



MINUTES OF MEETING

COMMUNITY SAFETY & PLACE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HELD THURSDAY 12 MAY 2016

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 AM	Manly Council
Cllr Barbara Aird	Manly Council
Cllr Alan Le Surf	Manly Council
Cllr Hugh Burns	Manly Council
Cllr Steve Pickering	Manly Council
Cllr Candy Bingham	Manly Council

Other Representatives

Supt David Darcy	Northern Beaches Police
Sidar Demirbag	Late Night Food Traders
Sarah Turner	Chamber of Commerce
Christina Franze	Chamber of Commerce
Tom Loomes (Mike Baird)	NSW Member for Manly
Malcolm Pearce	Corrections NSW

Council Staff

Leanne Martin	Community Safety Co-ordinator
Anita Ugarkovic	Compliance Manager

TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS OF THE COUNCIL

The **Community Safety & Place Management Advisory Committee** met on Thursday 12 May 2016 to consider the matters referred to it and now provides the following advice to Council.

OPEN		ACTION
ITEM 1	Apologies and Leave of Absence Ray Mathieson, Melissa Palermo, Susan Watson, Dave Ward will replace Steve O'Sullivan on the committee representing NB Liquor Accord and is the new Licensee at Hotel Steyne Farewell and good luck to Anita U on her extended break.	
ITEM 2	Declaration Of Interest Nil	
ITEM 3	Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting and Matters Arising The December meeting minutes were adopted at the Planning and Strategy Meeting on Monday 2 May 2016	
3.1	Liquor Law Review	

The committee's submission regarding the review of certain liquor laws was submitted (a copy was tabled) and has been included in the hundreds of submissions received by Liquor Gaming and Racing. A final report will be completed for the Government's consideration by The Hon Ian Callinan AC in August.

3.2

Additional guard at North Steyne taxi rank

Following representations from the committee in June last year, the RMS has now approved the engagement of an extra (third security guard) at the North Steyne (opposite Raglan Street) secure taxi rank in Manly, on all Friday and Saturday nights from 10.30pm to 5am. This took effect from Friday, 22 April 2016.

3.3

Safer Streets – Federal Government Grant application

An application for \$83K worth of funding to upgrade safety around three laneways in Manly was submitted in March. It included a request for CCTV in each of these laneway spaces. Advice on outcome of this application has not yet been received. Recent Manly Daily article suggest that the local Federal MPs will support the application. (See attached article)

The committee discussed the high level of CCTV coverage that currently exists in the CBD. Further it was agreed that at the next meeting a presentation from staff on the comprehensiveness of the system would be requested. It is timely and of interest. An invitation could also be extended to the local Federal member.

Recommendation:

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

ITEM 4 Police Report

Superintendent Darcy reported that Manly crime rates continue to be quite stable. Some issues are currently being addressed with a larger hotel that has a new licensees and is experiencing problems. The owner is meeting with police to help resolve.

ICE continues to pose problems particularly the extreme violence that confronts police and offenders using this drug. Example of one unstable ICE user that had made 15 molotov cocktails in his unit. Manly police in Running Man challenge at Manly Wharf is a light hearted act that has now had 1.6 million hits. This was connected to filming of Beach Cops program that is being filmed again.

Bike Stealings are a problem. Some of the thefts are high end bikes and are targeted crimes but many are opportunistic and occur all over Manly. Community Safety Co-ordinator and Northern beaches Crime Prevention Officer will work together to determine hotspots, CCTV blind spots and community education that may be needed.

Superintendent Darcy then noted that if this is the last committee meeting he requested that his comments be recorded: He supports the committee's continuation. He believes it is the most effective committee he has been on and thanked the Mayor for her stewardship of the committee. It has been responsive from a policing perspective and has been instrumental in reshaping policy in NSW. He offered his support to ensure it continues in whatever form is considered most suitable – most likely a wider Northern Beaches forum as this will match the police LAC and the Liquor Accord. He thanked that the committee for their partnerships which are the strength of the group.

Recommendation:

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

ITEM 5 Rangers Report

Ranger Statistics were distributed.

Compliance staff have recently conducted later compliance audits on some newer venues and those subject of ongoing concern. The results are being followed up. Cycling warnings are continuing on The Corso and around the Art Gallery area.

Cllr Bingham raised the issue smoking warnings in light of the fact that volunteers from the Waste Committee pick up 10,000 butts from East Esp each month. Discussion regarding the value of fining people particularly as most are daytrippers and not aware of the rules.

Query from Cllr Aird re changes in AFZ warnings was due to the targeted ranger presence that occurred in the East Esplanade are following the changes to times of the Alcohol Prohibited Area.

Recommendation

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

ITEM 6 Late Night Safety Audit

On Saturday night 30 April the Community Safety Co-ordinator together with Police (Snr Cst Lorraine Yates and Inspector Craig Wonders) and Christina Franze conducted a late night safety audit of the Manly CBD.

