

MINUTES OF THE ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 10 DECEMBER 2019 ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL, ANDY MCNEILL ROOM

1. **ATTENDANCE**

Mayor Damien Ryan
 Councillor Glen Auricht (Chair)
 Councillor Jimmy Cocking
 Peter Somerville – Department of Infrastructure, Planning & Logistics
 Zoe Franey
 Cheryl Knight
 Lauren Jones – Dance Movement Psychotherapist

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Scott Allen – Director Technical Services
 Kiri Milne – Community Development Officer
 Kristine Capangpangan – Administration Officer (*minutes*)

| 13th Alice Springs Town Council | | | | |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Access Advisory Committee Attendance List 2019/20 | | | | |
| | Aug-19 | Dec-19 | Feb-20 | May-20 |
| Mayor Damien Ryan | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Councillor Glen Auricht | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Councillor Jimmy Cocking | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Peter Somerville | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Annemarie Drummond | ✓ | A | | |
| Zoe Franey | A | ✓ | | |
| Cheryl Knight | A | ✓ | | |
| Carol Muir | ✓ | -- | | |
| Brigida Stewart | A | -- | | |
| Karen Stewart | ✓ | A | | |

- ✓ *Attended*
- ✓ **Proxy** *Proxy attended in place of committee member*
- A** *Apology Received*
- *No attendance and no apology tendered*

This meeting opened at 1:02pm

APOLOGIES

Annemarie Drummond
 Karen Stewart

2. **DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

Nil

3. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED

That it be a recommendation to Council:

That the minutes of the Access Advisory committee meeting held 27 August 2019 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

MOVED: Mayor Ryan

SECONDED: Councillor Cocking

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

4.1 Mayoral Awards and International Day of People with Disability – (Standing Item)

Community Development Officer noted that the Mayoral Awards are an acknowledgement of the invaluable contribution that individuals have made to enhance the lives of others living with disability within our community.

The Mayoral Awards event was held in the Council Function Room on Tuesday, 3 December 2019. Around 100 people attended the awards, with two fantastic performances from King Marong, the Life Without Barriers group and a dance performance from Connect2Culture. Guest speaker Daniel Giles OAM, spoke about his personal autism journey alongside his father. For the first time, the NT Arts Access Awards were also presented at the event.

Three Mayoral Awards were given out to very worthy recipients. The winners were Graham Wilfred Jnr (Noteworthy Award), Inosi Bulimairewa (Champion Award) and Andrew Harrison (Michele Castagna medal).

The nominations for the Noteworthy Awards were:

- Emma Williams
- Andrew Harrison
- Graham Wilfred Jnr
- John Maude
- Steven Anthony Watts
- Shane Healy

The nominations for the Champion Award were:

- Inosi Bulimairewa
- Daryl Murdock
- Sheana Ham
- Nicky Streeter
- Sarah Irwin
- Caleb McMillan

ACTION:

Community Development Officer to invite Mr Inosi Bulimairewa to attend the next Access Advisory Committee for a formal presentation as he was away at the said awards

ACTION:

Director Technical Services to investigate the addition of velvet curtain in the Function Hall for a cleaner backdrop when events are held and to look at options for installing a media screen

The event received positive feedback from the attendees and the committee.

4.2 Update on Item 4.3 from Minutes dated 27 August 2019

Director Technical Services noted that Karen Stewart was met onsite to discuss her concerns and advised that Technical Services are in the process of addressing these concerns.

The committee noted.

4.3 Update on Item 4.5 from Minutes dated 27 August 2019

Community Development Officer noted that the draft mobility map will be presented to the committee in the February 2020 meeting for discussion.

5. DEPUTATION

5.1 Lauren Jones, Dance Movement Psychotherapist

Lauren Jones runs various dance programs within Alice Springs and noted its aim is to be recognised as a centre for artistic growth and excellence, championing bravery, risk, community and collaboration as tools for the development of great art, meaningful experiences and empowered societies. Dancing is a good way to improve physical, mental and social well-being for all ages.

Dance classes include hip-hop, advanced contemporary, beginners contemporary, mini movers for toddlers and chance to dance for 50 years and older.

Through Incite Arts, Life Without Barriers and Linkup, disability dance workshops is being run and it is currently looking at creating sessions called Dance for Dementia in the new year.

