

## Access and Mobility Forum, Meeting Notes held in the Committee Room, Marlborough District Council on Monday 1 October 2018 at 2.30 pm

### Present

Clr Jenny Andrews (Chair), Rhys Thomason (People First), Nigel Perry (Picton Senior Citizens) (Grey Power), Ricky Shadbolt, Linette Mortlock, Rachel Burden (Idea Services), Lorraine Duthie, Catherine Donnelly (Age Concern), David Clode (CCS), Alison Graham (CCS), Chris Parnell (Marlborough Roads), Camilla Nilsson, (Idea Services), Bryan Strong (MSCVT)

### MDC Staff

Grahame Smail (Reserves and Amenities), Robyn Blackburn (Road Safety Co-ordinator), Bill East (Building Control Manager), Cleone Stringer (Customer Services), David Craig (Finance and Information Supervisor) (3.15 pm), Alana Vallance (Information Assistant) (3.15 pm).

### Guest speakers:

Rachel Brown, Ella Weston, Vishakha Narayan

### Attendance

Rebecca Waldron (MDC Secretary)

### Apologies

Jane Tito, Phil Hunnisett, Lyn Nicholls, Dianne Gibb, Lynne Nicholl, Penelope Banfield and Glenn Spencer

### 1. Actions from the Previous Meeting

No	Action	Person Responsible
1.	Investigate issue of Intercity bus \$10.00 charge for wheelchair users - tbc	Jane
2.	Investigate removing right turn option from corner of Freswick and Main Streets	Steve Murrin
This will be included in part of a review of the Main/Freswick/Park Terrace area as part of Roading Efficiency Project - completed		
3.	Barrier around pole at Hutcheson/Landsdowne corner obstructing the view of oncoming traffic	Steve Murrin
The barrier is going to be removed – completed.		
4.	Look into whether yellow lines could be painted outside the Idea Services Day Centre in Scott Street	Steve Murrin
Yellow lines are going to be painted in the drop off area – completed.		
5.	Find out whether the post box at Redwoodtown can be moved to a more suitable area.	Linda Craighead
A condition of the resource consent for Countdown was that all parking be removed from the east side of Weld Street. Steve Murrin has indicated that it would be easier to move the Post Box but that NZ Post aren't interested in doing that – completed.		

## Redwoodtown Post Box

- Nigel asked if Marlborough Roads would consider taking out 5 yellow lines and making a 5 minute park by the Post Box. Chris is going to look into this.

## Correspondence

- An email has been received from Jean Wilson announcing her resignation from Council Committees. It was agreed that a card would be sent to Jean to thank her for all her hard work and many years of service to the Forum.

## 2. Marlborough Roads Update – Chris Parnell

- Chris Parnell updated the group on the works being carried out around the region:
  - Footpath Reseals 18/19
  - Francis Street - Redwood Street to Scott Street (south)
  - Rogers Street - Eltham Rd to end (south)
  - Wellington Street - Otago Street to Broadway (east)
  - Ida Street - Scott Street to Mary Street (south)\*
  - Ida Street - Scott Street to 9 Ida Street (north)\*
  - Seymour Street - Alfred Street to John Street (east)\*
  - John Street - Seymour Street to Hutcheson Street (south)\*
  - Parker Street - Pollard Park entrance (north)\*
  - Carvell Street - Stephenson Street to College Carpark (west)\*
  - Purser Cres\*
  - Durham Street - Broadway to end\*

\*Done in conjunction with kerb and channel renewals

## Other Projects

- UFB (Ultrafast Broadband) in Picton is now complete.
- A footpath survey of main streets in Picton will be undertaken to identify any maintenance issues.

