

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT WORKING GROUP MEETING HELD FRIDAY
12 DECEMBER 2008**

File No: PUBLIC TRANSPORT WORKING GROUP

Venue:

Wollumbin Meeting Room

Time:

10:00am

Present:

Len Greer (Chair), John Zawadzki (Tweed Shire Council), Ben Riley (Ministry of Transport), Mr Rob Spragg (Tweed Shire Council), Ronelle Herbert (Minutes Secretary Tweed Shire Council), Alan Cavanagh (Surfside Buslines), Phil Barron (Tweed Ballina Byron Community Transport), Doug Weatherley (Community Representative).

Apologies:

Don Stubbs (Tweed Taxis), Rosemary Beard (Veterans Affairs), Bill McKennariey (Blind Citizens Australia), Linda Lomman (Northern Suburbs Social Development Council), David Bishara (Surfside Buslines), John Parsons (Parsons Bus Service).

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Moved: Ben Riley

Seconded: Rob Spragg

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Public Transport Working Group meeting held Friday 31 October 2008 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting.

Alan Cavanagh Arrived at 10.08

General discussion was held regarding 'unresolved' items from previous minutes as follows:-

1. Alan Cavanagh advised that discussions were held with relevant stakeholders regarding relocating the taxi rank at Tweed City. It was agreed that the taxi rank could be relocated from the northern side of Tweed City to just around the corner to the western side.
2. John Zawadzki to organise rubbish receptacles at Tweed City bus shelter and Kingscliff Shopping Centre.

3. John Zawadzki advised that a bus shelter tender is currently being advertised (supply, installation and maintenance of bus shelters in exchange for advertising rights). The tender will close at the end of January 2009. The tender will provide for offers to maintain ALL of Council's bus shelters, not just a select few.
4. Alan provided a photo of a bus shelter advertisement in Hobart advertising a reward for information regarding vandalism and suggested this tactic could benefit Tweed Shire.

ACTION: John Zawadzki and Robin Spragg to discuss this matter.

Len Greer felt that items were added to minutes that do not get resolved or actioned.

Correspondence Inwards:

1.1 Wharf Street, Tweed Heads – bus stop outside Centro

DW1935344

John Zawadzki consulted the Committee on the incoming letter. The Committee felt that the incident regarding numerous buses using the bus stop was a one-off situation.

Len Greer suggested that point 4 in relation to security is a Police matter and the person raising the issues be advised in these terms.

Action: That John Zawadzki respond to the correspondence.

Correspondence Outwards:

Nil.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. Public Transport Working Group Performance Review (including strengths and weaknesses analysis)

The group made the following comments at its meeting held 31 October 2008: -

Strengths	Weaknesses
Focussing on public transport as a separate issue	Do not have as much impact as we would like - like 'going nowhere'
	No guaranteed outcomes
Endeavours to improve public transport accessibility and services to the general community not just aged and disabled	Communication between transport providers, Council and other authorities is generally poor
Good that there is a group in existence	Focus on public transport as in buses. This should be expanded to the broader public transport as in active transport
Good committee in terms of pointing out what the community needs in terms of public transport	Difficult to get people out of their cars and to use public transport - and reasons are not the same in regional areas
	Cost of public transport in regional areas is greater
	Do not get response from various govt departments that we would like
Networking capabilities of the members within group is very important and good	Taxi representative not present
Focus on transport disadvantaged is good	Make sure inclusion of all transport stakeholders as members - membership is not 'broad enough'
Broad scope of expertise amongst members	Not wide enough community representation eg youth, aboriginal community - should be all inclusive
Provides a forum to expand ideas regarding public transport	Breakdown in progressing what is talked about between meetings (2 monthly meetings)
Good mix of persons within the group - bus operators, special interest groups and Council employees	Blockage of what is said through the corridors of power to get any feedback - this could be an inherent problem. Need more reaction from Council
	Within Council and with other government departments how can this committee be effective as there is no Councillor representative

Strengths	Weaknesses
	Need to engage more with users of public transport, not the suppliers of public transport
	We need to improve the first point of contact i.e. bus shelters
	Can't change history. We look at the 'blunders' made in planning layouts etc. Community deals with these daily and Committee with them bi monthly
Provides an opportunity for feedback to the community	Don't really understand the limits that we have as far as things that we can influence within Council processes. This could be terms of inter-relationships. Can we define what we can act on as the Committee's influential area. This may remove the frustrations that we feel
This group does sit within Council and has community engineering, planning representation. Also having reps from transport	Need review of taxi reps.
Regional processes have had positive outcomes	We do get bogged down on a smaller range of issues stopping the bigger issues being handled
The group provides a link with other regional groups and issues	Need to identify projects to work on for good outcomes for the community
	Does not have any power or much influence Need to keep on pushing and pushing until something gets done

John Zawadzki pointed out there are more weaknesses than strengths.

