

AIAC Meeting Minutes

Date: 15 June 2023	Time: 10am – 12pm	Venue: Level 1, City Administration Centre
<p>Meeting Objective: To provide advice and guidance in the application of planning instruments that prioritise access, social inclusion and overcoming discriminatory impediments to promote a highly accessible, inclusive and welcoming community that respects independence and human dignity.</p>		

1. Welcome

Committee Members Present

Cr Margaret Wood	Councillor, City of Newcastle (Co-Chair)
Andrew Vodic	Co Chair and Organisational Rep CDAH
Cr Dr Elizabeth Adamczyk	Councillor, City of Newcastle
Chad Ramage	Accessibility in the City
Sandra Irons	Community Representative
Lindsay Gardner	Community Representative
Stewart MacLennan	Community Representative
Ben Moxey	Community Representative
Lynn Duffy	Acting Executive Director, Creative & Community Services (Facilitator)
Petria Jukes	Community Planning & Development Manager, CN
Stephen Warham	Community Development Facilitator, CN (Committee Advisor)

Apologies

Cr Nuatali Nelmes	Lord Mayor, City of Newcastle
Cr Katrina Wark	Councillor City of Newcastle
Patrick Bellamy	Organisational Rep Clearsky

Guests:

Shane Cahill	Section Manager Urban Planning
Calan Cockburn	Senior Urban Planner

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

An acknowledgement of Country was delivered by Lynn Duffy.

1.2 Apologies

Apologies from Cr Nelmes Lord Mayor, Cr Katria Wark and Patrick Bellamy were recorded.

1.3 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Cr Wood spoke to the need for members to consider and declare any potential or actual conflict of interests. LD clarified that perception of a conflict of interest and actual conflicts of interests and may include a member excluding themselves from the discussion and/or decision on a matter.

SM stated that he may have a potential conflict of interest to note, that he was paid \$150 for some attendance and travel from Bindi Maps when doing an inspection of some civic assets. SM indicated that he donated this amount to the Newcastle Museum as a way to manage this matter.

AV declared a conflict of interest in relation to being CEO of CDAH and that CDAH is a project partner in Count Us In.

2. Minutes from the Previous Meeting

Minutes of the AIAC meeting held on 20 April 2022 were confirmed as true and accurate recording of the meeting. Committee members accepted the minutes. Notations and amendments are as follows:

2.1 Double up of some text in the previous minutes to be corrected.

2.2 Action table from previous minutes to be updated to reflect outstanding/live actions and not completed ones.

2.3 Actions that need to be brought forward will be noted at the end of the meeting and go into prep for the following meeting/s agenda.

3. Broadmeadow Place Strategy – A Regionally Significant Growth Area

Calan Cockburn presented on the place strategy project.

Over 300 hectares of land within the precinct. Over one third of the precinct is owned by State government agencies including Crown Land, Venues NSW, Transport for NSW and NSW Transport Asset Holding Entity.

The place strategy is a high level strategic planning document that will guide future changes to planning controls via planning proposals. It has a 20-30 year planning horizon.

CN has partnered with the NSW Government who are paying for technical consultants to complete the investigations and reports to prepare the strategy.

The NSW Government will also rezone land to create supply for 2,000 dwellings by June 2024.

The Place Strategy is the overall framework and then rezoning decisions will be informed by this strategy. The Place Strategy will go before Council for approval for public exhibition once drafted. Once publicly exhibited it will go before Council for adoption. When adopted it will be endorsed by the NSW Minister for Planning via a Ministerial Direction to give the strategy weight in the NSW planning framework. Place strategy is to be completed by June 2024.

Survey to be sent out to the AIAC members for them to complete and there will also be the opportunity for further comment later in the year when the place strategy goes on public exhibition, currently expected in October 2023.

Principles, directions and actions may come from the development of the strategy and can include accessibility/inclusion as one of them.

Action: Urban Planning to distribute survey to AIAC Committee members.

