

Accessibility Advisory Group Minutes

Tuesday, 23 February 5.30pm – 7.30pm

**Wellington City Council, 1010 Wakefield St, Committee
Room 2**

Co-Chairpersons:

Michael Bealing/ Lee Rutene

Members:

Tim Pate, Julia Aguilar, Lee Rutene, Tristram Ingham,
Christine Richardson, Alan Royal, Amanda Cameron,
Christine O'Sullivan

Councillors:

Cr Lee, Cr Sparrow

Staff:

James Mather, Jessica Clarke, Neil McInnes, Savaia
Stevenson

1. Apologies

Tristram gave his apologies

2. Welcome from the chair

The chair welcomed the AAG members to the meeting

3. Conflicts of interest

No conflicts of interest were declared

4. City Shape/ Previously Waterfront

Proposed redevelopment of Frank Kitts Park

CityShape have previously consulted with a variety of public groups – incl AAG.

The redevelopment is needed for several reasons;

Currently the park is wrongly oriented, playground is small and outdated, not enough spaces for events.

Current proposal includes 4 parts; children's playground (doubled in size), city lawn (flattened and tilted to the harbour), a Chinese garden and the upper lawn.

Proposed playground design has been set up for all age groups and people.

The Chinese garden has been desired for 20 - 30 years – will be 3000m² in size.

The garden is to have a unique Chinese/New Zealand essence.

Ramps will be placed around the garden, to get to the upper green there are also ramps. No lifts involved. The zig zag is gravelled, maintenance can ensure access (if maintained). Ramps use a very soft gradient (1/20).

No water features involved in the playground. Design has been based around inclusivity and variance for all ages.

Accessibility toilets are planned to be built (non-gender specific).

Shared spaces are being promoted for safety reasons within the area. Changing it for a small area is not best practice.

Equipment for seniors isn't being incorporated currently due to size constraints.

Handrails in seating areas would be appreciated

Provision for mobility parking

Thinking about accessible routes (41.21?)

1/12 gradient for wheelchairs

Brail signage for walkways (this is certain to be incorporated)

Universally accessible equipment has been incorporated, no climbing etc

AAG noted that parents and children were consulted over playgrounds, but not seniors who often take children to playgrounds. Important to consult them in terms of accessibility to these spaces

5. Animal Bylaw and Dog Policy – Jessica Clarke

Public consultation taking place from the 1st April until – 2nd May

Julia to connect with Jessica to advice on accessibility dog issues

6. Annual Plan Engagement (Accessibility) - Neil McInnes and Savaia Stevenson

Tristram has submitted, speaking Wednesday 9.55am

Focus on the forums is engagement – specifically, continuous engagement

Topics for consideration within the accessibility forum

Group responded well to the consultation process

Cooler Little Accessible Capital idea was well embraced

Visible and invisible impairments – cognitive and learning to be considered also

Proposed topics are relevant to the group

Forum structure - good to be high level, then transition into a presentation on how accessibility has already been considered (to start the thinking)

Forum could then be opened to questions – break forum into topics/themes

Structure is important to a successful forum

Group reinforced that 24% of Wellington region has some form of disability

Accessibility Action Plan – not currently a live document
Considered and renewed as some part of the social strategy this year (AAG understanding)
Using the AAP would be important at the forum
AAP lacked measureable KPI's (these would help council report on its outcomes)
Mezzanine in library not good acoustics for a forum
Consultation with those who have learning impairments (important not to miss these views)

7. Wellington Museum Trust – Tamsin Falconer and Rachel Ingram

Previously met in August 2014
Attic exhibition – wanted to take accessibility as seriously as possible
Looked at NZ standards and documents
Looking at evaluation – learning from what has been done and what to do in future
Invites AAG to come along to view the exhibition and give feedback (early April in the evening is proposed)
Interpreters and transport costs will be reimbursed
Open till 5pm

8. David Lee – Emerge/WCC initiative

Emerge (Presenting October 2015).
Assisting Graduates into the workforce with accessibility issues
David connecting members to council HR
Looking at Council internships in partnership with Emerge
Starting with 3 internships then progressing

9. Matters Arising

IB cycleway

Having other groups is encouraged, but keeping tour AAG focused
The tour is to review the accessibility of the IB cycleway
David Lee proposed an additional mobility parking solution
Review proposed as soon as cycleway is complete
Noted there had been media comments on AAG and their position on the cycleway

Railway review

Cr Andy Foster – issue all along Featherston St in terms of slope

Pedestrian crossing times were long enough, not too short as the review stated.
Julia to be key point of contact for this
More discussion time about the adequacy of crossing times needs to be undertaken accounting for a range of views

Westpac Stadium

Accessibility issues – often played down.
Concourse is almost a km long.
Implementation of accessibility not necessarily being delivered
Christine O, Lee, Michael and David Lee to go.
Group noted that Basin Reserve had good examples of implemented accessibility

Abel Smith/Cuba Street intersection to be followed up

CCS – Lee to get in contact with Indonesian visitor

10. Adoption of minutes

Carried minutes from last meeting, Michael carries November minutes

11. Other business

James to update member list and check drop box member list
Doodle to be looked into
Museum visit
Michael 3 year term ends in March
Mileage to be paid for Allan

12. Next Meeting – 29/03/2016

Meeting concluded at 7.28 pm