Alan spoke about the Committee taking too much time discussing issues which could be resolved through other avenues. Members of the public should not be cleaning bus shelters, it should be Council's responsibility. A better result could be achieved by dealing with the decision makers. He feels the PTWG is 'toothless' and should be disbanded.

Ben Riley spoke about the Ministry's role as being to address the issues of transport disadvantaged. The group could refocus or redefine itself. The Ministry is not involved with Bus Shelters which seem to take up a lot of the meeting's time. The group provided a good networking forum and could be used to discuss issues affecting the transport disadvantaged.

Phil Barron agreed with Ben Riley. He also felt that there were too many bus shelter issues which do not concern them.

Len Greer spoke about bus shelter maintenance being a real issue as it is an item that remains unresolved. Len believes the group isn't getting anywhere and needs to be disbanded.

Rob Spragg spoke about the initial work of the group being more promotional and not complaint handling. He would like to see the Committee focus on network development.

Doug Weatherly spoke about the same issues being spoken about 4 years later and that there is too much talking and no action. He would like to know if the new Council have any interest in this group or not. He reiterated that tourism is being neglected by Council not maintaining bus shelters adequately.

Len Greer also feels that nothing is being achieved. Decision made that when there are more Committee members present considerations should be given to disbanding this group.

John Zawadzki commented there is too much focus on bus shelter issues. Funding does not permit the achievement of certain issues and would like to move on to focus on other issues like improvement initiatives.

Ben Riley suggested that bus shelter issues which cannot be addressed due to funding be taken up with local ministers to increase funding for these issues.

Len Greer spoke about public facilities not being clean and doesn't feel Council is addressing these issues.

John Zawadzki would like to see the group refocus.

Doug Weatherly feels Council must provide funds to spend on public transport. Robin Spragg said that is a matter of reallocation of funds.

Alan Cavanagh commented:-

1. There is too much time being wasted in meetings ('going round in circles').
2. Need to improve infrastructure for the public who use public transport.

John Zawadzki advised that J-Poles have been received and are at the depot. Consultation on placement of J-Poles as well as engineering issues need to be considered before their installation.

It was considered that Councillors/Senior staff should go on a bus tour to see public transport issues first hand. (John Parsons has already offered this).

RESOLVED that

That at the next Public Transport Working Group meeting in February 2009 the following be discussed:-

- 1. Disbanding of the group and/or**
 - 2. Options for re-establishing the make up and focus of the group**
-

2 Transport needs for older people in Tweed (deferred from previous meetings and added to Outstanding Matters Report)

John Zawadzki requested to defer this issue to the next meeting when Rosemary Beard is present.

Action: That this item be deferred to the next meeting.

3 Social Plan Review 2008 – Transport Issues (Attachment 2)

Transport (5 issues):

- 3.1 Improved bus service at Banora Central, Fraser/Leisure Drive,
- does not serve Banora Shopping Village, Leisure Drive,
Discuss with operator, refer all issues to PTWG
 - does not operate evenings, weekends or holidays,
Discuss with operator
 - no identified local bus stops or shelters,
Discuss with Council Works Unit
 - lack of comfortable passenger facilities at Tweed Heads,
Discuss with Council Works Unit
 - destination screens on buses difficult to read,
Discuss with operator
 - Community Transport cannot turn bus in Yarra Close.
Discuss with Community Transport

Alan advised that the 607 will change but will not access the Banora Point Central. It will service the community centre.

Services will not operate evenings/weekends or holidays due to no demand.

John Zawadzki advised that the Banora Point Central area has been earmarked for J-Pole installation.

Alan Cavanagh informed that electronic signs were unsuitable for people with macular degeneration.

Phil Barron commented that their buses can turn in Yarra Close.

3.2 New bus service from North Tumbulgum to Murwillumbah for shopping purposes,
Discuss with operator, refer to PTWG

Robin Spragg advised that a bus service is being discusses for this route.

3.3 New bus service along Discovery Drive towards Anchorage Islands,
Discuss with operator and Community Transport, refer to PTWG

Alan Cavanagh said that this is a gated community and buses cannot enter.

3.4 Lack of evening and weekend transport affecting Young People,12-24 yrs,
Refer to PTWG, discuss with operators, investigate improved evening and weekend services
Lack of community drivers limits access to this community.
Discuss with Community Transport, refer to PTWG, investigate ways to improve transport for older people

Phil Barron said they are out of funding for that service. There has not been a great need for it.

