



MINUTES OF MEETING

COMMUNITY SAFETY & PLACE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HELD THURSDAY 10 APRIL 2014

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 Barbara Aird	Manly Council
Cllr Candy Bingham	Manly Council
Cllr Steve Pickering	Manly Council
Cllr Hugh Burns	Manly Council

Other Representatives

Supt David Darcy	Northern Beaches Police Command
Ray Mathieson	Community Member
Amanda Farrar	Office of Mike Baird MP
Jacqui Smith	Manly Community Centre & Services
Melissa Palermo	Northern Sydney Health
Malcolm Pearse	Corrections NSW
Stuart Sprott	Community Member
Ged Dore	Manly Liquor Accord
Sidar Demirbag	Late Night Food Traders
Amanda Watkins	MDECC

Council Staff

Leanne Martin	Community Safety Co-ordinator
Eric Poulos	Community Services Manager
Donna Donoghue	Community Safety Officer
Anita Ugarkovic	Compliance Manager

In Attendance

Nicole Hinks	Community member
Adam Clarke	Liquor Accord Chairperson
Neil McWilliam	Manly Community Centre & Services Homeless Outreach Service Worker

TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS OF THE COUNCIL

The **Community Safety & Place Management Advisory Committee** met on Thursday 10 April 2014 to consider the matters referred to it and now provides the following advice to Council.

OPEN The meeting commenced at 8.00am.

ITEM 1 Apologies and Leave of Absence
Cllr Alan LeSurf, Hania Norman, Deb Patenall

ACTION

WELCOME

Adam Clarke, Liquor Accord Chairperson

Nicole Hinks – Community member

Neil McWilliam – Manly Community Centre homeless outreach

ITEM 2 Declaration Of Interest

Nil

ITEM 3 Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 13 March 2014 and Matters Arising

ACTION

The March meeting minutes were adopted by the council at the Ordinary Meeting on Monday 10 April 2014. The following information updates the committee on previous actions:

3.1 Crime Prevention and Communities Conference

Leanne Martin's abstract called 'Market Lane Saturdays – Distracting the Drinking Culture' was accepted for the 'Crime Prevention and Communities – Building Better Local Solutions' Conference to be held in June in Melbourne.

3.2 Grants update

1. NRMA Crime Prevention Grant has been submitted requesting funding for Street Pastor jackets

2. NSW Attorney General Crime Prevention Division has advised that it would not support the funding for Market Place Saturdays and that a revised application which included funding to help establish a late night radio network for Manly CBD late traders and to purchase some weatherproof jackets for Street Pastors be submitted.

3. Australia Post grant – The Community Safety Team have assisted the Manly Community Centre & Services apply for funding for the purchase of 'street swags' (specially designed swags for rough sleepers) and wheelie shopping trolleys for homeless people to keep their belongings.

3.3 Liquor License Applications update

- Manly Ferry Liquor License proposal –no application appears to have been lodged on the NSW Office of Liquor, Gaming & Racing (OLGR) noticeboard.
- Change of boundaries Hugo's, Manly Wharf – the OLGR website is showing that this has been approved but no other information.
- Application by ALDI to operate a takeaway liquor area from the supermarket at Manly Wharf (extending into the old Bayswiss premises) – Following a community safety submission lodged with OLGR raising attention to the rubbish generated by takeaway liquor on East Esplanade, the Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority (ILGA) have directed ALDI to prepare a Community Impact Statement (CIS). It is intended that Council respond to the CIS. The Community Safety Co-ordinator welcomes input from the Committee before responding.

CSC

3.4 Guest Speaker At May Meeting - Mr Tony Brown

Following last month's recommendation, an invitation was extended to Mr Tony Brown, Project Manager of the Alcohol Community

Action Project to speak at our next meeting. He is able to attend the 8 May 2014 meeting and will arrive the night before from Newcastle.

3.5 Waste Bins Update for East Esplanade

The Committee's concerns about waste collection for East Esplanade on the weekends have been conveyed to Environmental Services. The solution is more bins at this location and more frequent collection. Will continue to try and get a more definitive response.

CSC

Recommendation:

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

ITEM 4 Police Report

Superintendent Darcy advised the Committee of the following:

- The death of a student from ICMS in a fatal car accident in Terry Hills, who tragically was not wearing a seat belt.
- Police drug bust that included 16 kg heroin, MDMA, ecstasy, 67 kg cannabis plus firearms confirms intelligence showing a lot of illicit drug dealing on Northern Beaches
- Drug detection dogs in Manly on weekend showed up cocaine, ecstasy, cannabis mostly amongst backpackers.
- Responses to domestic violence incidents are being monitored and have improved.
- Builders have detected a problem involving serious structural concerns adding \$1M to final costs of the Police Station renovation.
- Planning underway to ensure security for the Royal Visit of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince George. Large crowds are expected at Manly Beach and crowds will be discouraged from gathering at Bear Cottage.

