reserve project.
- **Update on the new DAC members**
Kate provided update on the new members process. The recommended

Moved: Darren

Second: Andrew



candidates added to the Council meeting on 7th Jul to be approved. They will attend the next DAC meeting if everything goes as planned.

- **Update on Sport and recreation and Creswick Trails projects were requested by the DAC**

Yusuf read it out the update on the Hammon Park master plan to the DAC, which was sent through by Alison Breach

5. Facilities Updates as requested by DAC members:

- **Pedestrian Crossing**

Yusuf has carried out a site visit with Paul O'Leary. The Vincent street and central spring road sites were visited. Of possible construction of pedestrian refuge near the Daylesford pool to assist people to cross the road to access the primary school was noted by Paul. Additionally, the portable kerb ramps to access pedestrian walkways on Vincent Street were assessed during the visit. Paul will include the construction of permanent ramps (steal framed asphalt) near the existing DDA parking sites.

Action: Yusuf will find out about the timeline of the Creswick Master Plan and inform the DAC

Recommendation to Council:

For Council Officers to assess and report back on the public safety and accessibility of the following crossing:

- The fountain refuge in Daylesford Midland Hwy and Camp Street
- Pedestrian Crossing between Public toilet and the Splash Park in Creswick

Moved: Andrew

Second: Kaylene



6. Guests:

- **Kathie Schnur Sports and Active Recreation Officer and Malcolm Kuhn Senior Consultant at Otium Planning Group Pty Ltd - Aquatic Strategy**
- Malcolm has extensive experience in the recreation space mainly on a managerial level for over 12 years.
- His initial aim is assessing the existing provision of the aquatic facilities within the shire and find out about the thoughts, experiences and advise of the community and the key stake holder, particularly of the DAC.
- Climate is a challenge in accessing the facilities and current provision is poor. The new aquatic plan will have the most recent modern and innovative approach.
- Current online survey and upcoming community consultation events.
- **Malcolm:** “What are the positives and negatives of the existing facilities?”
- **Positives raised:**
 - They are located very close to schools.
 - The free admission to the facilities received very good feedback from the community



- The DAC has been advocating and working hard to raise this issue
- There was a plan and some money invested to increase accessibility, a good level could not be achieved due to the limited financial capacity of the funding.
- **Negatives raised:**
 - the temperature of the pools and the cold climate is a big barrier for not only people with disabilities but everyone.
 - Daylesford pool would be much more accessible if the facility has an access from Bridport Street providing a flatter surface compared to the existing entrance on Spring Reserve road.
 - The existing facilities, particularly in Daylesford, are not available to people in wheelchairs as they cannot access to the pools and change rooms.
 - Some of the community well-being programs such as Hydro-Splash had been to transfer to Ballarat due to the temperature problems.
 - Daylesford pool has no capacity to accommodate people who would like to use the pool for sport and fitness purposes



- The public transport connecting the towns is another barrier as it is very insufficient.
- No barriers should be the least standard
- The bathhouse in Hepburn Springs is not deep enough to float and it has steps at the end of its ramp in the pool
- The operating cost is another barrier to achieve accessibility.
- Further public transport upgrades would be needed to accommodate the needs once a new facility is built.
- The current policy requires all the pools to have a lifeguard present during the operating hours. At this stage, there is a staffing shortage even though the council has been working to promote youth employment by creating training opportunities. One thing prevents taking these roles is that the high housing price within the shire. It is unaffordable.
- **Malcolm Comments:**
 - Even though building a brand-new facility is a more reliable option, the historical and sentimental value of the current facilities are important to the community. Therefore,



upgrade and retrofitting works might be a good option.

- Modern understanding of the aquatic facilities is more of a collaboration of health and wellbeing Hub approach. For example, having a warm and shallow water rather than a 50m Olympic swimming pool is much more usable for the wider community. Further, adding things like gym, and spaces that could be used for wide range of wellbeing purposes to aquatic facilities may also promote much more efficient health and wellbeing outcomes.
- provided some detailed information about the cost of running these facilities.
- Yes, it is possible for schools to run pools. However, it might be a challenging process as the Department of Education would be involved
- **Kathie:**
 - Provided information about the upcoming community consultation activities and said she would send the details via email.
 - The Trentham Pavilion Project secured 2.1mil \$ funding. She acknowledged the contribution of the DAC in this project.



- The Wombat Botanic Garden secured 500k
- The Trentham Hub also secured 3.5 mil \$

7. Individual Reports:

The recent Cycling events brought many people into Creswick, which was great sign that the town started attracting people.

- **Issue raised** on the pedestrian crossing near the fountain in Daylesford. **Cars** do not usually slow down at this crossing creating a dangerous and unsafe conditions for the public. It might be an option to put speed bumps is that is in line with the policy in VIC Roads. The island refuge on the midland Highway and corner of Camp street, Daylesford was made so people coming from hospital and Jamison street could safely cross that road. Even a light sign signalling to slow down, Approx. before the Shell service station would be needed.
- **Issue raised:** The access from IGA to splash park in Creswick is not safe and causes access issues for people with disabilities.
- **Issue raised:** that people park their cars on the footpath near the Clunes football



ground which blocks his access. The shops on Fraser Street are placing their tables near the shop walls which limits the access, particularly for people with eyesight issues. Some shops hang their products over the footpath on Fraser Street which force people to lower their heads.

- The no standing spot on Albert street near the Harvest Café, is now being used for normal parking. He asked about the how the decision was made.
- Members expressed his willingness to do some advocacy work at the schools to raise awareness. He would be happy to organise talks and Q&As at schools

8. General Business

- **Fran provided update on:**
 - **New Health and Wellbeing Plan:** The 4-year plan will be incorporated in the new council plan and community vision. In conjunction with Central Highlands Health, the plan will be finished by October this year.

Action: Yusuf will find out about the current regulations and contact the public compliance officer.

Action: Yusuf to work with members and school



- **REX** and informed the DAC that they can access to the updates in the recent council meeting minutes.
- We are expecting to get 40k to set up a free WIFI in Trentham and Daylesford.

9. Requests for next meeting:

- Yusuf to do a presentation on the new Stuff training program- Disability Awareness Training, and Accessible Business Package
- Tamara to do a presentation on CASI initiative outcomes

Next Meeting:

26 July 2021 11:30 - 2:30 Daylesford Raglan St