3.5 Casuarina bus service (603) uses the dangerous Coast Road, not Casuarina Way,
Discuss with operator, refer to PTWG

Robin Spragg advised of the new road connection through the development and that the difficulties with the use of Coast Road are now much less.

4. Resignation of Chair and Mr Terry O'Toole

Terry O'Toole wrote a letter to the association (via Len Greer) to resign from the Pottsville Community Association as well as Public Transport Working Group.

Replacement for Terry O'Toole will be an on-going issue until a decision on the future of the Public Transport Working Group is made.

5. Election of new Chairperson

A vote to elect a new chairperson was not made as there was not a quorum of the members present.

Len Greer will not be chairing the next meeting. A decision will be made on the day of the meeting to elect a temporary Chairperson.

6. Outstanding Matters Report

Meeting Date	Title	Action	Action Officer	Comments /Completed
24/08/2007	Council's Transport Policies & Procedures	Commence Network Plan	Rob Spragg	Ongoing - Rob advised he has been working on this and that this will be circulated for the next meeting
29/8/2008	Gold Coast/Tweed Transport	Liaison between Gold Coast City Council and Tweed on transportation	John Zawadzki	Ongoing
29/8/2008	Promotion & Possible Expansion of Tyalgum Bus Service	Rob Spragg to meet with Barry Singh and Ben Riley to discuss possible funding for promotion	Rob Spragg	Ongoing
29/8/2008	Transport Needs for Older People in Tweed	Funding for transport needs for older people from the Ministry of Transport	Rosemary Beard and Ben Riley	Ongoing

OTHER BUSINESS

Ben Riley spoke about Leslie Mye trying to set up an Aboriginal Transport Working Group dealing with the transportation needs of Indigenous Australians and was advised that this group was not to convene with the Public Transport Working Group. There have been significant, positive discussions regarding this matter.

Ben also advised a regional car pool was set up for the northeast NSW area and money was contributed to the scheme to commence in the New Year. This will be heavily promoted and will be publicly accessed throughout the internet.

Doug Weatherley, on behalf of the group, thanked Len Greer for his service as Chairman.

Len Greer thanked everyone and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Public Transport Working Sub Group is not yet scheduled for 2009.

The next meeting of the Public Transport Working Group will be held 20 February 2009.

The meeting closed at 11.55am.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:

DIRECTOR'S RECOMMENDATIONS:

**Minutes of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting held Friday 6 February 2009
Aboriginal Matters**

VENUE:

Tweed Heads Civic Centre – South Sea Islander Meeting Room

TIME:

9am

PRESENT:

Councillor Holdom, Councillor Milne, David Oxenham (Tweed Shire Council), Patrick Knight (Tweed Shire Council), Lesley Mye (Tweed Shire Council), Garth Lena (Minyungbal Community), Dr Glenda Nalder (Community), Maureen Logan (Community Elder), Max Boyd (Community), Jackie McDonald (Tweed Wollumbin AECG), Gilbert King (Community), Georgina Wright (Tweed Shire Council), Harry Boyd (Community), Kyle Slabb (TBLALC), Ian Fox (Converge Heritage & Community), Matt Alexander (Converge Heritage & Community), Janette Saunders (Community), Geoff Davis (Coolangatta Walking Tours), John Pitt (Tweed Sun), Bob Newman (Rally Australia), Gary Upson (Rally Australia),

APOLOGIES:

Joyce Summers, Des Williams, Chris Morgan & Bakoi Boulton

Moved: Max Boyd

Seconded: Maureen Logan

RESOLVED that the apologies be accepted

Carried unanimously

The Chair was declared vacant and nominations were called. Councillor Holdom nominated herself and was unanimously elected to Chair the meeting.

Councillor Holdom opened the meeting with a welcome to all present and paid respect to Elders past and present

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Moved: Councillor Holdom

Seconded: Garth Lena

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held Friday 5 December 2008 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting.

Carried unanimously

BUSINESS ARISING:

Item from Meeting held Friday 5 December 2008

BA 1 Repco Rally Australia 2009

Mr Upson introduced himself and advised the committee on matters relating to the Rally in September 2009 and informed the committee that there will be employment opportunities for the local community. Mr Upson advised that there are three routes through Tweed and Kyogle Shires, and he will meet with Murwillumbah Rotary Club to discuss Speed on Tweed being held at the same time as the Rally.

