



MINUTES OF MEETING
COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE
HELD THURSDAY 8 JULY 2010

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, Mayor	Manly Council (Chair until 9.25am)
Cllr Barbara Aird	Manly Council (Chair from 9.25am until close)
Cllr Hugh Burns	Manly Council

Other Representatives

Acting Commander Beth Cullen	Manly Police
Detective Inspector John Duncan	Manly Police
Senior Constable Danielle Fletcher	Manly Police
Ray Mathieson	Community Member and Representative of Member for Manly
Doug Brooker	Manly Liquor Accord
Malcolm Pearse	Department of Corrective Services
Richard Wallace	The Corso Precinct
Will de Monchaux	Youth Council representative
Melissa Palermo	Northern Beaches Health Promotion
Doug Edmonds	Manly Warringah Cabs (left at 8.40am)
Sidar Demirbag	Late Night Food Traders representative
Jay Zmijewski	State Transit Authority
Monique Eggeling	Manly Chamber of Commerce
Doug Robertson	Community member

Council Staff

Sue Johansson	Community Safety Coordinator
Kathryn Fayle	Acting Divisional Manager, Human Services & Facilities
Terry Jones	Manager Ranger Services
Jonathon Noyes	Youth & School Aged Services Coordinator

TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS OF THE COUNCIL

The **Community Safety Committee** met on Thursday 8 July, 2010, 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

Apologies were received from Cllr Alan Le Surf and Cllr Dr Peter Macdonald and Superintendent Dave Darcy. Acting Commander Beth Cullen and Detective Inspector John Duncan were welcomed to the Committee, as was Kathryn Fayle who was Acting Divisional Manager, Human Services & Facilities whilst Beth Lawsen was on leave.

ACTION

ITEM 2	DECLARATION OF INTEREST	ACTION
	There were no declarations of interest.	
ITEM 3	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10 JUNE 2010 AND MATTERS ARISING	
	The minutes of the Community Safety Committee from 10 June 2010 are due to be presented to the Ordinary meeting of 19 July 2010.	
	MATTERS ARISING	
3.1	<p>Item 3.2 Hassle-Free Nights</p> <p>In response to the recommendation that “The Committee requests that a report be provided by the General Manager on CCTV technology used to calculate patron numbers arriving in Manly”, a report from the General Manager will be forthcoming.</p> <p>Recommendation: That the information is received and noted.</p>	GM
3.2	<p>Item 3.3: Manly Warringah Cabs</p> <p><u>Median Pedestrian Fence:</u> Regarding the recommendation from the Committee’s 10 December 2009 meeting, a response from RTA was provided to the Committee: <i>The carriageway limitations on Belgrave Street between Gilbert and Esplanade do not permit the installation of a median pedestrian fence. RTA would generally need a median of 1.5m width to enable such a facility, with the existing lane widths not affording any such opportunity. The only other alternative would be kerbside fencing, however this is not feasible given the existing parking arrangements.</i> The Traffic Manager advises Council is speaking directly to Manly Warringah Cabs regarding how to pursue this matter.</p> <p><u>Belgrave Street Taxi Rank:</u> Manly Warringah Cabs and Transport NSW proposed that the Committee consider an ‘auxiliary rank’ be operated at the Belgrave Street Taxi Rank between 1am – 3am for passengers wishing to travel to the city. The suggestion was that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the existing rank on the north side of Belgrave Street be used for local Northern Beaches patrons • two spaces across the road on the south side be made available for patrons wishing to travel to the city <p>Transport NSW has agreed that the three existing security guards be involved in this initiative. Manly Warringah Cabs staff can supervise/train and assist these guards to identify similar routes and attempt to move more than one patron per taxi (where deemed appropriate).</p> <p>Members of the Committee saw benefits in this proposal in terms of clearing the rank quickly, and also enticing taxi drivers to come into Manly and being able to choose whether to take patrons either north or south of Manly.</p> <p>Pedestrian safety was voiced as a concern for late night patrons, possibly intoxicated, crossing Belgrave Street to the ‘city-bound’ rank. Given that the Police Station at Belgrave Street will be moving shortly, and at least two parking spaces may become available, perhaps this location could be used as the ‘city-bound’ rank.</p>	Traffic Manager/ Manly Warringah Cabs

Recommendation:

The Committee recommended investigating a trial of two locations for north and south bound late night taxis at Belgrave Street.