## Questions/Answers

- Chris informed the group that she has resigned from Marlborough Roads. Cllr Andrews thanked Chris for all the work she has done for the Forum.
- If there are any issues with roads or footpaths you can ring Marlborough Roads directly on 520 8330 or you can contact Marlborough District Council on 520 7400 or fill out a Fix It Form. A good reference point needs to be provided so the problem can be accurately located.
- The section of Wither Road between Taylor Pass Road and the Recycling Area is very rough due to road works. Chris is going to investigate when the work will be completed.
- The Ōpaoa Bridge works will continue for some time. The Traffic Management Plan for the project is still being prepared.
- **Chris withdrew from the meeting at 2.50 pm**

### **3. Building Control Update – Bill East**

- Bill attended a talk by Richard Cullingworth of Barrier Free at the Seniors Building Control Officer's Conference in Napier. Bill has asked for the updates but has not received them yet. He will forward the information to the group when it becomes available.
  - Barrier Free are now working with Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) to produce a new guidance document called the Accessibility User Guide for Public Buildings.
  - Guidance is being looked at to provide better accessibility to heritage buildings.
- Two staff members attended ASNAP Training (As Near As Reasonably Practical) to look at better compliance on alterations of commercial buildings for access and escape from fire.
- The building industry in Marlborough is now very busy again with several new subdivisions being developed.
- The Stadium continues to undergo earthquake strengthening.
- The small theatre at the ASB will be completed in the new year.
- Bill attended a MBIE workshop to discuss the next level of improvements to rental buildings.
  - Discussion on the best way of warming a house and keeping it dry followed. Bill is going to compile a list of useful tips for the group to distribute.

**Bill withdrew from the meeting at 3.10 pm.**

### **4. Support for Disabled Citizens in Blenheim, MGC Project –Vishakha Narayan, Ella Weston and Rachel Brown**

The girls introduced themselves and explained that they have completed a school project to look at issues which affect disabled people in Marlborough. They presented a video to the group with the main points summarised below:

- They were inspired to complete the project as one of them has a family member with cerebral palsy who is unable to access places like the beach or attend school trips and camps. They would like the community to see what it can do to make life more fun and easier for disabled people.
- They asked people in the community questions on issues such as what annoys wheel chair users and their support people, parking and the costs of transport for disabled people.
- Points raised for the Forum following the survey:
  - There is a need for more disabled access cafes and scenic walks.
  - Bigger doorways.
  - More adult changing facilities.
  - More shifter drivers.
- They also spoke to a wheelchair user who noted that sheltered parking spaces for wheelchair vehicle/taxis are needed so that people in a wheelchair do not get wet when loading or unloading.
- The girls would like more sliding doors in Blenheim and a boardwalk to be built at Whites Bay so that people in wheelchairs can experience the beach.

#### **Questions/Comments**

Councillor Andrews explained what the Forum has done to help:

- The Forum has lobbied shops to make access inside and outside easier. Café Velvet has received an award by Council for Accessibility.

- There is a new all hours access Specialist Change Facility in Liz Davidson Place. Access fobs for this facility are available from CCS. Council owned toilet facilities are continually undergoing improvements or redevelopment so that most toilets, especially in urban areas are now accessible.
- There are accessible basket swings at Cambourne Green and Picton Foreshore with another soon to be installed at Pollard Park.
- A liberty swing which was donated by a group from the community has been installed at Pollard Park and should be in use by November.
- Tactile markers for visually impaired footpath users are being installed on all crossings on the walkability routes.
- Grahame addressed the issue of a boardwalk to the beach and noted that Council don't administer many beaches, however some of the Council's rural park areas such as Ngakuta and Shelley Beach are being improved to be more accessible.
- It was suggested that a covered area for unloading disabled people from taxis could be included in the new Blenheim Library design. Jenny is going to look into this.
- One of the projects achieved by members of the Forum was the establishment of the accessible Wall of Remembrance at Clubs of Marlborough.
- Cllr Andrews asked the girls if they could think of a slogan to use to dissuade abled bodied people from using the disabled car parks. The girls agreed to think about it and get back to the Forum if they have any ideas.
- Robyn noted that it was concerning that community members might not be aware of the accessible facilities available for them to use.
- Cllr Andrews thanked Ella, Vishakha and Rachel for coming to present their project to the group, especially as it is the school holidays and asked if Rebecca would organise a letter be sent to Marlborough Girls College to acknowledge the Forum's appreciation. She asked that the girls continue to liaise with the group if they have any more ideas.



