



Minutes

Traffic Authority Local Committee
Thursday 31 January 2013
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

TRAFFIC AUTHORITY LOCAL COMMITTEE MEETING



MINUTES – 31 JANUARY 2013

ITEM: 1 PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

Present: Iain Stewart (LCC), Clr Peter Pilbeam (LCC), Bob Willison (LCC), Prue Britt (RMS), Sergeant Neal Snowden (CHP), Maddison Bailey (LCC), Kym Snow (LCC) Macgregor Ross (Ironfest).

Apologies:

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:

Prue Britt and Clr Pilbeam

The minutes were then presented to the Council on 15 March 2013.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Minutes of the meeting of 15 November 2013 be taken as read and confirmed.

MOVED: Prue Britt

SECONDED: Clr Pilbeam

ITEM: 3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

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

SUMMARY

Forest NSW has written to Council requesting that 19metre B- Double Route assessments for increased tonnage 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

COMMENTARY

Council contacted Julie Lacarto at State Forest in Bathurst for clarification on the issues.

Council Engineers conducted route assessments of the various roads and made the following recommendations-

1. Meadow Flat Sunny Corner Road

Concerns with the following on this road-

- School bus route
- School
- Poor site distance
- No passing or very limited passing opportunities
- Over hanging trees
- No road shoulder
- Narrow road pavement
- Access to properties on the road
- The existing grade at which Sunny Corner Road intersects with the Great Western Highway

Recommended: B-doubles not approved on this route

2. Dark Corner Road

- Has been sealed
- Adequate width
- Adequate site distance

Recommended: Conditional approval on this route- Council requests an annual financial contribution to the maintenance/ upgrade of the road due to the detrimental impact on the road surface and associated infrastructure.

3. Cupit's Lane

This road is not in Council's jurisdiction.

4. Rydal Hampton Road commencing at the Great Western Highway and exiting on the Jenolan Caves Road

Concerns with the following on this route-

- Specifically the Jenolan Caves end section-steep winding narrow section of road
- Very limited passing opportunities
- Intersection with Jenolan Caves Road not suitable due to alignment of the corner

Concern has expressed over the heavy vehicles using the roads and the impact on infrastructure which may have not been designed for this type of vehicle use. Older sections of roads also present road safety implications such as limited passing opportunities, driver frustration and inadequate site distance.

The route assessment recommendations were discussed by the committee. The RMS noted that the reasons given should be backed up with fact- for example the narrow road pavement should be measured and the distance recorded.

More information is required by the committee, the time required for each section that shall be logged, the number of truck movements per day and the start and finish times each day.

RECOMMENDATION – That Council invite Stuart Peden Freight Liaison Officer (Parkes) and Daniel White (Bathurst) from the RMS, and State Forest Officers to attend the next TALC meeting to discuss the request for 19 metre B-Double increased tonnage vehicles to access roads in the Lithgow LGA.

MOVED: Neal Snowden

SECONDED: Prue Britt

ITEM: 4 ONGOING ISSUES FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 15 NOVEMBER

A) Request for extended access- higher mass limits on Oakey Forest Road at Marrangaroo

SUMMARY

A request has been received from the RMS to assess Oakey Forest Road at Marrangaroo for access of performance based standards truck and quad dogs which will operate at higher mass limits- 57.5 tonne.

COMMENTARY

Council has not received any feedback at the time of this meeting. More information is required.

Council wrote to Metromix requesting further information on the request for extended access for 57.5 tonne B- Doubles on Oakey Forest Road at Marrangaroo and report back to the next meeting.

Currently this road is not approved for B-Double access over 50.5 tonne, so Council approval is required for the increased tonnage. The committee is to note that as the vehicle is less than 20 metres in length and has a suitable swept path; it is considered by the National Transport Commission as a general access vehicle when operating under 50.5 tonne. This means that no swept path analysis is required, only asset suitability at the mass of 57.5 tonnes.

RECOMMENDATION- That Council invites Metromix to attend the next TALC meeting to discuss the request for higher mass limits on Oakey Forest Road at Marrangaroo.

