



MINUTES OF MEETING

COMMUNITY SAFETY & PLACE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HELD THURSDAY 14 November 2013

NOTE: All minutes are subject to confirmation at a subsequent Ordinary Meeting of Council or Planning and Strategy Committee Meeting.

PRESENT:

Councillors

Cllr Jean Hay (Chair)	Manly Council
Cllr Alan Lesurf	Manly Council
Cllr Barbara Aird	Manly Council
Cllr Candy Bingham	Manly Council
Cllr Steve Pickering	Manly Council
Cllr Hugh Burns	Manly Council

Other Representatives

Supt Dave Darcy	Manly Police
Ray Mathieson	Community Member
Sidar Demirbag	Late Night Food Traders Rep
Stuart Sprott	Precinct Representative
Amanda Farrar	Office of Mike Baird MP
Jacqueline Smith	Manly Community Centre
Hania Norman	The Corso Precinct
Deb Patenall	Street Pastors
Amanda Watkins	MDECC
Drew Johnson	Chamber of Commerce
Wade Mitford	STA
Gerard Dore	Liquor Accord
Malcolm Pearse	CS NSW

Council Staff

Eric Poulos	Manager, Community Services
Anita Ugarkovic	Manager, Regulatory Services
Donna Donoghue	Community Safety Officer

TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS OF THE COUNCIL

The **Community Safety & Place Management Advisory Committee** met on Thursday 14 November 2013 to consider the matters referred to it and now provides the following advice to Council.

OPEN The meeting commenced at 8.00am.

APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

ITEM 1

Leanne Martin and Melissa Palermo.

ACTION

ITEM 2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST
Nil

ITEM 3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

The October meeting minutes were adopted by Council

3.1 Safer Suburbs Federal Government Grant :

It was noted that the funding of \$59,420 that was awarded to Manly Council for improvements to the late night taxi ranks has been withdrawn. At this time it has been ascertained that Manly Council had signed the agreement and sent it to Canberra weeks prior to election and therefore site meetings and some floodlighting work had already been commissioned prior to establishing that the funds were not forthcoming. The Committee was advised that Tony Abbott's office have been informed and is following up on the issue. However, no response has been received to date. The Committee raised concerns about the withdrawal of these funds in an area that was vital to late night safety within the Manly CBD. Feedback will be sought from Tony Abbott's office and the Mayor noted that she would raise the issue.

Recommendation:

The Committee recommends to the General Manager that the information be received and noted.

3.2 East Esplanade 'The Office' and 'The Boardroom'

The Committee was briefed on concerns regarding increased drinking on East Esplanade Reserve on the weekends. The areas are colloquially known as 'The Office' and 'The Boardroom', and increased levels of intoxication, rubbish being left behind and that toilets at Manly Wharf Hotel are being used by non-patrons. Both Superintendent Darcy and Anita Ugarkovic were aware of the issues and were addressing them, particularly with increased patrols at the weekend and on Sunday afternoons.

Recommendation:

The Committee recommends to the General Manager that the information be received and noted.

3.3 Liquor Accord Merge Proposal

As per the minutes of September meeting, the proposal to merge the Manly Liquor Accord with the Northern Beaches Accord was discussed. The following issues were raised that the new accord would encompass over 500 licensed premises over 3 council areas, addressing the specific issues of Manly as a late night precinct would be a challenge and whether the existing Manly Liquor Accord was effective. Superintendent Darcy commented that the recent merger of three liquor accords in the Gosford area raised issues of covering such a large area, and that locally, there were often separate and unique concerns to address. The meeting noted that the Manly Accord was operating at a level with a shared vision and a good relationship with Manly Police that it may not be advantageous to merge with the Northern Beaches.

Recommendation:

The Committee recommends to the General Manager that the information be received and noted.

ACTION
Community
Safety
Coordinator

ITEM 4 POLICE REPORT

Supt Dave Darcy noted that the merger of Dee Why and Manly Police Commands is well underway. The Street Policing Team to be based at Manly will be an important resource and is anticipated to be active in late December/early January.

The Plan of Management for the new Justin Hemmes restaurant on Manly Wharf was raised. In particular, the restaurant did not include air-conditioning and windows would be allowed to be open until 10pm, which may prompt noise issues. Supt Dave Darcy noted that the restaurant would have its own security and that police would monitor and liaise with the operators once opened.

It was noted that the Domestic Violence Liaison Section had transferred to Dee Why. Concerns were raised that there will not be a Liaison Officer at the new court house. Jacqueline Smith noted that the level of service to address domestic violence matters needed to be re-established, and that further liaison was needed with the Police Domestic Violence Liaison Officer to discuss working collaboratively.

Recommendation:

The Committee recommends to the General Manager that the information be received and noted.

ITEM 5 RANGERS REPORT

The committee reviewed the Rangers report and statistics.

Included in this report was the proposed establishment of an internal working group to discuss liquor licensing and alcohol related development applications. The group would consist of Planning, Compliance and Human Services staff with the objective of ensuring a more consistent and thorough approach with these applications. Any matters of interest to be reported back to the committee.

As a result of the committee's submission to the review of the Liquor Act, the Chief Executive of the Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority has sought a meeting with Anita Ugarkovic and Leanne Martin to discuss ways to improve their process on the approval of licenses.

Anita Ugarkovic confirmed that under the Liquor Act the Night Rangers now to be appointed as enforcement officers. Under the new Act they do not have powers of detention/arrest other than their normal citizen's arrest powers, but they maintain the power to issue fines and request ID.

Concerns raised about the reduction in compliance checks noted in the report. Anita commented that compliance checks are related to the number of issues raised on particular premises. The Police and Council do still complete a joint compliance audit and fire inspections also completed.