Community Safety Co-ordinator presented the committee with photos and feedback from the audit. Various broken lights, signage improvements and other minor infrastructure issues were identified and will be followed up for repair. Overall impressions were good, an improvement on previous years. It was observed that the level of intoxication amongst the groups of people appeared to be less than in previous audits. Main problem identified was the amount of alcohol bottle/can waste that was observed mostly at places leading into The Corso area. This was a clear indication of pre-loading. The bottles are a safety concern to police as they are used as potential weapons. Street Pastors previously assisted with this by collecting empty bottle waste and binning it however they are no longer operating. Bottle bins were all overflowing apart from in The Corso. It was suggested that this may be resolved in time with the announcement of the introduction of the container deposit scheme however the committee was unsure if this will include alcohol bottles or cans. The committee asked the State Members representative if he could follow up advice on this issue and include the committee's request that the scheme include alcohol bottles.

Recommendation

The Committee recommends to the General Manager that the proposed State container deposit scheme intended for implementation in July 2017 ensure that it include alcohol bottle and can waste and that this be communicated through the local State MP.

ACTION**ITEM 7 General Business brought to the Attention of the Chair prior to the Meeting and Approved for Consideration****7.1 Northern Beaches Domestic Violence Committee**

Staff are represented on this committee which includes all local domestic violence service providers in the area as well as police and the other relevant government agencies.

In November the committee has decided to conduct an awareness raising walk as part of the White Ribbon events. This is in addition to the annual breakfast event held at the ICMS. It will start at Queenscliff Beach and finish at Manly Beach at the Corso with a sausage sizzle. They are aiming to invite all local high school and sporting club participation as well as any other local business and community groups. More details will be forthcoming once they are confirmed.

7.2 Recorded Crime Statistics 2015

The Bureau of Crime Statistics have just released the crime statistics for 2015. Across the State and Greater Sydney the only major crime type that trended upwards was Steal from Retail Store (shoplifting).

In Manly LGA the only two offences that are identified as being on an upward trend are 'Break and Enter – non dwelling' and 'Fraud'. Both Domestic and Non-domestic violence related assaults show a downward trending. The offence where Manly ranks the highest compared to other LGAs is 'Steal from Person' – Manly is 9th in the State.

Superintendent Darcy advised that one of the problems relating to Fraud was the theft of identity documents from mailboxes. Copies of the 2015 crime stats for Manly LGA were distributed.

7.3 Lagoon Park Lighting

The trial of the lights in Lagoon Park has now been in place for six months. According to Manager, Parks the response has been mixed. Residents who back onto the park edge have been less responsive and have complained about noise, brightness and concerns about the ecological impact. In response to this the lights were altered from higher level lights to lower bollard style lights. The broader Ocean Beach community are still apparently supporting the lights with a final meeting about the issue to be held.

The Community Safety Co-ordinator reported that a safety audit had recently been conducted along Lagoon Park path. The committee were shown a variety of photos taken from this audit at 6pm at night. It was reported that at this time the path was extremely dark. Only a few metres beyond the main road there is little to no ambient lighting and it is difficult to see more than a couple of metres ahead. Nevertheless it is still a busy pathway. During an hour there were 18 cyclists, 12 joggers (plus a personal training group) and many dog walkers in both directions. Some people were carrying torches and head lights. For such a busy utilised pathway to have no lighting creates a dangerous situation. It is and creates a hazardous situation for collisions as well as feeling vulnerable and unsafe by not being able to see who is approaching in the dark. As a trained CPTED and community safety professional it was strongly recommended to the committee that lighting is installed along the stretch of Lagoon Park. Whilst the lower bollard lighting is not as effective as the higher spill lights it is an adequate compromise that will light the path. It was also noted that the closest residents are a minimum of approx. 20 metres away from the path and many have lights spilling from their backyards. Pathway lighting will have no more impact on the environment than the lights from these private homes.

ACTION

Police advise they are unaware of any complaints about groups causing trouble in this park during the trial period. The committee discussed the issue and agreed that provision of lighting and safety for the wider public on this busy connecting shared pathway must finally be implemented. The committee have been advocating the need for this for more than five years. If necessary consideration could be given to turn off the lights at midnight if anti-social behaviour is proved to be a problem.

Recommendation

The Committee recommends to the General Manager that following the completion of a trial of lights on Lagoon Park shared path that lighting now be fully installed as a priority along the length of the pathway from Pittwater Rd to Cameron Avenue to improve safety and reduce risk along this highly utilized shared path at night time.

ITEM 8 Guest Speaker

David Thomas, CEO of Lifeline Balgowlah attended the meeting as a guest speaker.

David informed the committee about a number of issues:

- There are 41 centres across Australia – Balgowlah is one of the largest
- Services provided by Balgowlah Lifeline include support groups services, community visitors scheme, op shops, fundraising and telephone counselling
- Suicide is the leading cause of death in 15-44yr age group
- 7 suicides attempted per hour in Australia
- Cost of suicide to Australian economy is \$17 billion p.a.
- Problem is increasing
- 35,000 calls to Balgowlah office in a year
- 600-700 volunteers on average

David then discussed the problem of theft and dumping at the Balgowlah Store. Bins are targeted by professional thieves, who take anything of value. Generally occurs between 4-6am. Other problem is people who leave their worthless items, which leaves them with a \$70K waste bill which could be spent on services. Superintendent Darcy and Community Safety Co-ordinator offered to assist with reducing this problem and will follow up. The Chair thanked David for attending the committee to speak about these important issues.

Recommendation

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

ITEM 9 Date for Next Meeting –to be confirmed following announcement of Council amalgamation.

Meeting closed 9.35am