MOVED: Prue Britt

SECONDED: Neal Snowden

B) Main Street laneway- Centrelink/ Mort Street car park request for traffic mirror/traffic issues

SUMMARY

An action request has been received by Council (CR/00585/12) in regard to the Main Street laneway specifically in the vicinity of 31 Main Street and the Mort Street Centrelink car park. Several issues have been brought up in regard to the lane way behind Main Street from the rear of the grand Central Hotel through to the rear of the Courthouse Hotel also. The issues are:

1. Speeding vehicles
2. Limited site distance when trying to exit car parks
3. Delivery vehicles blocking access for vehicles entering/exiting car parks
4. Vehicles parking in the lane

5. Limited site distance when exiting the lane onto Eskbank Street

COMMENTARY

At the Council meeting held on 5 November Council approved the investigation into the possibility of changing the Main Street lane way from the rear of the Grand Central Hotel into a one way street in an easterly direction through to the Courthouse Hotel by developing a one way street proposal and plan and submitting it to the next TALC meeting. The plan has not been completed at this time.

RECOMMENDATION- That Council note that the one way street proposal for the Main Street laneway from the rear of the Grand Central Hotel through to the rear of the Courthouse Hotel is to be held in abeyance whilst plans are developed.

MOVED: Prue Britt

SECONDED: Neal Snowden

C) Review of traffic zones along Main Street

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 that it is hard for older residents to be able to park close to the facility they would like to use.

COMMENTARY

At the Council meeting held on 5 November Council approved the recommendation for a plan to be prepared 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 the plans to the next meeting for consideration. The plans have not been completed at this time.

RECOMMENDATION- That Council write to the RMS requesting funding to engage a qualified consultant to conduct a feasibility study of Lithgow's central business district and the aquatic centre precinct.

MOVED: Prue Britt

SECONDED: Neal Snowden

D) Request for temporary taxi zone adjacent to the Courthouse Hotel Main Street Lithgow

SUMMARY

A request has been received from the Taxi Co-op for a temporary after hours taxi zone to be installed adjacent to the Courthouse Hotel on Main Street Lithgow to meet demand. The request is to have the temporary taxi zone from 6pm to 6am on Friday and Saturday nights.

The Taxi co-op have applied to the Ministry of Transport to have the secure taxi rank moved to the above location as this is where the demand for taxi's comes from after hours.

COMMENTARY

Ray Smith from the Courthouse Hotel contacted council and noted that he supports this request. The police, RMS and Clr Pilbeam noted their support for the temporary taxi rank.

The Ministry of Transport was contacted in late 2012 in regard to the above proposal; no reply had been received at the time of this meeting.

RECOMMENDATION- That Council note that the proposal for a temporary after hours taxi rank adjacent to the Courthouse Hotel in Main Street Lithgow be held in abeyance until further information is received.

MOVED: Prue Britt

SECONDED: Neal Snowden

ITEM 5: NEW BUSINESS

A) Crossing of the Blue Mountains Bicentennial Blue Wave route and schedule 2013

SUMMARY

Lithgow City Council has received documentation for the Blue Mountains Blue Wave event which is to be held in 2013 celebrating the bicentennial of the crossing of the Blue Mountains.

It is a re-enactment of the first European crossing of the Blue Mountains from South Creek St Mary's to Hartley, over a 21 day period by the explorers Wentworth, Blaxland and Lawson.

There will be a walking party consisting of 7 people, 4 pack horses and 5 dogs.

Participants escorted by escort vehicles and personnel who have RMS traffic controller accreditation and the horses led by trained men and women who own the animals.

The route relating to Lithgow City Council is-

Wednesday 28 May 2013- approximate journey time 4 hours and 20 minutes-

- Enter the Great Western Highway at Mount York and continue past Cox's River Road,
- Turn right at Browns Gap Road
- Continue onto Fields Road
- Turn right onto Hartley Vale Road to the Comet Inn (spend the night here)

Thursday 29 May 2013 (rest day)

Friday 30 May 2013- approximate journey time 1 hour 50 minutes

- Depart the Comet Inn on Hartley Vale Road
- Browns Gap Road to the Great Western Highway
- Great Western Highway to Glenroy

Saturday 31 May 2013- approximate journey time 2 hours

- Depart Glenroy
- Head back down Hartley Vale Road
- Left to Mid Hartley Road
- Follow Mid Hartley Road through to GWHY

- Right along GWHY through Hartley to the junction of River Lett and Cox's River

A celebration of walk completed and then the party will climb Mount Blaxland as the start of the return journey.

