



Minutes

Traffic Authority Local Committee
Thursday 18 October 2012
2 pm

Lithgow Traffic Authority Local Committee (TALC)	
Item Number	Agenda
1	Welcome/present/ apologies
2	Confirmation of minutes
3	Business Arising from the previous Minutes
4	Ongoing issues from the last meeting
5	New Business
6	General Business
7	Next meeting
8	Attachments



TRAFFIC AUTHORITY LOCAL COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES – 18 OCTOBER 2012

ITEM: 1 PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

Present: Clr Peter Pilbeam, Bob Willison (LCC), Maddison Bailey (LCC), Ben Macfarlane (Chifley / Canobolas Highway Patrol), Prue Britt (RMS) and Kym Snow (LCC).

Apologies: Iain Stewart (LCC)

Officers:

Declaration of Interests: Nil

ITEM: 2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes were endorsed by two members of the Committee being:

Maddison Bailey

Kym Snow

The minutes were then presented to the Council on 15 October 2012.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Minutes of the meeting of 6 September 2012 be taken as read and confirmed.

MOVED: Maddison Bailey

SECONDED: Kym Snow

ITEM: 3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

A) Aquatic centre car park- revised plan

SUMMARY

At the council meeting held on 13 August, council adopted the recommendations made by TALC on the aquatic centre. Council requested that the recommendations be publicly advertised.

COMMENTARY

Concern has been expressed over the location of a power pole on the corner of George Coates Avenue and Barton Avenue.

An onsite meeting was held with the RMS to discuss the pedestrian issues along George Coates Avenue on 6 September. The RMS has advised council to undertake a traffic a management study of the area as residents, sporting groups and the community may be affected. There is not adequate room for a pedestrian facility to be placed along George Coates Avenue and any pedestrian crossing will have to meet the RMS warrant.

The 40km/h proposal would not be supported by the RMS as it would be impossible for police to enforce. The proposal to direct through traffic along Fred Burley Drive has been raised by the RMS due to the nature of the intersection. This study should include the viaduct entrance to George Coates Avenue as well as the entire sporting precinct- James Street, Fred Burley Drive, George Coates Avenue, Wylde Street, Longworth Street, Barton Avenue, Geordie Street, Coalbrook Street and Main Street. This study would provide professional advice on pedestrian and traffic issues and can stipulate what should be considered.

RECOMMENDATION- That Council write to Endeavour Energy requesting that the power pole located on the corner of George Coates Avenue and Barton Avenue be relocated as a matter of priority due to safety.

MOVED: Bob Willison

SECONDED: Ben Macfarlane

B) Fullagar Avenue Lithgow- three month review/ speed hump

SUMMARY

A speed hump was placed on the intersection of Fullagar Avenue and Chivers Close in Lithgow, with the matter to be reviewed after a three month period.

COMMENTARY

There have been several responses received in regards to the speed hump installation which were reviewed by the committee. It was noted that other than the received correspondence there has been no other comments received. It was noted this is an enforcement issue and the police shall continue with enforcement in this area.

RECOMMENDATION – That Council note that the speed hump shall remain at the intersection of Chivers Close and Fullagar Avenue Lithgow.

MOVED: Bob Willison

SECONDED: Ben Macfarlane

C) Sunny Corner and Portland Road speed statistics

SUMMARY

Concern has been expressed over the speed limit on this road.

COMMENTARY

The RMS has completed the draft speed zone review of Sunny Corner Road at Portland and this has been submitted to the RMS Management for their review. The RMS noted that draft speed zone reviews do not have to be presented to TALC or council.

RECOMMENDATION – That Council note the RMS recommendation that the speed limit on Sunny Corner Road between 315m south of the intersection with Reservoir Road and a point 400m south is changed from 100km/h to 80km/h. At that point the speed limit should increase to 100km/h.

MOVED: Maddison Bailey

SECONDED: Bob Willison

ITEM: 4 ONGOING ISSUES FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 6 SEPTEMBER

1) 2012 Alpine Classic –Touring Road Event 13-14 October

SUMMARY

The Classic Rally Car Club is planning to hold a social touring road event for classic cars on 13 and 14 October 2012- the Alpine Classic and has asked for council permission to conduct the event through our region.

