



Minutes

Traffic Advisory Local Committee
Thursday 4 July 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 ADVISORY LOCAL COMMITTEE MEETING



MINUTES– 4 JULY 2013

ITEM: 1 PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

Present: Prue Britt (RMS), Acting Sergeant Col Sheils (Lithgow Highway Patrol)

Apologies: Geoff Ferris (State Members Representative), Maddison Bailey (LCC) and Clr Peter Pilbeam (LCC)

Officers: Bob Willison (Ranger LCC), Iain Stewart (Group Manager Operations LCC) and Kym Snow (Road Safety Officer LCC).

Declaration of Interests: Nil

ITEM: 2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

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

David Vant (RMS)

Colin Sheils

The minutes were then presented to the Council on 29 July 2013.

ACTION

THAT the Minutes of the meeting of 4 July 2013 be taken as read and confirmed.

MOVED: David Vant

SECONDED: Col Sheils

ITEM: 3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

A) Main Street laneway traffic issues review 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

Councils Economic Development Officer is currently in the process of conducting a study of Main Street Lithgow which includes the Main Street laneway.

ACTION – That Council hold the study of the Main Street laneway from the rear of the Grand Central Hotel through to the rear of the Courthouse Hotel in abeyance whilst the central business district revitalisation study of Main Street Lithgow is being undertaken.

MOVED: Col Sheils

SECONDED: Prue Britt

B) Camp Quality – Certificate of Currency for the Camp Quality Tractor Trek event

SUMMARY

Council has been presented with the Certificate of Currency for the Camp Quality Tractor Trek event as required.

COMMENTARY

Lithgow City Council, the Police and the RMS have been declared as interested parties. All relevant documentation has been received.

ACTION – That Council have no objections to the Camp Quality Tractor Trek being held in September as long as the event organiser adheres to any conditions specified by the Police, RMS and Council.

MOVED: Prue Britt

SECONDED: Col Sheils

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

A) Naomi Street Lithgow

SUMMARY

A request has been received for the direction of traffic in Naomi Street Lithgow to be reversed to provide a second exit from the car park behind the police station as the exit onto Mort Street becomes very congested at times.

COMMENTARY

Traffic and speed counts have been recorded and data analysed for Naomi Street.

This is a complex issue, with traffic counts and analysis on pedestrian movements and visibility issues required. In addition retailers in the area should be consulted.

No right turn would be allowed if the Naomi Street traffic direction was approved.

The Police agree with access to Main Street, noting that the Mort Street access is an issue at times.

ACTION- That Council hold the traffic and pedestrian study of Naomi Street Lithgow in abeyance whilst the central business district revitalisation study of Main Street Lithgow is being conducted.

MOVED: Prue Britt

SECONDED: Col Sheils

B) Complaint- speeding vehicles Barton Street Lithgow

SUMMARY

A resident has written to council expressing concern over vehicles speeding in Barton Street Lithgow, specifically in the vicinity of the Barton Street units. The resident has suggested speed humps be installed and/or elderly resident signage.

COMMENTARY

Results of speed data indicate there are some vehicles speeding in Barton Street. Police are continuing enforcement of the area. Pedestrian signage shall be erected in the area.

This matter has been referred to the Police, who have taskings in the area. Traffic and speed counts shall be conducted in Barton Street Lithgow as further complaints have been received in relation to this issue. The police have spoken with the complainant.

ACTION - That Council note that the Police will continue to conduct enforcement of Barton Street Lithgow targeting speeding drivers.

MOVED: Col Sheils

SECONDED: Prue Britt

C) Request for 8 tonne load limits on roads- Portland

SUMMARY

A resident has requested that council place 8 tonne load limits for heavy vehicles on the entry roads and other roads throughout Portland to prevent roads being ruined and to make heavy vehicles use the main roads. Range Road is one of the roads that the load limit has been requested for.

COMMENTARY

Traffic and speed counts have been taken at two separate locations on Range Road. The data has been analysed. There are a high number of heavy vehicles using Range Road, which is indicative of a heavy vehicle route. Work does need to be completed on the road.

It was noted that load limits placed on roads:

- Does not legally prevent heavy vehicles from using that road if their destination lies within that area
- Tonnage limits on roads can create conflict at intersections on other roads if they are not designed for that type of vehicle
- Range Road is currently the designated heavy vehicle route
- Range Road has had work completed with further work to continue
- Heavy vehicles would not be encouraged to use Sunny Corner Portland Road

ACTION - That Council's Operations Department conduct investigation into the heavy vehicles using the road and seek additional funding to carry out further road work on Range Road at Portland.

MOVED: Prue Britt

SECONDED: Col Sheils

D) Marjorie Jackson Soccer Fields Lithgow- parking issues

SUMMARY

Parking at the soccer fields on a Saturday is becoming increasingly dangerous as vehicles continue to park in the No Stopping parking areas. This creates issues for vehicles exiting legal parking spaces due to very limited distances to reverse.

COMMENTARY

Vehicle parking space measurements have been recorded at the soccer field. The width of the road is 12.9 metres and this provides adequate space for vehicles to park and exit safely.