4. Count Us In - Update

PJ provided update on the progress of preparations for the 3-week program, 4-24 September. (See attached) presentation)

4 Pillars of CUI in 2023 are:

- Grants and program inclusion.
- Community Partner and Community Based Activity.
- CN facilitated events.
- Marketing and Messaging.

PJ said that small grant application numbers had decreased over the various versions of the program. CUI grants window is close to Community Grants window and may have an impact on number of CUI grants.

CDAH have been secured as the Community Partner for CUI assisting with messaging and supporting people with disabilities to attend and engage with CUI program.

Event Management contractor secured for CN lead events, Business Lunch with high profile speaker is well underway in planning. Announced soon.

5. AIAC February Meeting Update

Cr Wood provided an overview of the summary from the workshop and created a non-prioritised list of discussion points for the committee. (See attached) The following items were discussed:

- Cr Wood has been arranging meetings with business community members/organizations to build stronger links. Meetings with HunterNet and Business Hunter. Attended Business Inclusion and Diversity Services (BIDS) launch in Newcastle recently, managed by Australian Federation of Disability Organisations (AFDO), a free resource for 60 local businesses across 4 LGAs.

- There are many opportunities locally for collaboration, and with CN's Inclusion Diversity and Equity (IDE) Strategy underway, both internal and external stakeholders are hopefully being engaged.
- CR mentioned the TAFE/TfNSW "Let's Rock" event at Luna Park that the NSW Government hosted for their staff with disabilities to attend.
- CN will be launching its internal Disability Employment Network this August. LD is the Executive Champion for the internal network.
- SI suggested that the Federal Government Job Access program should be included in the Count Us In Business Forum to better inform employers of assistance available.
- AV mentioned that he encouraged consideration of a deeper dive for organisations into what it means to employ people with disabilities, and how to create a genuine inclusive workplace. Not focussed just on getting a certain targets reached. What does it really take to recruit, retain and support someone in the workplace.
- Cr Wood suggested and is supportive of small group discussions at the Employment Forum. Presenting opportunities to address a question like "How will employing people with disabilities impact our businesses productivity?"
- AV -Employers need to know, "What's in it for me" from an employer perspective.
- A discussion of Auslan training was provided in response to a question from LG. Some deaf culture and Auslan training will be provided within Count Us In and
- CN Tennis strategy under development, find out more at <https://haveyoursay.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/tennis-strategy> (consultation complete), awaiting public exhibition period for further community comment.
- Cr Wood noted Darling Street, Passmore oval, and other upgrades do include and will include consideration of accessibility.
- CR-Providing accessible information upfront when providing event information is what CN and others should be doing. (What is the accessible transport, accessible seating, etc)
- Cr Wood has invited Destination Marketing team to come to next AIAC meeting to present on their work. Destination Plan includes action to audit of accommodation, including accessible accommodation. Standard general sites related to online searching are not reliable for providing accessible accommodation information.
- Visitor Information Centre working on an accessible visitor guide.
- Point 13 from the list was related to a six-monthly open meeting/forum. SM would like to see a two way communication process (old fashioned town hall style meeting). All councillors attending. A chance for community to provide input and hear about where things are up to. To be determined, if we have an open committee meeting for Count Us In or via other means.
- Cr Wood supports a better method of reporting on our DIAP progression and this will be actioned by November 2023.
- Cr Wood noted that Lindsay (LG) encourages that CN promotes social inclusion and that carers/significant others of people with disabilities can be included and supported. Cr Wood, "importance of social connections goes beyond the work of the committee and CN's draft social plan will be considered in the near future, which speaks to social inclusion"
- LD said that CN management is working on how we can better co-ordinate presentations to the various Advisory groups so that multiple presentation are not needing to be made of the same presentations.

6. General Business

6.1 Walking and Mobility Working Party update.

Cr Wood noted and confirmed the Walking and Mobility Working Party nominees of CR and SI. Contact with them will be made soon.

6.2 Accessible Tourism-Covered in section 5.

6.3 Member Updates-Apps and Data

SM provided a report on his meeting with Bindi Maps. See attached.

Forward Agenda

No items noted.

Meeting closed: 11:59am