The event is not a race, speed event or forest rally. Its aim is to test the map reading and navigational skills of members. All participants will follow the road traffic act. The event is proposed to start at Lithgow on Saturday 13 October with the first vehicle leaving Lithgow at 9am. Vehicles will leave at 1 minute intervals. On the Sunday the vehicles will leave Orange at 8am and finish in Lithgow at 3.30pm. The tour avoids passing through heavily populated areas.

COMMENTARY

The required documentation has been received and a letter issued to the event organisers stating that TALC has no objections to the running of the 2012 Alpine Classic motoring event, provided that the event is conducted in accordance with any event conditions.

RECOMMENDATION- That Council place the Alpine Classic event in the annual events calendar.

MOVED: Maddison Bailey

SECONDED: Bob Willison

2) Request from Rydal resident- Railway Street

SUMMARY

A resident of Rydal has requested that a Stop sign be placed on the corner of Railway Street and Old Western Road as it is very difficult to see traffic coming down from the railway crossing towards Railway Street.

COMMENTARY

The RMS supplement for warrants for a Stop sign or Give Way sign was used to determine if a Stop or Give Way sign is required at this intersection. Results indicate that a Stop sign is required.

RECOMMENDATION- That Council installs a Stop sign at the intersection of Railway Street and Old Western Road at Rydal.

MOVED: Maddison Bailey

SECONDED: Prue Britt

3) Browns Gap Road- speed zone request

SUMMARY

The RMS has conducted a speed zone review of Brown's Gap Road at Hartley and has provided the draft review to council for their comment.

COMMENTARY

The local Highway Patrol and the RMS conducted an inspection of the entire length of Brown's Gap Road and agree that the speed zone should be reduced to 80km/h for the entire length of Brown's Gap Road. This is a detour route and is used by large amounts of traffic and the reduction to 80km/h works in with the 80km/h speed zone on the Great Western Highway and the alignment/state of the road. The road has a crash history also.

RECOMMENDATION- That Council note that the RMS has conducted a speed zone review of Brown's Gap Road and has recommended that the entire length of the Brown's Gap Road is reduced to 80km/h.

MOVED: Maddison Bailey

SECONDED: Bob Willison

4. Traffic management issues- Great Western Highway- Mudgee Street

SUMMARY

A resident has written to council requesting that changes be made to the current access to Mudgee Street from the Great Western Highway specifically devising a safer access to Mudgee Street by changing lane markings.

The resident expressed concerns in relation to the proposed RMS concept design. These include the road boundaries for this area which will cut into properties and the upgraded service road for Mudgee Street, a roundabout and the provision of wider traffic separation of highway traffic at Southbowenfels.

COMMENTARY

An onsite inspection was conducted by the committee. A meeting with the resident was conducted.

The RMS contacted the resident in regard to these issues.

This information has been forwarded to the RMS. The RMS noted that a copy of this letter has been sent to April Guise, Communications Manager at the RMS and that this manager shall provide a response on the matter to the Road Safety and Traffic Officer at the RMS, who shall report back to the committee. The RMS has investigated the intersection and noted that it is built correctly with correct line marking and a dedicated right hand turn.

RECOMMENDATION- That Council note that that the RMS is actively consulting with the resident on the traffic matters raised at the intersection of the Great Western Highway and Mudgee Street at Southbowenfels.

MOVED: Prue Britt

SECONDED: Ben Macfarlane

5. Ordnance Avenue Lithgow- disabled parking zone Family First Credit Union

SUMMARY

The RMS noted that the disabled parking zone located adjacent to the Credit Union in Ordnance Avenue does not have an access ramp and is not suitable.

COMMENTARY

A letter was sent to the Credit union requesting information in relation to this matter. This matter needs to be investigated by council to determine if the disabled zone is still in use. At the time of the meeting no correspondence had been received from the Credit Union.

RECOMMENDATION-That Council note that this matter is to be held in abeyance.