ACTION - That Council take no further action in regard to parking issues at the Marjorie Jackson soccer field as the current parking is adequate.

MOVED: Col Sheils

SECONDED: Prue Britt

E) Request for higher mass limits access on Main Street Wallerawang

SUMMARY

A request has been received for higher mass limit access for vehicles on Main Street Wallerawang. The vehicles which are semi trailer at the higher mass limit of 45.5 tonne will travel from Castlereagh Highway through to Lot 40 Main Street Wallerawang.

COMMENTARY

Further information has been received on this request.

RECOMMENDATION- That Council approve the request from Road and Maritime Services for increased higher mass limit access for semi trailers at 45.5 tonne to access Lot 40 Main Street Wallerawang from the Castlereagh Highway.

MOVED: Prue Britt

SECONDED: Col Sheils

ITEM 5: NEW BUSINESS

A) 2013 Alpine Classic event- request to conduct event in Lithgow LGA

SUMMARY

The Classic Rally Club Inc. has requested to conduct the social touring road event for classic cars on 19 and 20 October 2013 throughout the Lithgow local government area. The event shall run under a Confederation of Motor Sports permit, by their rules and covered by their insurances.

COMMENTARY

This is the 14th year that the event has been held and will take place only with police and RMS approval.

- Entrants must follow all road rules
- It is not a procession, speed event or forest rally
- Test map reading and navigational skills of members
- Any member will be severely penalized for speeding
- Conditions set out for previous years events shall be adhered too

ACTION - That Council raise no objections to the running of the Alpine Classic event providing the event organiser complies with any event conditions provided by the RMS, Police and Council.

MOVED: Col Sheils

SECONDED: Prue Britt

B) Request for lane to be made into one-way - corner of Sandford Avenue and Ivatt Street Lithgow

SUMMARY

A resident has written to council requesting that the laneway located at the rear of Sandford Avenue and Ivatt Street be changed to accommodate one-way traffic only

COMMENTARY

A site inspection was conducted of the lane way and associated area. This lane way is to be sealed in the future.

The resident has noted that:

- Poor site distance when exiting property
- Speeding vehicles creating dust issues
- Lane way is not wide enough for two vehicles to pass
- The resident noted that this lane way provides the only access to his property.
- There is no access to the front of the resident’s property from Sandford Avenue in this location.

ACTION - That Council consult with the residents in the vicinity of the lane located behind Sandford Avenue and Ivatt Street Lithgow requesting comment on the one-way lane proposal and report back to a future TALC meeting.

MOVED: Prue Britt

SECONDED: Col Sheils

C) Request for resident only parking- Sandford Avenue/Young Street and Frazer Street Lithgow

SUMMARY

A resident of Sandford Avenue has written requesting that council consider as a matter of priority making provisions for resident only parking in Sandford Avenue, Frazer Street and the Young Street precinct.

COMMENTARY

A site inspection was conducted. At the time of the inspection there were a lot of vacant parking spaces in the area. Previous data from a study of the area indicates

that during the study period of two months, there was not one vehicle parked adjacent to one of the properties requesting No Parking. It was noted if parking restrictions are put in place the traffic will move to another area creating the same problem elsewhere. The Police and Rangers do not have the time to enforce resident only parking.

The resident has noted that since the No Stopping signs have been installed;

- Visibility and safety for through traffic has been improved
- Vehicles are obeying the parking restrictions
- The resident cannot legally park at the rear of his home
- Vehicles park in the vicinity of the all the above streets for unlimited amounts of time as they work at the State Debt Office building
- Residents cannot park near their homes as all parking is taken for hours at a time all through out the day

ACTION - That Council write to the residents noting the results of the previous traffic study conducted in Sandford Avenue, Frazer Street and Young Street Lithgow and that the results and outcome remains unchanged.

MOVED: Col Sheils

SECONDED: Prue Britt

D) Sandford Avenue Lithgow- request for speed humps

SUMMARY

A resident has contacted council (customer request CR/04087/12) requesting speed humps to be installed in the vicinity of the bridge in the vicinity of 74-76 Sandford Avenue and at the intersection of Sandford Avenue and Crane Road to deter speeding drivers as the area has experienced car crashes and fences knocked down.

COMMENTARY

Crash data indicates that there have been two crashes in the last five years, in one of these crashes speed was a contributing factor. The area is not suitable for speed humps due to the corners. Issues with speed humps include noise and drivers using them as launch pads.

ACTION - That Council note that the Police will conduct enforcement patrols of Sandford Avenue Lithgow and write to the resident advising them of this action.

MOVED: Prue Britt

SECONDED: Col Sheils

E) St Vincent Parish - change of use of Old Convent building to Conference/Retreat Centre Portland- request for laneway to be made one-way

SUMMARY

St Vincent Parish at Portland put in a development application with council to have the Old Convent building located at 95 Williwa Street Portland altered into a conference/retreat centre with short term accommodation. The building is located at the rear of St Joseph's School on the same block of land.