ACTION
Traffic Manager/
Manly Warringah
Cabs

3.3 Item 3.4: Launch of Graffiti Awareness Campaign

The purchase of So Safe Graffiti Removal Kits is being progressed.

Recommendation:

That the information is received and noted.

3.4 Item 3.5: Rangers Report

Strong objection relating to access and security risks has been received from the property owner of 2 Sydney Road to the proposed placement of a permanent bin in front of Ser Bar Kebab Shop

Acting Commander Beth Cullen advises that the security risk posed by the location of a permanent bin at this location (the Police Station will be temporarily based above this location whilst Belgrave Street is refurbished) is low. From a safety perspective, given the amount of bottles left at this location and the chance that they could be used as weapons, Police are supportive of the position of this permanent bin.

The tenant of 2 Sydney Road has offered to be responsible for the placement and movement of a temporary bin at this location on Saturday and Sunday nights between midnight and 3.30am. This offer was to be in place of the permanent bin.

Recommendation:

In place of a permanent bin, the Committee supports the trial of a temporary bin to be positioned at 2 Sydney Road on Saturday and Sunday nights between midnight and 3.30am to be the responsibility of the tenant.

Ross Fleming

The minutes of the Community Safety Committee meeting held on 10 June 2010 were then confirmed by members. These minutes will go to Council's Ordinary Meeting on 19 July for adoption.

ITEM 4 Report – Manly Council Section 79 Disturbance Complaint

A verbal summary of legal advice sought by Council in relation to the letters received from the Director General of Communities NSW on 9 April 2010 and 4 June 2010 was provided to the Committee, as follows: *“Council should re-lodge the Section 79 complaint as a completely new complaint containing all of the original material submitted with the original complaint together with any information as to incidents which have come to light since the original complaint was submitted, making it clear the identity of those licensed premises to which the Section 79 complaint relates”.*

The Committee discussed the merits of re-lodging the Section 79:

Much has changed in Manly since the original S79 was lodged in May 2009, for example:

- the reduction in assaults (see Item 6 for Police Report),
- the change in ownership of The Steyne and The Shore Club
- The Steyne is reported to become more family oriented with accommodation
- closing and refurbishment of The New Brighton Hotel

- Manly now only has one hotel, The Steyne, on a Level 2 list of venues subject to special conditions due to the number of alcohol related incidents.
- The Old Manly Boat Shed has now been removed from the list due to their reduced assaults.
- All late night traders have signed a voluntary agreement with a range of restrictions on their trade in order to reduce alcohol related harm.
- All late night traders in Manly are voluntarily closing at 3.00am (apart from The Steyne's gaming room) until January 2011 as part of the Manly Precinct Liquor Accord
- The Manly Night Shuttle has been granted an extension to take patrons out of Manly on Saturday and Sunday mornings (11pm – 4am)
- The presence of the Street Pastors on Saturday nights
- Much of the evidence and data used in the original S79 was now dated

However several members of the Committee reiterated their concerns about community safety. It was suggested that the community still supported earlier closing, as was evident by the recent petition organised by Mike Baird's office and tabled in Parliament. Whilst assault rates have improved, many incidents go unreported. There are already enforcement issues with existing licensees that are difficult to manage.

As Superintendent Darcy was not present at the meeting to comment on this matter, the Committee proposed to defer this item until August.

Recommendation:

The Committee recommends that this item be deferred until the meeting of the Community Safety Committee on 12 August 2010.

ITEM 5 REPORT – Working Party to discuss Development Application and Liquor Licence consent conditions

The Working Party has nothing to report at this stage. However this should not affect compliance on those matters identified with particular premises, and enforcement should be pursued where necessary.

**Manager
Compliance &
Enforcement**

Recommendation:

That the information is received and noted.

(Change of Chairperson at this point in the meeting)

ITEM 6 Police Report

Acting Commander Beth Cullen provided a summary of the key crime trends over the past 12months for Manly LAC:

- **Alcohol-related assaults** - down 19%
Most of these assaults occur on weekends & between midnight and 6am
- **Break enter and steal - dwelling** - down 31%
A significant portion of these occur during the day on week days (while occupants absent)
- **Break enter and steal - non dwelling** - down 13%
- **Steal from motor vehicle** - down 13%

Many of these are occurring during the day in the suburb of Manly; those occurring in other suburbs are often during the night.