GUTS dance website: <https://www.gutsdance.org.au>

Councillor Cocking suggested a capability statement be made available for distribution in the access networks.

ACTION:

Community Development Officer to inform Healthy Communities Coordinator to distribute Lauren's details to broader access organisations.

The Committee acknowledged and thanked Lauren for her time and presentation.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 Correspondence inwards

6.1.1 New seating outside the ASALC entrance

Community Development Officer advised that correspondence was received about accessibility concerns with the current layout of the said subject. It was noted that the seats were installed to slow bike traffic down as young kids and the elderly in particular were at risk of being knocked over when they exited the reception area. The initial intent was to install traditional steel barriers that you would have to weave through, but seats were used instead.

Director Technical Services advised that Council is currently working with ASALC for an alternative layout to fix the problem to ensure it is accessible.

ACTION:

Director Technical Services to provide update with the progress of this item at the next AAC meeting.

6.2 Correspondence outwards

Nil

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 Centralian Awards – Citizen of the Year Award

The Centralian Awards will be presented at the Australia Day Citizenship and Awards Ceremony.

The event will feature a marquee (that DAS will supply) for people with wheelchairs. We are currently looking at flooring options to create a path from the footpath to the marquee.

The Committee received and noted.

7.2 Christmas Carnival Accessibility

Community Development Officer requested feedback from the committee in terms of accessibility.

There were 6 additional accessible car parks on Gregory Terrace provided and a quiet space at the Disability Advocacy Service. Various service providers were informed of this.

With the event attracting large crowds, it was noted that there would be limitations to access for persons in wheelchair. The committee suggested that for future Christmas Carnival, a designated area would be provided by the Christmas tree for people with wheelchairs. Relocation of the stage was an option provided.

ACTION:

Community Development Officer to investigate options of providing a space for people with wheelchair's at next year's Christmas carnival

ACTION:

Community Development Officer to engage with NT Major Events and discuss ideas on accessibility at major events in Alice Springs

7.3 Committee Priorities for 2020

Updates from Alice Springs Town Council's Manager Governance, are as follows:

- The advisory committee survey is still to be rolled out – date TBA
- The Charter is in the process of being updated as per the other advisory committees. It is estimated that the draft will ready early next year. This is also the case for the Access Action Plan.
- Once the Charter is updated, there will be an expression of interest released for new members for the Access Advisory Committee. The Charter will be updated to include members of organisations, as opposed to general members.
- The mobility map will be updated early next year as previously communicated, by Council's Media and Communications team.

7.4 Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability

On 5 April 2019, the Prime Minister, the Hon Scott Morrison MP and Minister for Families and Social Services, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP, announced the establishment of the Royal

Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability. The Royal Commission undertakes its inquiry independent of the Government. The newly appointed Commissioners will decide on the next steps, including when to hold hearings, how people can participate and how to ensure the inquiry is accessible for people with disability.

So far, two discussion papers have been published, one on Education and Learning (included in today's meeting papers) and a newly released one on Group Homes.

The Royal Commission's paper on education outlines the Commission's preliminary understanding of the key issues and barriers experienced by students with disability and ask 13 questions. The Royal Commission is encouraging responses from individuals and organisations to the issues paper, if possible, by 20 December 2019 although submissions will be accepted after that date.

The Royal Commission's paper on group homes outlines preliminary understanding of key issues experienced by people with disability living in group homes. The paper includes 10 questions to help people and organisations to provide responses.

The Royal Commission encourages responses from individuals and organisations to the issues paper by 28 February 2020, although submissions will also be accepted after that date.

There have been public hearings nationwide, and if and when a hearing is arranged in the NT, the Access Advisory Committee will be notified. A submission is the main way people and organisations can provide information to the Royal Commission about their experiences of violence, neglect, abuse or exploitation of people with disability. Anybody can make a submission. A submission can be submitted in any way, by telephone, email or through its website.

The Committee received and noted.

7.5 Special Souls Christmas Party

Held on 21 December 2019 at 4pm – 6pm in the Family Christian Centre on North Stuart Highway. All welcome to attend.

8. NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 25 February 2020 at 1:00pm in the Andy McNeill room

The meeting closed at 1:57pm