MOVED: Bob Willison

SECONDED: Maddison Bailey

ITEM 5: NEW BUSINESS

A) Main Street laneway- Centrelink/Mort Street car park-Request for traffic Mirror

SUMMARY

An action request has been received by council (C/R 00585/12) in regards to the Main street lane- specifically in the vicinity of 31 Main Street and the Mort Street/ Centrelink car park. The resident has asked that a traffic mirror is placed adjacent to the car park to allow vehicles to be able to see vehicles coming in either direction along the laneway. The resident feels that it is very dangerous coming out of the car park as you are unable to see cars coming from either direction when exiting the car park.

COMMENTARY

The committee conducted a site inspection and noted that at the time of the inspection there was delivery trucks parked in the lane which blocked one section of the lane off and that site distance is limited when exiting the car park to the right. It was noted that delivery trucks use the lane at all times of the day, blocking access for vehicles entering and exiting car parking spaces.

RECOMMENDATION – That Council conduct an investigation into the possibility of changing the Main Street lane way from the rear of the Grand Central Hotel to the rear of the Courthouse Hotel into a one way street in an easterly direction by developing a one way street proposal and plan and submitting it to the next meeting.

MOVED: Maddison Bailey

SECONDED: Ben Macfarlane

B) Lithgow street laneway-request for street sign

SUMMARY

An action request has been received by council (CR/00717/12) in regards to the laneway located at the rear of Lithgow Street. The resident has requested that a

street sign is placed in the back lane as people are speeding in the street and she believes this is a 40km/h speed zone.

COMMENTARY

The speeds recorded are very low, with no indication of speeding vehicles noted. Vehicles can use this lane way for deliveries.

Speed and traffic counters have been placed in the lane to determine if vehicles are speeding in this laneway and the results received. Require clarification on what sign the resident would like erected- this would be a speed zone sign.

The resident has contacted council again expressing concern over heavy vehicle movements in this lane way. The resident noted that on several occasions large trucks drive up and down the lane and have issues turning the vehicle around in such a narrow space. The resident has heard vehicles revving very loudly as they are too close to the embankment.

RECOMMENDATION – That Council write to the resident of Lithgow Street noting the speed zone results recorded indicate low speeds and that as such a speed zone sign is not required in the Lithgow Street lane way.

MOVED: Maddison Bailey

SECONDED: Bob Willison

C) No parking in driveway request- Laurence Street Lithgow

SUMMARY

A resident has written to council asking that No Parking be stenciled on the entrance to her driveway at 1/94 Laurence Street Lithgow, due to trucks delivering to Bunning's Warehouse parking across her driveway. The resident has contacted Bunning's and the police in relation to this matter. The resident works for Lithgow Community Transport and requires access to the driveway at all times of the day.

COMMENTARY

A site inspection was conducted by the committee. It was noted that a no parking stencil across a driveway is not legally enforceable as this is not legal signage.

RECOMMENDATION – That Council write to Bunning's Hardware requesting that their delivery truck drivers do not park in the resident's driveway in Laurence Street Lithgow and advise the resident of this action.

MOVED: Bob Willison

SECONDED: Prue Britt

D) Request for Concealed Driveway signage- Jenolan Caves Road

SUMMARY

The RMS has received a request from a resident of Jenolan Caves Road for a concealed driveway sign to be erected approximately 100 metres from the entrance of her driveway at 754 Jenolan Caves Road. The resident noted that when exiting her driveway many vehicles are not looking and she has experience many near misses.

COMMENTARY

A site inspection was conducted by the committee. It was noted that the property access is in an unsafe position due to limited site distance to the right when exiting the property. The resident could consider changing their access point.

RECOMMENDATION – That Council contact Andrew MacIntyre at the RMS to determine if a development application is required for the resident to move the existing driveway on Jenolan Caves Road and report back to the next meeting.