Recommendation:

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

ITEM 5 Rangers Report

The Ranger statistics report was distributed. The Compliance Manager addressed the committee about current items of interest including:

- Noise monitoring: Following noise complaints about various licensed venues, particularly around Manly Wharf, staff has been investigating. Found that some of the venues actually emitting offensive noise are different to those being complained about. Manly Cove resident representatives have been given direct contact for Night Rangers to respond and make observations for follow up. Compliance staff will also conduct head counts and check venue capacities and compliance with their conditions of consent.
- 48 Darley Road under investigation with emergency orders to be served.
- Issue of cyclists ignoring road rules and riding dangerously was discussed. Councillors have received complaints from pedestrians concerned about safety. This is most apparent around the paths and roadways leading to Manly Wharf on weekday mornings with cyclists rushing for ferries (7.45 am was prime time mentioned). Main concerns cited were riding on footpaths (East and West Esplanade), disobeying signs, eg. red lights, Stop signs, pedestrian crossing breaches, riding in prohibited areas (The Corso), no

helmets. Superintendent Darcy and Compliance Manager agreed to conduct a blitz on the abovementioned breach of road rules by cyclists. The blitz will be coordinated and will need accompanying media and warnings to the public in advance.

Recommendation

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

ITEM 6 Market Lane Saturdays

Item– deferred to May meeting due to fire alarms cutting meeting short.

ITEM 7 Alcohol Free Zone Re-Establishment

Item not reached due to Fire alarm. Will proceed to public consultation and update next month.

ITEM 8 General Business

8.1 Homeless People in Beachfront ‘Wishing Well’ Shelter

(This matter was heard first)

Community member, Nicole Hinks addressed the committee regarding her concerns about the homeless people staying in the ‘Wishing Well’ Beachfront Shelter, their behaviour and what can be done about the problem. Her concerns were as a parent. Children and family had experienced harassment and while occupied did not allow access for the public.

A copy of Council’s ‘Homelessness Protocol’ was given to Ms Hinks and an explanation about some of the background history that led to the protocol. Police encouraged members of the community to call when there are instances of harassment, drinking or other crime occurring. They are able to investigate and respond accordingly. However they will not move people on unless there is an issue.

Manly Community Centre & Services (MCC&S) Homeless Outreach Services Worker, Neil McWilliam responded by explaining how he manages people who are homeless. The issue is complex the reasons for homelessness are varied and can involve mental health issues, economic pressures and dysfunctional behaviours. Addressing the issues requires a collaborative response with Council and Police and agencies working in the system. It can be difficult and slow to find housing and suitable alternatives to meet their needs. He reported that at Christmas/New Year there were seven males sleeping rough around the shelter. Since then, he worked to develop a rapport with all of them and has managed to find three people accommodation, and linked three others to work or study. The remaining two he does not expect to stay for long and he negotiated that they discard excess materials collected and store their belongings during the day. Purple wheelie bins can be provided for this purpose if necessary.

The MCC&S on average see five people per day with homelessness issues and their age ranges from 18 – 70 years.

Committee discussed the issues and generally agreed that it is an extremely complex and complicated issue with no easy answers. Whilst most agreed it is not acceptable to have people staying in the shelter they also agreed that it is not simple to resolve.

A number of specific concerns were raised that may exacerbate the situation in the future including:

- Reduction of Federal funding
- State government policy repositioning towards long term accommodation and keeping people in their communities but reducing funding for crisis accommodation.
- Emergency beds have been reduced from Fairlight House; a Mission Australia Service. It was suggested that Mission Australia be contacted to seek further clarification.
- Two floors of Elsie Hill (low cost housing attached to Far West) is now been given to international students rather than locals in need. Only twenty rooms remain for Centrelink recipients and they rarely become available. Their long term future is in doubt with proposed redevelopment.
- Previous solutions such as moving them into more “out of the way” public space have not proven successful and resulted in costly damage to public amenities and assaults on the homeless.

Some additional suggestions were made moving forward. This included that:

- the Police always are called for any specific incidents of intimidation by those sleeping rough.
- Council monitor developments of the Warringah Housing Affordability Forums to identify challenges and opportunities around housing affordability.
- Inquiries are made to Mission Australia regarding status of their proclaimed place beds at Fairlight House.

CSC

The Committee thanked Neil McWilliam for his input and wished to acknowledge the extraordinary work that he is doing through the MCC&S, in very difficult circumstances, with limited funding.

Recommendation:

CSM

Part A That the Committee recommends to the General Manager that;

1. Council make representations to the Prime Minister, State MP, The Hon. Mike Baird regarding suitable housing for the region in relation to social and affordable needs; and
2. Council write the Manly Community Centre & Services to express appreciation for the exceptional work of Mr Neil McWilliam, Homeless Outreach Service Worker.

CSM

Part B That; Council request the Community Safety Committee consider initiating a meeting of all the regional services and peak bodies with the view to develop a unified approach to address the issue of providing accommodation for the homeless on the Northern Beaches.

(eg all Northern Beaches Councils, Mission Australia, the churches, Homelessness NSW, Berdiken etc)

- 8.2 NSW ACT Alcohol Policy Alliance (NAAPA) invitation to the Forum – Alcohol policy in NSW: Where to now?**
Invitation sent to committee by Secretariat. Tuesday 15 April from 6pm at NSW Parliament House.

Manly Council is now a member of NAAPA so members of the committee are welcome to RSVP and attend.

Recommendation:

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

- ITEM 9 NEXT MEETING DATE: 8 May 2014**
Meeting abandoned at 9.25am due to two fire alarms and evacuations