COMMENTARY

The committee noted there are concerns with this event which include- the rolling intersection closures, the hand sweeper crew, the one lane being closed, what the safe distance is for the lead and rear vehicles and the lack of a traffic control plan for the event and if the event organizers have a road occupancy licence for travelling on the highway.

The main stakeholders for the event are the Police and the RMS, council roads are being used in the event and council has noted this and will take appropriate action when required.

RECOMMENDATION- That Council write to the event organisers referring them to the Traffic and Transport Management of Special Event booklet and advise that there are insufficient and at times conflicting details regarding the impact on traffic, the number of vehicles, traffic control plans and use of VMS for the event.

MOVED: Neal Snowden

SECONDED: Prue Britt

B) Camp Quality- Tractor Trek- 19th to 21st September 2013

SUMMARY

The Orange Camp Quality Support group is proposing to stage a Tractor Trek to raise money for Camp Quality during the 19-21 of September 2013. The route includes areas in the Lithgow City Council LGA; as such Camp Quality is seeking approval to hold the trek in our area.

COMMENTARY

The committee noted that the event coordinator will need to submit updated insurance documents as the current certificate of insurance expires in May 2013. It was noted that the event has been referred to the RMS and Police for their information and action and that the Event Coordinator should liaise with these parties.

It was noted that a detailed traffic control plan needs to be provided along with further information such as:

RECOMMENDATION- That Council write to the Event Coordinator of the Camp Quality Tractor Trek 2013 requesting the following information-

- where the tractors are parking,
- if the tractors are registered vehicles
- if a road occupancy license is required for the event
- if special event clearways are required for the event
- a detailed traffic control plan for the event

MOVED: Prue Britt

SECONDED: Neal Snowden

C) Mount York Heritage Conservation Reserve Proposed signage plan for Lithgow Council

SUMMARY

BMCC has developed the Mt York Heritage Conservation Reserves PoM and is in the process of implementing a range of actions including the development and installation of a full suite of way finding and orientation signage for the reserves, across both local government areas (LGA'S). It will be necessary to submit a Tourist Attraction Signposting Assessment Committee (TASAC) application for part of the signage proposal which involves highway white on brown signage. As such BMCC is submitting the full signage plan for Mt York Reserves to the TASAC Committee for consideration at the meeting next week.

COMMENTARY

The committee noted that there are no issues with the proposed signage installation as long as it conforms to RMS standards.

RECOMMENDATION- That Council note the application for Tourism signage to be erected in the Lithgow LGA.

MOVED: Neal Snowden

SECONDED: Prue Britt

D) Traffic control measures- safety concerns Black Bridge Wallerawang

SUMMARY

A resident has written to Council expressing concern over the current traffic conditions on the Black Bridge at Wallerawang.

COMMENTARY

An onsite meeting was held with the resident and TALC members. Several matters were discussed, the traffic movements, the current signage, the structural capacity of the bridge and pedestrian movements. There have been no reported crashes on this bridge in the last 5 years according to RMS data.

Several drivers did not stop at the designated stop signs; drivers gave way to oncoming turning traffic when they did not have too, and vehicles crossing the centre lines and heavy vehicles using the bridge needing to use the entire width of the bridge.

The load limit is not currently known on the bridge, the RMS will make enquiries into the load limit.

The resident asked what the process is for having a pedestrian crossing installed in Main Street Wallerawang. The resident was informed that RMS have warrants that must be met in relation to pedestrian crossings and to write to council with the concerns and traffic and speed counts can be taken to determine the appropriate action.

RECOMMENDATION- That Council:

- a) repaint the existing line marking (stop lines and centre lines)**
- b) review and replace the current stop signs if required conduct a driver education campaign in conjunction with Police enforcement**
- c) write to John Holland requesting that the structural capacity of the bridge be reviewed on the Black Bridge at Wallerawang.**

MOVED: Neal Snowden

SECONDED: Prue Britt

E) Bells Road Lithgow- request for speed humps

SUMMARY

A resident has written to Council requesting that speed humps are installed on the large sweeping bend located past the intersection of Brook Street and Bells Road Lithgow as the resident believes that vehicles are using this as a speed way and that Zig Zag School is in this area.

COMMENTARY

The speed and traffic counts could not be conducted as the appropriate officer has been on leave.