- **Other stealing** (includes shoplifting, thefts from beach, bicycles and steal from person) - up 5%
Peak times are noon to 4pm on weekends
- **Malicious damage** (includes graffiti) - down 8%
- **Robbery** - up 61%
The numbers are quite small (total of 21 over the year). Majority occur on weekends, between midnight and 6am and all in public places. Only one robbery involved a weapon (knife).
- **Drug possession** - up 51%
This is more an indicator of increased police activity (such as drug dog operations) than of increased drug usage in the community

In summary the statistics for Manly are good in terms of NSW, overall trends are good and Manly Police continue to work on strategies to improve arrest rates.

It is difficult to estimate what proportion of malicious damage offences are alcohol related, as detection rates are low. The Committee suggested that reports of malicious damage (graffiti and vandalism) to Council property be gathered to consider for future use.

With the move of Police due to refurbishment, Manly will no longer be a charging station, and arrangements are to be made in Dee Why for this purpose. Staffing will remain unchanged during the development of the Police Station.

Recommendation:

That the information is received and noted.

ITEM 7 Rangers' Report

Manager Ranger Services presented the statistics for June 2010. The increase in smoking fines and cautions is a result of the increase in Ranger bike patrols and people smoking on The Corso.

Recommendation:

That the information is received and noted.

ITEM 8 Manly Liquor Accord Report

The Liquor Accord representative reported that the Liquor Accord AGM is scheduled for 10am on 20 July 2010 at The Steyne. Communities NSW will be tabling factsheets for licensees on the Manly Precinct Liquor Accord at this meeting.

Recommendation:

That the information is received and noted.

**Community
Safety
Coordinator**

ITEM 9 Bureau of Crime Statistics & Research (BOCSAR) NSW recorded crime statistics March quarterly update

A summary of the BOCSAR March quarterly update was provided to members. BOCSAR statistics up until March 2010 indicated that all aspects of crime in Manly are either stable or reducing.

Recommendation:

That the information is received and noted.

ITEM 10 Re-establishment of the Alcohol Free Zone in Manly

The Alcohol Free Zone in Manly CBD has now been re-established for a four year period to be in effect 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week from 11 July 2010 to 11 July 2014. Signage will now be amended and Council will re-commence its community education campaign in consultation with the Community Safety Committee and Manly Police to raise awareness of the location and restrictions of the AFZ and the Alcohol Consumption Prohibited Zones.

The recent 'Hassle-Free Nights' legislation amended the Local Government Act Section 632A to allow consistent enforcement for Alcohol Free Zones and Alcohol Consumption Prohibited Zones within the boundary of the Manly Precinct Liquor Accord.

The Committee were asked to comment on whether the boundary proposed by the Manly Precinct Liquor Accord be extended to incorporate the Ocean Beachfront to allow consistency of confiscation and disposal powers by Police and Night Rangers.

Recommendation:

The Committee supports the extension of the Manly Precinct Liquor Accord boundary to include:

- the Ocean Beach Front of the promenade and beach area from Denison Street south to Ashburner Street,
- the block ending at Ashburner Street,
- East and West Esplanade (promenade and beach) as previously requested

ITEM 11 GENERAL BUSINESS brought to the attention of the Chair prior to the start of the meeting and approved for consideration.

11.1 Feedback from Mike Baird's office

The representative of Mike Baird raised the following points:

- Following Council's resolution calling on the Government and the Opposition Leader to reject donations to their parties from hotels, clubs and the alcohol industry, Mike Baird will raise this in Parliament.
- Following reports to Mike Baird's office of drink spiking, this item will be placed on the agenda for August.
- Odour is still an issue with the North Head Sewage Plant. The community is encouraged to report problems to ensure action is taken.

Recommendation:

That the information is received and noted.

11.2 The Shore Club

The Committee requested an update on progress of the Section 96 related to The Shore Club to provide at the August Committee meeting.

**Manager
Compliance &
Enforcement**

Recommendation:

That the information is received and noted.

11.3 Youth Services

The Youth & School Aged Services Coordinator commended the professionalism of the Police officers who attended the band event at Kangaroo Street to help with dispersal.

Recommendation:

That the information is received and noted.

ITEM 12 NEXT MEETING DATE:

Date: Thursday 12 August 2010

Time: 8.00am – 10.00am

Venue: Councillor's Room

Meeting closed at 10.10am