## 5. Total Mobility Scheme – David Craig and Alana Vallance (MDC)

- David introduced himself and Alana and gave a presentation to the group on the Total Mobility Scheme. (Appendix 1).

### Questions/Answers

- Catherine raised concerns about some clients over using the scheme if restrictions are removed. She has noted that there are a lot more people joining the scheme.

**David and Alana withdrew from the meeting at 3.50 pm.**

## 6. Road Safety Update

- Robyn circulated the finalised Walkability Map for circulation. Please contact her if you have any feedback on the maps [Robyn.Blackburn@marlborough.govt.nz](mailto:Robyn.Blackburn@marlborough.govt.nz).
- Robyn would like to add routes to the map but additional funding will have to be in place first.
- The Subdivision Code of Practice used by Council is under review.
- It was clarified that doggy doo receptacles are only placed in designated dog walking areas.

- There has been discussion in the Reserves Department on how to improve the system for checking that subdivisions are correctly developed.

**Robyn withdrew from the meeting at 4.00 pm.**

## 7. Reserves Update – Grahame Smail

- The Seymour Square toilet upgrade may get some co-funding from the Government's Tourism Infrastructure Fund. The Council has received money from this fund to improve some of the freedom camping sites. Some of the sites may get shelters which will be beneficial to those with mobility issues.
  - The Picton High Street is having some of the taller plants removed from the roading edge push outs to improve visibility for car drivers.
  - A circular reflective walk has been proposed for Fairhall Cemetery.
8. The Pollard Park entranceway update has been completed. It was noted that the roadside area outside Churchill Glade and the tennis courts is in poor condition.

## 9. General Business

- The Seniors Tea Dance is being held this Saturday 4.00 pm to 7.00 pm. The theme is A Night at the Proms.

### Guest Speakers for future meetings

- It was suggested asking the Mayor, a representative from Selmes Road Trust and Barbara Rocco to speak at future meetings.

### Boardwalk at Anakiwa

- Cllr Andrews commented that it would be great if there could be a walkway at Anakiwa to allow those in wheelchairs to be able to access the water. Bryan is going to take this suggestion to the next meeting of the Tirimoana and Anakiwa Residents' Association.

## 10. Next Meeting

- The next meeting is being held on 3 December 2018.

## 11. Actions from the Meeting

No	Action	Person Responsible
1.	Investigate issue of Intercity bus \$10.00 charge for wheelchair users	Jane
2.	Pass request on the Marlborough Roads Parking Representative to find out whether a 5 minute parking space can be put at post box on Weld Street at Redwoodtown	Chris Parnell
3.	Investigate when sealing will be completed on Wither Road (Taylor Pass Road to Recycling Centre)	Chris Parnell
4.	Compile a list for the group on how to keep houses warm and dry	Bill East

The meeting closed at 4.45 pm.

Record No: 18221220

## Appendix 1

### **What is the Total Mobility Scheme?**

- Total Mobility (TM) is a national scheme that assists people with impairments to enhance their community participation by accessing appropriate transport.
- This assistance is provided to eligible registered individuals in the form of subsidised door-to-door transport services (taxis and small passenger service vehicles).
- The TM Scheme offers a 50% discount (up to a maximum subsidy of \$15 per one way trip in the Marlborough region) on fares charged by approved transport operators.
- The discount is indirectly funded by Marlborough District Council (ratepayers) 40% and New Zealand Transport Agency (taxpayers) 60%.
- Annual operating budget of \$130,000 (2018/19).
- The scheme also provides funding assistance to transport operators for purchase and installation of wheelchair hoists in taxi-vans.
- Hoist van operators may claim a \$10 flat payment from NZ Transport Agency (NZTA), in addition to the fare, for each trip using a wheelchair hoist, provided the meter is not running while loading or unloading.
- This is to encourage investment in hoist vans and subsidise higher operating costs without increasing fares for wheelchair users.
- Annual budget of \$35,000 for hoist subsidies.