Recommendation:

The Committee recommends to the General Manager that the information be received and noted.

ITEM 6 LATE NIGHT MANLY WORKING GROUP

Market Lane has now successfully completed 7 of its 12 week program, with only one week cancelled due to weather conditions.

An evaluation report for 2 of the nights was tabled. It was noted that the main responses were overwhelmingly positive. The evaluation is due to continue over the remaining nights by Manly Council volunteers with a final evaluation report to be presented to the committee in the New Year.

Recommendation:

The Committee recommends to the General Manager that the information be received and noted.

ITEM 7 CORRESPONDENCE**7.1 Manly Ferry Liquor License Application**

The committee was advised that the new private operators of the ferry, Harbour City Ferries Pty Ltd have written to council advising them that they have applied for a liquor license to serve alcohol on the ferry. A copy of the letter was tabled.

Sale of liquor for consumption on the ferry was discussed and there was a division on the Committee between those who thought that a casual drink on the ferry ride could add to the tourist experience and could be consumed as a relaxing drink after work or coming back from the city, and for those who thought that any increase in alcohol availability was sending the wrong message. Committee members noted that in some overseas countries, alcohol is freely available from a range of retail establishments and social drinking is part of everyday life. It was also noted that the fast ferry already had an alcohol license and that this would put Harbour City Ferries on the same footing. A vote was taken and the majority of members voted against the proposal to serve alcohol on the ferries and wanted this message conveyed to the Office of Liquor Gaming and Racing (OLGR). The Committee noted that a consistent message should be sent that alcohol should be available at a limited number of licensed premises and that extending the availability to the ferries was not in the interests of the promoting a responsible serving of alcohol message to the community.

7.2 Email from resident about Raglan Street crime concerns

A resident of Raglan Street Manly had raised a number of concerns about late night alcohol consumption after their car was scratched. Her concerns were followed up by the Police successfully.

Recommendation:

The Committee recommends to the General Manager that the information be received and noted.

ITEM 8 GENERAL BUSINESS**8.1 Manly Community Centre & Services Homeless Outreach Service (HOS) Report June-August 2013**

Jacqueline Smith tabled the Homeless Outreach Service (HOS) Report. Issues highlighted included :

- The lack of accommodation especially for those with mental

health issues.

- The increasing levels of crisis intervention relating to alcohol and drug issues. There were 30 in June, 26 in July and 32 in August.
- The need for a domestic violence strategy.

As discussed in previous meeting it was noted that Fairlight House is not accepting males and anyone after 10pm. It will be used for an early intervention program, where people with alcohol issues agree to a 3 month program.

Eric Poulos commented on the launch of the Partnerships to Recovery Program. It is a project of Community Care Northern Beaches, funded for 3 years to partner with range of key service organisations on mental health advocacy. The organisations work collaboratively and co-ordinate outcomes for people aged over 25 years. It also has a homeless service component and will be working with the Homeless Outreach Service through Manly Community Centre and Services.

Recommendation:

The Committee recommends to the General Manager that the information be received and noted.

8.2

Manly Courthouse/Police Station Refurbishment Update

Amanda Farrar from the Office of the Hon. Mike Baird MP updated the meeting on the progress of the renovations on the Manly Courthouse and Police Station. The Courthouse is due to be reopened on the 6 January and the Police Station in June 2015. It has also been ascertained that there will only be one court and one Magistrate, which is down from the previous operation of two courts with one and a half Magistrates. It was noted that Manly Council had sent a letter outlining the concerns relating to reduced operations to the Attorney General's Department and would forward on a copy to the Hon. Mike Baird, MP. Other impacts discussed included:

- Some matters were being redirected to Downing Street Courts and this means that Police resources were taken up outside of Manly as accused need to be transported from Manly,
- North Sydney Court is hearing civil matters and no longer hearing criminal matters,
- Greater strain on the Magistrate at Manly as four Magistrate positions had been cut – on top of the half position at Manly, half a position at Hornsby, a position at Ryde and at Windsor, and also Penrith Court was shut for refurbishment.
- Crime trends had changed with an increase in drug and alcohol related offences and a decrease in break and enters and car theft.

Recommendation:

The Committee recommends to the General Manager that the information be received and noted

8.3

Save our Streets Campaign

Councillor Barbara Aird raised the issue that Many Council resolved to support the 'Save our Streets, Real Action on Alcohol Now Campaign undertaken by the NSW/ACT Alcohol Policy Alliance (NAAPA). Council will become a supporter/member of NAAPA. This

campaign highlights the issues of alcohol related incidents and the impact they have on public services and community safety. Cards highlighting these issues were distributed. The Committee noted that Manly Council's approach was consistent with the objectives of NAAPA.

8.4 Corso Precinct Meeting

Hania Norman raised issues on the double parking of taxis on the rank at Belgrave Street and the danger it causes to pedestrians, CCTV on the Wharf and toilet signage. She also thanked the Police, rangers and The Steyne Hotel for their commitment to community events and charity fundraising.

8.5 Little Manly Precinct

Ray Mathieson thanked the council for their quick response to the maintenance issues at Little Manly Pool. He also updated the Committee on the replacement of a scrubber by Sydney water and the potential impact of increased emission levels.

8.6 Secondary Supply Campaign

Amanda Watkins thanked those who attend the launch of the Secondary Supply Campaign and updated the Committee on the poster and workshop campaign. There are 40 buses displaying the posters and they are also around the Manly Wharf.

NEXT MEETING DATE: 12 December 2013

Meeting Closed 9.50 am