MOVED: Maddison Bailey

SECONDED: Ben Macfarlane

E) B-double route assessment application- various routes Lithgow LGA

SUMMARY

Forests NSW has written to council requesting that 19metre B- Double Route assessments are undertaken on the following roads within the Lithgow LGA-

- **Meadow Flat Sunny Corner Road-** Start: Great Western Highway/ Finish: Boundary with Bathurst Shire
- **Dark Corner Road-** Start: Stringy Bark Road/ Finish: Wattle Creek Road
- **Cupits Lane-** Start: Dark Corner Road/ Finish: Battery Road
- **Rydal Hampton Road-** Start: Great Western Highway/ Finish: Jenolan Caves Road

It is noted in the application that in Appendix 3 (Assessment Criteria for Proposed B-Double Routes) of the Route Assessment Guidelines, states that due to the better geometric performance of 19m B- Double trucks, the only assessment criteria that needs to be taken into account when assessing B- double exceeding 50 tonnes is the structural capacity of any long span bridges on the route. Note that the same trucks are currently using these routes as General Access vehicles, as they have been doing for the last five or so years without incident.

The routes need to be assessed and the applicant advised of the outcome within 40 working days.

COMMENTARY

The committee noted that as part of the 19metre B-double requests an increased tonnage will be placed on each B-double. The roads that the applicant has requested the route assessments on would not be able to cope with increased tonnage, as they are not designed for any kind of weight.

RECOMMENDATION – That Council contact Stuart Peden Freight Liaison Officer at the RMS to ask for assistance with the 19m B-Double route requests.

MOVED: Bob Willison

SECONDED: Maddison Bailey

F. Review of traffic zones along Main Street Lithgow

SUMMARY

Council has been asked to review the traffic zones along Main Street in Lithgow as comments have been received over the amount of parking space available being reduced due to loading zones, no parking zones and no stopping zones. It is noted also that it is hard for older residents to be able to park close to where they want to shop.

COMMENTARY

The request for a review of the parking zones commences at the Commercial Hotel through to the intersection of Main Street and Bridge Street. It was noted that marked parking spaces for Main Street has been previously discussed at TALC and that approximately 18% of parking spaces would be lost with this option. Another suggestion to free up parking more parking spaces was to only have bus zones on one side of Main Street. It was noted that this would cause issues for people accessing one side of Main Street only as well as the bus company.

RECOMMENDATION – That Council prepare a plan of the existing parking facilities in Main Street Lithgow and alternative plans for the proposal of a one-way street for Main Street and present these to the next meeting for consideration.

MOVED: Bob Willison

SECONDED: Maddison Bailey

G. Speed zone review- Barton Street and George Coates Avenue Lithgow

SUMMARY

The RMS has written to council to notify that they will be conducting a speed zone review of Barton Avenue and George Coates Avenue in the immediate vicinity of the Lithgow Aquatic Centre as requested by council.

COMMENTARY

Council has been invited to participate in these reviews.

RECOMMENDATION – That Council note that the RMS will be conducting a speed zone review of Barton Avenue and George Coates Avenue Lithgow.

MOVED: Maddison Bailey

SECONDED: Bob Willison

H. Request for bus zone- Whitton Street Lithgow

SUMMARY

Lithgow Bus lines have contacted council on behalf of residents asking that council consider the request for a bus stop to be placed in front of the flats at 7 Whitton Street Lithgow.

COMMENTARY

The bus company has said that four people use this area as a bus stop currently and as there are vehicles that park there, it is difficult to board the bus. Lithgow Bus lines have been contacted for further information on this issue. There has been no further correspondence received at the time of the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION – That Council note that the request for a bus zone to be installed at 7 Whitton Street is in abeyance until further information is received.

MOVED: Bob Willison

SECONDED: Maddison Bailey

I. Request for Armco railing to be installed- Great Western Highway and Speed zone reduction request Magpie Hollow Road Southbowenfels

SUMMARY

A councilor has requested that the committee address the following requests;

1. The installation of Armco railing on the Great Western Highway at 'Good Luck Hollow' heading south between the road and the footpath (the section of footpath between the intersection of Rabaul Street and First Street).

Due to the number of school children and the general public using this footpath and the history of vehicles trying to negotiate the corner and ending up in the ditch located at the rear of the footpath, it is a safety concern for pedestrians using this path. Request Armco barrier to be installed for pedestrian safety.

2. The reduction of the speed limit to 60km/h on Magpie Hollow Road from the intersection of the Great Western Highway to the top of Gould's Hill in both directions.