### **Who is eligible to register for the Total Mobility Scheme**

- To be eligible, an individual must have an impairment that prevents them from undertaking any one or more of the following five components of a journey unaccompanied, on a bus, train or ferry, in a safe and dignified manner.
  - Getting to the place from where the transport departs (assumed to be approximately 500 m)
  - Getting onto the transport
  - Riding securely
  - Getting off the transport
  - Getting to the final destination point (assumed to be approximately 500 m)
- The impairment may be physical, sensory, neurological, intellectual, psychiatric/psychological, or another impairment type.
- The impairment may be permanent, fluctuating, or temporary, but must have lasted, or be expected to last, for a minimum period of six months.
- It must be the individual's impairment, not the absence of a bus, train or ferry service in the area, which prevents the individual from using conventional public transport.
- Age itself is not a qualification criterion for the TM Scheme but rather it is the associated impairments that age engender which determine eligibility (eg; arthritis, respiratory conditions, dementia, etc).

### **The following are situations when impairments may qualify an individual for the TM Scheme:**

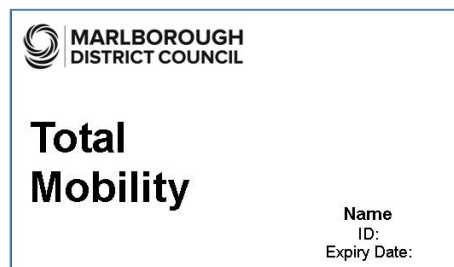
- Inability to independently walk or wheel 500 m to get on/off a bus due to physical impairments (eg; chronic pain, respiratory condition, reliance on crutches/walking sticks/walking frame/wheelchair).
- Inability to independently find one's way due to sensory, neurological or intellectual impairments (eg; loss of sight, loss of hearing, dementia).
- Inability to independently interact with a bus driver or other passengers due to intellectual or psychiatric/psychological impairments (eg; inability to communicate intentions or handle money, lack of social skills, schizophrenia, phobia).

## How to apply for registration under the Total Mobility Scheme

- To register and receive a TM photo ID card, an individual should contact the TM administrator (Alana Vallance) at the Marlborough District Council for referral to a disability agency for assessment.

### Agencies:

- Age Concern
- Amputee Society
- Stroke Foundation
- CCS Disability Action
- Epilepsy NZ
- Idea Services
- Multiple Sclerosis and Parkinsons Society
- Blind Foundation
- NMDHB Assessment, treatment and rehabilitation
- Motor Neurone Disease Association



- The Disability Agency will ask the applicant a series of questions about their impairment to determine their eligibility and if they consider that the applicant is likely to be eligible, then an assessment will take place.
- If the assessment is successful the applicant will be issued with a temporary ID card (until an official photo ID card can be produced) and a book of travel vouchers for presentation to the taxi driver.
- The disability agency is responsible for the issue of further voucher books.
- The application fee for the assessment process is \$20 and this fee is retained by the disability agency.
- There are no other joining costs to the applicant.
- There are currently 924 registered users in the Marlborough TM scheme, of which 576 (62%) have been active in the past year.

## Approved Transport Operators

- Marlborough Taxis Ltd\*
- Blenheim Shuttles
- Your Local Chauffeur
- Driving Miss Daisy Marlborough\*
- Flo2Go\*
- A1 Shuttles
- Picton Mobility Shuttles\*

\* offer wheelchair hoist services

## Voucher Use

- The purpose of travel is not restricted in any way, however users are currently restricted to one voucher book (maximum 25 trips) per month.
- This restriction is currently under review and may be removed in the short term.
- Can be used anywhere within the Marlborough district, where transport providers operate.
- Vouchers can be used in other regions throughout New Zealand, under that region's rules. TM clients should show the driver their photo ID card and ensure acceptance of the out of district voucher prior to travel commencing.

## Ridewise - National Total Mobility Administration System

- A national administration system for Total Mobility is being progressively implemented around NZ.
- Ridewise uses smart card technology together with in-taxi terminal software to capture, in real time,

full details of TM transactions.

- This will replace the current manual voucher system, which is very labour intensive.
- New cards will be able to be used throughout New Zealand.
- Marlborough converting on 1 April 2019.

General information about the scheme can be found on Council's website: <https://www.marlborough.govt.nz/recreation/walking-and-biking/walking-and-mobility/total-mobility>