A request has been made to consider turning the laneway off Paine Street into one-way to alleviate safety concerns with traffic flows into the site.

COMMENTARY

A site inspection was conducted by TALC members with the following issues being raised;

1. Both of the lanes adjacent to the Old convent building are in poor condition and would be required to be upgraded.
2. Both of the lanes are insufficient in width.
3. There are issues with site distance at the egress and ingress due to the alignment of the lane, trees and fences.
4. Issues with parking at the front and rear of the building. At present teachers use the parking spaces at the front of the building, this parking area would be taken if used by the conference centre resulting in teachers having nowhere to park.
5. Entrances and exits to both lanes are dangerous due to dips in the road; vehicle access is not adequate for development.
6. The possibility of a left hand turn only sign at the exit onto Williwa Street.

ACTION - That Council refer the matter back to the Environment and Development Department of Council noting the concerns raised in regard to the request for the laneway adjacent to 95 Williwa Street Portland to be made into a one way traffic only lane.

MOVED: Col Sheils

SECONDED: Prue Britt

F) Request for timed parking-vicinity of 171 Mort Street Lithgow.

SUMMARY

A business owner has requested that council consider timed parking in the vicinity of 171 Mort Street through to the intersection of Cook and Mort Streets as the unlimited parking restrictions are creating issues for customers of the businesses located in this section with vehicles parking here all day.

COMMENTARY

A site inspection was conducted of the area. It was noted that there is sufficient parking across the road in the council car park and that there will be issues with any parking restrictions put in place due to Rangers and the Police having limited time.

ACTION - That Council write to the Lithgow Business Association seeking their assistance with contacting all business owners requesting that they do not park in front of businesses all day as a matter of courtesy to other business owners.

MOVED: Prue Britt

SECONDED: Col Sheils

G) Development Application 122/13 Martini Parade Lithgow- request for new driveway

SUMMARY

Timberfix have put in a development application to council to have one lot of land converted into two at 30 Martini Parade Lithgow for the use of a business park and are requesting permission for a new driveway to be built on Martini Parade as part of the development..

COMMENTARY

A site inspection was conducted by members of the committee. A development application for the second lot is required at this time.

ACTION - That Council refer the request for a driveway to be built on Lot 52 at Martini Parade Lithgow back to the Environment and Development Department of Council noting that a development application for Lot 52 is required before any decision can be made.

MOVED: Prue Britt

SECONDED: Col Sheils

ITEM 6: GENERAL BUSINESS

A) Request for Armco Railing for pedestrian safety- Great Western Highway Lithgow

SUMMARY

A request for the installation of Armco railing to provide pedestrians with a safer route along the section of footpath located between the intersection with Rabaul Street and the Great Western Highway and the intersection of First Street and the Great Western Highway was submitted to RMS. A letter with a request for an update was written to the RMS recently.

COMMENTARY

The RMS noted that the area is not suitable for any type of fence to be erected; it is too close to the road. Council may consider relocating the footpath inland. This would not be an option as this is wet land and a pump station is located in this area. The current PAMP study may address this matter. RMS would fund any shared path 50/50 with council.

ACTION - That Council note that request by council to RMS for Armco railing to be installed along the footpath located on the Great Western Highway between First Street and Rabaul Streets Lithgow has been deemed as not suitable by RMS due to the location and that council consider other options.

MOVED: Prue Britt

SECONDED: Col Sheils

B) Letter from resident in regard to pedestrian issues and lack of a footpath in the vicinity of the Lithgow Hospital- Great Western Highway Lithgow

SUMMARY

A letter received by council from a resident expressing concern in regard to the lack of pedestrian facilities along the Great Western Highway specifically in the vicinity of the hospital has been referred to the RMS.

COMMENTARY

RMS advised the same letter has been sent by the correspondent to the Minister for Roads and Ports. RMS has supplied information to the Minister to assist with a response to the letter.
RMS will provide Council with a copy of the letter of reply when it becomes available.

ACTION - That Council note that the correspondence received from a resident in regard to the lack of pedestrian facilities in the vicinity of Lithgow Hospital on the Great Western Highway has been referred to the Minister for Roads.

MOVED: Prue Britt

SECONDED: Col Sheils

C) La Salle Academy- parking and pedestrian issues/ meeting request

SUMMARY

Residents have written to council expressing concern in regard to the current parking La Salle Academy-particularly on Rabaul Street during afternoon school zone times.

COMMENTARY

The RMS has invited council to attend a meeting with the Principal of La Salle Academy and the RMS to discuss the issues raised. TALC members would be invited to attend.

ACTION - That Council note that the RMS, La Salle Academy, the Police and Council shall attend a meeting to discuss the parking and pedestrian issues raised by residents of Rabaul Street Lithgow.

MOVED: Prue Britt

SECONDED: Col Sheils

Meeting Closed: With no further business the meeting was closed at 3.10 pm.

ITEM 7: NEXT MEETING:

Next Meeting: 2pm on Thursday 1 August 2013
Council Committee meeting room
Lithgow City Council
180 Mort Street Lithgow