RECOMMENDATION- That Council note that the request for speed humps to be installed on Bells Road Lithgow is to be held in abeyance whilst traffic and speed counts are being conducted.

MOVED: Prue Britt

SECONDED: Neal Snowden

F) Lithgow Triathlon Sunday 24 February 2013

SUMMARY

Mountain Sports have applied to Council for the Lithgow Triathlon to be held on Sunday 24 February commencing at the Lithgow Pool at 7.30am with the event set up to begin from 5.30am. All roads will close from 7.20am, reopening at 10am OR earlier if possible.

The Lithgow triathlon bike course starts adjacent to the Lithgow Olympic Swimming Pool on the corner of George Coates Rd and James St. The riders proceed down James St, right into Fred Burley Drive, left into Barton St and right into Geordie St, then continuing into Coalbrook St. Riders continue along Coalbrook St before turning right into Sandford Ave.

A small lane will be demarcated on the right side of Sandford Avenue and riders will be directed down it. This saves riders crossing right across traffic twice on Sandford Avenue and allows the road to stay open. Riders turn right off Sandford into Frazer St and then right into Young St, and right again to James St to complete the loop. The entire course is ridden four times.

COMMENTARY

Council has been informed that the event is to be rescheduled for a later date in 2013.

RECOMMENDATION- That Council note that the Lithgow Triathlon event has been postponed and a date will be set for the event in 2013.

MOVED: Prue Britt

SECONDED: Neal Snowden

ITEM 6: GENERAL BUSINESS

A) Ironfest Traffic Management

SUMMARY

Mac Ross requested to attend the TALC meeting to discuss the traffic plan from the 2012 event as a starting point for discussion for the 2013 Ironfest traffic management plan.

COMMENTS

Issues with the 2012 traffic management plan were discussed including:

- The lack of traffic controllers on site during the event, specifically at the James Street/George Coates Avenue intersection
- The current plan is a traffic management plan, a traffic control plan is required for the event
- No traffic marshal's are shown on the current plan
- Issues with vehicles turning right onto Main Street when exiting the viaduct
- The distances between all signage is not indicated

A request has been made to have the roads closed at 9am on the Saturday morning to allow the area to be safer for people setting up at the Showground entrance. The road closure was at 12pm in 2012.

The event organiser has noted that an updated traffic management plan and application are with Robbie Parkes at Tourism. It was noted that the event organiser should refer to the Guide to Traffic and Transport for Special events.

RECOMMENDATION- That Council note that the Ironfest event organiser has been asked to provide to council;

- **a traffic control plan for each intersection detailing the traffic and transport arrangements under which an event is to proceed including a risk assessment**
- **dates for the 2013 event**
- **insurance for the event**
- **a map of the entire affected road network**
- **if there will be signage on the Great Western Highway and Mort Street directing people to the event.**

MOVED: Prue Britt

SECONDED: Neal Snowden

B) The Big Ride 4 Parkinson's

SUMMARY

The event "The Big Ride 4 Parkinson's" is a motor cycle ride starting from Sydney Olympic Park on Saturday 4th May – Sunday 5th May 2013.

The Ride will travel up the Great Western Highway and pass through the major towns such as Bathurst, Lithgow & Orange.

The Ride will then go to "The Dish" in Parkes for a photo opportunity under the Dish and finish in Parkes Showground where the riders will stay for the night. The

riders will then depart the next morning on Sunday 5th of May and make their way back to Sydney.

COMMENTS

It was noted that this event will have 500 motorbike riders travelling from Sydney to Parkes with 25 groups of 20 riders departing at 1 min intervals. Police have noted that a road occupancy certificate may be required and if the weather and road surface is fine there will be no concerns with the Lithgow area.

Road works may be in progress at the time the riders travel through the area. The Police noted that the Shell Service station may not be suitable for 500 riders to converge on at once due to lack of parking for this number of riders, parking on the highway is not an option due to the proximity to the traffic in the 70km/h zone. The riders are booked into the showground on the Sunday to have a rest stop.

RECOMMENDATION- That Council note that The Big Ride for Parkinson's Ride has been referred to the RMS and the police for their information and action.

MOVED: Prue Britt

SECONDED: Neal Snowden

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

ITEM 7: NEXT MEETING:

Next Meeting: 2pm on 7 March 2013
Council Committee meeting room
Lithgow City Council
180 Mort Street Lithgow