The councilor has expressed concern over the accidents, near misses and vehicles speeding in the 80km/h zone as he witnesses speeding vehicles on a daily basis.

The councilor noted that due to the nature of the road and no streetlights, drivers assume that it is a 100km/h speed zone. The councilor noted concerns for the drivers exiting 41 Magpie Hollow Road due to limited site distance and a rise in the road.

COMMENTARY

Item 2 was previously addressed by TALC with the recommendation being that- That Council approve the RMS recommendation that the speed limit on Magpie Hollow Road remain unchanged commencing from the Great Western Highway in the east through to a point 2.11 kilometers west where the speed zone changes to 100km/h. This recommendation was approved by council.

It was noted by the RMS that there have been 4 crashes on Magpie Hollow Road in the past five years. Speed was identified as a factor in two of these crashes being single vehicle crashes off road on a bend.

RECOMMENDATION – That Council write to the RMS requesting that Armco railing is installed along the footpath located from Rabaul Street to First Street on the Great Western Highway. That Council note that the RMS has previously conducted a speed zone assessment of Magpie Hollow Road according to the RMS speed zoning guidelines and that the speed zones will remain as is.

MOVED: Maddison Bailey

SECONDED: Bob Willison

J. Request for disabled parking zone- Lithgow Mobility Aids 23-25 Main Street Lithgow

SUMMARY

Lithgow Mobility Aids has written to council requesting that a disabled parking zone be installed at either the front or rear of their premises. Lithgow Mobility Aids are the only retailer of equipment to assist the elderly or disabled in Lithgow and there is no parking available in close proximity to the shop. It is difficult for some customers to walk short distances or to drive into the rear access of the shop.

COMMENTARY

A site inspection was conducted by the committee. The laneway is not suitable for a disabled parking zone to be installed along side the shop. The front of the premises is unsuitable due to a high gutter.

RECOMMENDATION – That Council move an existing disabled parking zone in the car park located behind Lithgow Mobility Aids to the parking position located closest to Lithgow Mobility Aids.

MOVED: Maddison Bailey

SECONDED: Ben Macfarlane

K. Request for convex traffic mirror- Lithgow Street and Kirkland Link Lithgow

SUMMARY

The Property Director from Aldi in Lithgow has written to council requesting that a convex traffic mirror is installed at the intersection of Lithgow Street and Kirkland Link due to a blind spot for trucks exiting from Kirkland Link.

COMMENTARY

The committee conducted an onsite inspection and noted that the area discussed in the correspondence does not have any issues with site distance.

RECOMMENDATION – That Council contact Aldi Management and request an onsite meeting with the delivery truck drivers to discuss the request for a convex traffic mirror at the intersection of Kirkland Link and Lithgow Street Lithgow.

MOVED: Bob Willison

SECONDED: Maddison Bailey

ITEM 6: GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Main Street laneway from the rear of the Grand Central Hotel through to the rear of the Courthouse Hotel

SUMMARY

Several issues have been brought up in regard to the lane way behind Main Street from the rear of the Grand Central Hotel to the rear of the Courthouse Hotel. The issues are:

- speeding vehicles
- limited site distance when trying to exit car parks
- delivery vehicles blocking access for vehicles entering/exiting car parks
- vehicles parking in the lane
- limited site distance when exiting the lane onto Eskbank Street

COMMENTARY

The committee conducted a site inspection and noted that at the time of the inspection there was delivery trucks parked in the lane which blocked one section of the lane off and that site distance is limited when exiting the car park to the right. It was noted that delivery trucks use the lane at all times of the day, blocking access for vehicles entering and exiting car parking spaces.

RECOMMENDATION – That Council conduct an investigation into the possibility of changing the Main Street lane way from the rear of the Grand Central Hotel to the rear of the Courthouse Hotel into a one way street in an

easterly direction by developing a one way street proposal plan and submitting it to the next meeting.

MOVED: Maddison Bailey

SECONDED: Bob Willison

2. Celebrate Lithgow road closure

SUMMARY

The committee is in receipt of a map for the Celebrate Lithgow Road Closures for 2012.

COMMENTARY

After reviewing the map it was noted that this is not a proper traffic management plan. Council has been in contact with the event organizers and is satisfied with the plan submitted as council complete the road closures each year.

RECOMMENDATION- That Council approve the road closures for Celebrate Lithgow 2012.

MOVED: Bob Willison

SECONDED: Maddison Bailey

3. Tour de Range Celebrate Lithgow charity push bike challenge

SUMMARY

Council has received a traffic management plan for the Tour de Range charity push bike challenge scheduled to be held on Sunday 18 November 2012.

COMMENTARY

The traffic management plan received is a copy of last years and a Google map with the extra course highlighted. As the event is using a different route than last years a new traffic management plan is required. The organisers were contacted after the last TALC meeting by council's events coordinator requesting the following documents for the event;

- Appropriate traffic management plan for the event
- Insurance certificate of Currency for the event
- Management plan for the event

RECOMMENDATION- That Council contacts the Celebrate Lithgow tour de Range event organizers requesting that an appropriate traffic management plan and the required documents are received for the event.

MOVED: Maddison Bailey

SECONDED: Bob Willison

4. Oyster Bay Motorcycle Club event- Clearview Grass Track Motorcycling meeting – November 10th and 11th 2012

SUMMARY

Council has received an application for the Grass Track Motorcycling event to be held on Clearview property at Rydal Road Wallerawang. A development application has been approved subject to certain conditions.

COMMENTARY

Council has received the club's insurance documents as part of another event. The police will be inspecting the track and informing council of the outcome. If the inspection is successful the applicant shall be written to and informed that there are no objections to the event as long as they abide by any event conditions.

RECOMMENDATION- That Council write to the event organizers noting that they have no objection to the event as long as it complies with any event conditions.

MOVED: Bob Willison

SECONDED: Ben Macfarlane

5. Zig Zag School- Safe travel route concerns

SUMMARY

The P&C Committee have written to council expressing concern over the travel routes for students to and from the school, specifically Victoria Avenue which is narrow and has a bend and the lack of lay backs on Mills and Hay Streets.

COMMENTARY

The committee conducted an onsite inspection of the area as outlined above. It was noted that a section of Victoria Avenue is very narrow, but there is no room for the road to be widened. Several footpaths do not have laybacks or have the laybacks facing the incorrect way.

RECOMMENDATION- That Council install laybacks and make adjustments to the existing laybacks on the footpaths in Mills Street, Hay Street and Victoria Avenue Lithgow.

MOVED: Bob Willison

SECONDED: Maddison Bailey

6. Point to point heavy vehicle cameras- Mount Victoria to Hartley

SUMMARY

The local highway patrol have requested that council write the RMS requesting point to point speed cameras for heavy vehicles from Mount Victoria through to Hartley.

COMMENTARY

It was noted that a media release issued this past week by the Member for Bathurst Paul Toole and the Member for Blue Mountains Roza Sage that point to point speed cameras for heavy vehicles will be installed on a 15km section of road from Mount Victoria and Lithgow. The locations of the cameras will be determined following site assessments.

RECOMMENDATION- That Council note that point to point speed cameras shall be erected from Mount Victoria through to Hartley targeting heavy vehicles.

MOVED: Ben Macfarlane

SECONDED: Maddison Bailey

7. Traffic lights at the intersection of Mort and Lithgow Streets

SUMMARY

It was noted at the traffic lights at the intersection of Mort and Lithgow Streets that when vehicles are waiting to turn right on Lithgow Street into Mort Street why is there a red arrow when there are no pedestrians waiting to cross the road?

COMMENTARY

It was noted that the red arrow takes into account any pedestrian movements as well as the need for traffic turning right into Mort Street from Lithgow Street to give way to through traffic travelling from Main Street.

RECOMMENDATION- That Council note the RMS has addressed this enquiry.

MOVED: Bob Willison

SECONDED: Maddison Bailey

Meeting Closed: With no further business the meeting was closed at 4.15 pm

ITEM 7: NEXT MEETING:

Next Meeting: 2pm on Thursday 15 November 2012
Council Committee meeting room
Lithgow City Council
180 Mort Street Lithgow