Item from Meeting held Friday 5 December 2008

BA 2 Draft – Tweed Coast Regional Crown Reserve

Ms Mye to forward an invitation to Department of Land to attend a meeting to discuss the draft.

Item from Meeting held Friday 5 August 2005

BA 3 Upgrade of the Old Border Caravan Park – Indigenous Public Placemaking Project

Councillor Holdom informed the Committee that if the plans for Goorimahbah keep being put on hold there will be a chance that the Community might lose the area as there are people in the community who would like to see the project not proceed.

Ms Georgina Wright tabled design plans of the site of Goorimahbah and general discussion was undertaken. The Tweed Heads Public Art Strategy was discussed and Mr Patrick Knight advised the Committee that the Tweed Heads Public Art Strategy does not affect Native Title.

Moved: Maureen Logan

Seconded: Max Boyd

RESOLVED that the Committee endorse that signage be erected on the site of Goorimahbah (Place of Stories).

Carried unanimously

Moved: Jackie McDonald

Seconded: Kyle Slabb

RESOLVED that the Committee support the Tweed Heads Public Art Strategy and the preamble in principle pending endorsement from Community.

Carried unanimously

Item from Meeting held Friday 1 August 2008

BA 4 Proposed dam site - Byrill Creek Cultural Heritage Assessment

Ian Fox, Converge Heritage & Community, advised the Committee on the Assessment, to take place at Byrill Creek early in March 2009. Mr Fox advised that Tweed Byron Local Aboriginal Land Council will nominate either Cyril Scott or Des Williams and Minjungbal Museum have nominated Garth Lena.

Harry Boyd nominated himself on behalf of the Tul-gi-gin people.

Moved: Max Boyd

Seconded: Garth Lena

RESOLVED that the Committee nominated Jackie McDonald.

Carried unanimously

Item from Meeting Friday 7 December 2007

**BA 5 Archaeological Excavation and Cultural Heritage Assessment –
Piggabeen Road Shell Midden**

Moved: Garth Lena

Seconded: Maureen Logan

RESOLVED that the Committee endorse the Cultural Heritage Assessment.

Carried unanimously

Item from Meeting held Friday 5 December 2008

BA 6 Cultural Awareness Training

Ms Mye advised the Committee that Joyce Summers will be facilitating Cultural Awareness Training for Councillors on Tuesday 24 March 2009. Discussion was undertaken about appropriate Council staff also attending a Training Session.

Ms Mye to liaise with Cathey Philip.

Item from Meeting held Friday 6 June 2008

**BA 7 Kerry Turner – Ethical Productions, Murwillumbah Showground
Event Proposal**

Moved: Garth Lena

Seconded: Maureen Logan

RESOLVED that the Committee invite Ms Kerry Turner to attend the March meeting

Carried unanimously

Moved: Jackie McDonald

Seconded: Garth Lena

RESOLVED that Business Arising from Friday 5 December 2008 meeting has been dealt with.

Carried unanimously

GENERAL BUSINESS:

GB 1 Geoff Davies – Coolangatta Walking Tours

Mr Davies advised the Committee that he operates walking tours around Coolangatta and surrounding areas. He would like to be able to provide history about the local Aboriginal people and requested appropriate text that he may use on the walking tours.

Appropriate text will be forwarded to Mr Davies.

GB 2 John Pitt – The Sun Newspaper

Mr Pitt advised the committee that he writes a column in The Sun called the "Time Machine" and would like to write about the early Aboriginal history of the area. Mr Pitt requested contact details of Elders who may be interested in being interviewed for the column.

Ms Mye will forward contact details of Elders who are interested

GB 3 Stay Trim/ Keep Fit with Easy Exercise -Walking Trails

Ms Mye tabled the information flyer and general discussion was undertaken. Ms McDonald and Mr Kyle Slabb will supply appropriate text for Council's web site.

GB 4 Jet Boat

Councillor Milne advised the Committee of her concerns if this is permitted by Council and general discussion was undertaken. The Committee has concerns for Community's Cultural rights and asked for this to be placed on the March agenda.

Incoming Correspondence

Wonders of a Woman – Inaugural Outstanding Achievement Awards
Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
Consultation Request Re: Cultural Heritage Study – Byrill Creek
Department of Environment and Climate Change – Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Interim
Community Consultation Requirements

Moved: Jackie McDonald

Seconded: Maureen Logan

RESOLVED that all inward correspondence be received and noted.

Carried unanimously

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee will be held Friday 6 March 2009, at 9.00 am in the South Sea Islander Room, Tweed Civic Centre, Brett Street, Tweed Heads.

The meeting closed at 1.20pm

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:

DIRECTOR'S RECOMMENDATIONS: