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<b>Subject:</b>	Access Advisory Committee		
<b>File No:</b>	COR 2013/207		
<b>Document Ref:</b>	D15/68319		
<b>Venue:</b>	Meeting Room 1, Level 5, Civic Centre		
<b>Date:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> July 2015		
<b>Time:</b>	5.00pm	Started at: 5.00 pm	Closed at: 6.40 pm
<b>Chair:</b>	Councillor Denise Pendleton		
<b>Meeting Support (MS):</b>	Linda Smith – EA to the Mayor and Councillors		

**Committee Role:**

Advises and makes recommendations to Council on matters relating to access issues, with particular emphasis on issues for people with disabilities as defined by UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
x		Clr Denise Pendleton	Chairperson	City of Ryde
x		Brian Bernard	Community Representative	
x		Connie Netterfield	Community Representative	
		Diane O' Brien	Community Representative	
x		Doris Carrall	Community Representative	
x		Greg McClure	Community Representative	
x		Barbara Stannard	Community Representative	
	x	Hazel Myers	Community Representative	
		Neita Matthews OAM	Community Representative	
x		Seaja Chang	Community Representative	
	x	Rebecca Ho	Community Representative	

**Other Attendees**

Name	Position Title
Gunjan Tripathi	Section Mgr Community Projects – Community and Culture
Lisa Pears	Community Capacity Building and Events Team

	Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
1.	<b>Welcome:</b>  Councillor Pendleton welcomed all present.	Noted	

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	Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
2.	<b>Attendance and apologies:</b>  As above	Noted	
3.	<p><b>Confirmation of Minutes and matters arising – 5<sup>th</sup> March 2015</b></p> <p><u>Greg McClure – trip to conference in Zurich</u></p> <p>The committee conveyed its best wishes to Greg for a safe and enjoyable trip.</p> <p><u>Pope Street Taxi Rank signage</u></p> <p>The sign erected to deter parking in the disabled bay is achieving its aim. Informal checks by staff indicate that vehicles are not parking in the disabled bay.</p> <p>A formal report from staff regarding long term signage is still to be received.</p> <p>The Committee noted previous advice that in future, major developments will be required to provide access for mini buses and vehicles for the disabled.</p> <p><u>Social Inclusion Project Status</u></p> <p>The temporary position filled by Carolyn D'Mello has been advertised.</p> <p>A fact sheet detailing the work carried out during the first 18 months of Council's social inclusion project is <b>attached</b> to these minutes.</p>	<p>The minutes of the meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> March 2015 were confirmed.</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Staff to ensure that details regarding the closing times of the carparks at Top Ryde City – are provided when community meetings are held at the Civic Centre.</p> <p>The committee expressed its thanks to Carolyn for the work she carried out.</p> <p>Gunjan advised that Carolyn had also asked that her thanks be passed to this committee.</p>	

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Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
<p>4. <u>Accessible drop off guide for Granny Smith Festival</u></p> <p>Lisa Pears addressed the committee regarding improved access to be provided for people with disabilities wishing to attend the Granny Smith Festival in this its 30<sup>th</sup> year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An accessible drop off zone will be provided in Hillview Lane with safe access and a marshalled area. Groups can be dropped off and community buses parked in this area.</li> <li>• Space will be provided on Rowe Street for a designated viewing area. This will be clear of crowds and can be used by disabled people. It will be near the fire station.</li> <li>• Designated seating for the disabled will be provided in the vicinity of Eastwood Oval.</li> </ul> <p>Other changes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Volunteer marshalls will escort people from drop off areas to the more populated areas</li> <li>- The provision of ramp access to Eastwood Oval is being investigated.</li> <li>- Glen Street Reserve will be used as a meeting point away from crowds for people waiting to be picked up.</li> <li>- Event volunteers will assist on the day by greeting people at the station, running errands and manning stalls.</li> <li>- Feedback from a sight impaired person who attended last year's festival is being incorporated in planning for this year.</li> </ul>	<p>Accessible toilets need to be located in areas designated for disabled people.</p> <p>The promotion of information re assistance for the disabled will be provided.</p> <p>Staff will approach groups which work with the disabled to gain details re disabled attendees and numbers and will then plan appropriate assistance.</p> <p>Actions this year will be a trial, but should lead to entrenching some plans into future festivals.</p> <p>Chairs will be provided on the lower oval at Eastwood.</p> <p>Look into possibility of obtaining golf buggies for the day.</p> <p>Could put canvas matting down to push wheelchairs over.</p> <p>Community assistance to be sought from:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tsu Chi Buddhist group</li> <li>- the community development team of C3 Church</li> <li>- Achieve Australia</li> <li>- House with no steps</li> <li>- New Horizons</li> <li>- AAAB – Chinese senior citizens.</li> <li>- Salvation Army</li> </ul> <p>Scouts and guides are already busy but an approach to be made to Eastwood Marsfield Scouts.</p>	

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<p>Ways to improve the visibility of wheelchairs etc in the crowd are also being examined.</p> <p>A big flag/helium balloon that people could attach to prams, wheelchairs etc.could be used so that crowds, stall holders etc would be alerted that assistance may be required.</p> <p><u>NDIS update in relation to community grants</u></p> <p>An update was provided with regard to the progress Council is making with its strategy.</p> <p>Gunjan advised that the number of grants provided by Council to community groups was greater than in previous years. Many grants have been provided to sectors involved with disability and the needs of community and seniors groups in an effort to reduce social isolation.</p> <p>There was more diversity in the type of groups which accessed the grants and the disability sector was better engaged in the process this year.</p>	<p>The Committee was asked to advise Council if they are aware of any community groups who may be able to provide volunteer assistance on the day.</p> <p>Such groups would be given a stall and assistance in what to do to help people.</p> <p>Bev Lasheras was congratulated on the talks she has provided to various groups.</p> <p>Pion was also congratulated for the information she has provided.</p> <p>Kerry who spoke at Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club was also congratulated on the informative and helpful information provided.</p> <p>35 – 40 people attended the Ryde Eastwood talk.</p> <p>30 attended Gladesville</p> <p>Council, HAC and the speakers above were commended for their efforts.</p>	<p>Lisa to email details of brochure via Gunjan when it is prepared.</p>

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<p><u>Building social cohesion – plan for Council</u></p> <p>The Social Cohesion Plan from The Centre for Local Government UTS is attached.</p> <p>The information provided by UTS is consistent with Council’s strategies on Racism Stops With Me capmaign and will act as a blue print for Council’s further planning.</p> <p>The aim is to create cohesive and inclusive communities.</p> <p>Many of the strategies included in the publication are good and are already undertaken by Council .</p> <p>It was noted there is a need to share culture between the groups that are living in Ryde so that all groups respect and understand each other.</p> <p>Ryde Park is a natural meeting place on weekends when it is heavily used by people.</p> <p><u>Racist posters</u> have been placed in various locations in the local area of late.</p> <p>Action is being taken by staff to remove posters when they are seen. Meetings with police etc are taking place to formalise an approach.</p> <p><b>Other Business:</b></p> <p><b>NDS implementation plan update</b></p> <p>This matter was discussed earlier in the meeting</p>	<p>The provision of this new resource is to be brought to the attention of relevant groups.</p> <p>A new social inclusion page will be included on Council’s updated website.</p> <p>A video developed by Council in conjunction with Macquarie Uni and The Salvation Army will be put on Council’s website.</p> <p>NGO groups are being encouraged to show the film at their meetings.</p> <p>An update on the Social Inclusion Plan is to be included on the agenda for the next meeting.</p> <p>It was noted that work on the Plan to be prepared by Council will be carried out by the person appointed to the new position in Community Life.</p> <p>The plan should be completed by the end of 2015.</p> <p>At this time, work can be done on plotting the projects already underway.</p> <p>Noted</p>	

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<p><b>Updates from Committee members</b></p> <p>Brian – Advised that Life Skills is currently undertaking a program to assist people in their 30’s to 50’s with a disability to obtain employment.</p> <p>Limited places are available but a register of interest for people from Ryde will be maintained.</p> <p>Connie – Stated her concern that if Council amalgamations proceed, the work being done by this Council in relation to access issues may be adversely affected.</p> <p>Seaja – Advised of the change in the aged care sector which took effect from 1/7/15. There is concern that high care need individuals may not receive the care they are entitled to as requests for information are now to be sent via a regional website rather than a process of local assessment.</p> <p>These changes could lead to greater social isolation for older people with responsibility for disabled people.</p> <p>Greg – Advised that after the last meeting he wrote to Bec Ho seeking sponsorship for his trip but had not received a reply.</p> <p>He has received assistance from the event organisers however to assist with his airfares and accommodation.</p> <p>Barbara – Brought the difficulties faced by older parents who are caring for grown adult children with a disability to the committee’s attention.</p> <p>She reiterated the need to care for the carers.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Consideration to be given to Council providing information on the changes.</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Figures to be sought as to the number of parents in Ryde caring for adult children with a disability</p>	

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<p>She stated that many older people don't access government services because they do the work on their own.</p> <p>This could result in there being a high proportion of hidden carers.</p> <p>The existence of invisible carers is an issue.</p> <p>Brian – raised a report in the Weekly Times regarding the future use of the Ryde Bowling Club site.</p> <p>The comment attributed to Cllr Perram regarding use of the site was clarified by Cllr Pendleton.</p> <p>Cllr Perram would like the bowling club site retained as part of Ryde Park so that the community can access its facilities. If an NGO is granted a lease over the bowling club site then the general public may be denied access to the facility.</p> <p><b>Next Meeting:</b> 5pm Level 5, Room 2 Civic Centre Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015 5.00 – 6.30pm Civic Centre, Level 5 Committee Rooms</p>	Noted	