

**RECORD OF MEETING**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2010**  
**Monaro Local Area Command Community Safety Precinct Committee**  
**Meeting at Monaro Crime Management Unit, Queanbeyan.**

<b>Attendance List</b>		
Name	Representing	Present/Apology
Superintendent Gary Merryweather	Commander, Monaro Local Area Command	Present
Detective Inspector Shane Box	Crime Manager, Monaro	Present
Mr. Daryl Hagger	Cooma - Monaro Shire Council	
Mr. Vin Good	Mayor Cooma - Monaro Shire Council	Apology
Mr. Ian Frost	Representative of School Education	Present
Mr. Bob Frost	Snowy River Shire Council	Present
Mr. Paul Greer	Representative of School Education	Apology
Mr. Steve Whan Lee Evans	State Member of Parliament	Apology Present
Mz. Philippa Moss	Representative of Safer Communities and Neighbourhood Committee/ QCC	Apology
Mr. Bob Stewart	Member for Bombala	Present
Mr. John Vucic	Representative for Cooma- Monaro Shire Council	Present
Mr. Don Cottee	General Manager for Bombala Council	
Mr. Dugald Mitchell	Representative of Cooma Unlimited.	Apology
Mr. Allen Hogan	Representative of Department of Housing	Present
Mr. David Rawlings	Bombala Council	
Mr. David Shelly	Member for Cooma Business Council	
Senior Constable Adam Sutton	Liquor Accord Queanbeyan and Monaro Licensing Officer	Present
Senior Constable Naomi Nemec	Community Drug and Alcohol Action Team Queanbeyan/ Monaro Crime Prevention Officer.	Present
Mr. Tim Overall	Mayor Queanbeyan City Council	Present
Mr. Chris Gibson	Representative of Queanbeyan Business Council	
Mr. John Cahill	Mayor Snowy River Shire Council	
Mr. Robert Sailer	Representative of Bungendore Chamber of Commerce	

Mr. Jim Maclachlan	Member for Palerang Council	
Mr. Les Hart	Member for Palerang Council	

## Community Safety Precinct Committee (CSPC) 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2010 Agenda

Agenda
<p><b>Time:</b> 10 am</p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Monaro Crime Management Unit, Level 3, Morisset House Morisset Street, Queanbeyan.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Welcome</li> <li>2. Introductions &amp; apologies</li> <li>3. Crime review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crime trends &amp; Hotspots</li> <li>• Police visibility and deployment in the LAC</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Previous meeting Actions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Senior Constable Nemecc – Update on progress with Karabah Shop concerns.</li> <li>• Superintendent Merryweather and Mr. Tim Overall – update on traffic issues at Morella Ave, Queanbeyan.</li> <li>• Superintendent Merryweather and Mr. Bob Stewart – update re concerns raised at last BATTAs Meeting.</li> <li>• Mr. John Vucic and Senior Constable Nemecc - update on traffic issues at Numeralla.</li> <li>• Mr. Paul Greer and Senior Constable Nemecc – Update on activities around school grounds.</li> </ul> </li> <li>5. General business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issues arising</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

## 6. Next meeting

- 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2010, Monaro Crime Management Unit, Queanbeyan

### **Minutes**

The meeting opened at 10.05am

### **Welcome**

Superintendent Gary Merryweather, Monaro Local Area Commander.

### **Apologies**

Apologies as per attendance sheet. Mz. Lee Evans as proxy for Mr. Steve Whan.

### **Previous minutes**

**Action:** Accepted by Mr. Bob Stewart, Second by Lee Evans.

Mr. John Vucic informed that the following needed to be corrected from previous minutes from page 5, from:-

**Response: Mr. John Vucic:** Cooma Council met with Taxi drivers and made an agreement that the taxi's become a "bus" with a set fee for an advertised zone. It seems to work for Cooma.

Corrected to:-

**Response: Mr. John Vucic:** In Victoria Taxi drivers made an agreement that the taxi's become a "bus" with a set fee for an advertised zone. It seems to work for certain areas.

### **Crime Review**

#### **Detective Inspector Shane Box:**

Assaults – non DV – Performing Well

Robbery – No issues – minimal impact on the Command

Break and enter into dwelling – Performing Well

Break and enter non dwelling - over target

Steal from Motor Vehicles – up – addressing these issues, mainly in Queanbeyan.

Alcohol related assaults – under target

Stealing's – above target

Fraud – just under target (after snow increase due to ticket fraud offences being detected).

Jindabyne – in general – quite. Fraud – down, Stealing’s – down Malicious Damage – Down

Bombala – in general – quite. Break and enters – down, Frauds – 0. Malicious Damage – even and Stealing’s – down.

Cooma – increase in DV assaults – issues being addressed through other avenues and community partnerships. Break and enters – even but trending down.

Jerrabomberra – Break and enters were up Police completed letter box drops, media releases and worked with Jerrabomberra Resident Association. Possible suspects were walking into Jerrabomberra through walking tracks. Currently Breaks are now down.

### **Operations**

New Years Eve and Australia Day operations were conducted – Quite in Queanbeyan

Cooma in general was quite with all community members acting respectfully to each other.

### **General Business**

**Mr. Bob Stewart:** Thanks to Police and efforts of Senior Constable Nemeč for assistance in the breaks within Bombala. Shops have now commenced upgrades on security.

**Mr. Bob Frost** – We have a few issues within Berridale which have not been reported to Police. Still gathering some information re these issues. 2 Break in’s and 6 Steal from Motor Vehicle Offences and a 140 year old cross stolen from the local Church.

**Action:** Senior Constable Naomi Nemeč to forward media release for police reporting procedures to Mr Bob Frost for publication in local papers.

### **Police visibility and deployment in the LAC**

**Mr. Gary Merryweather** – We have three extra Police to the Command placed at Queanbeyan.

**Mr. Bob Stewart** – Concerns that 6-8 weeks is a long time for regional areas to be short staffed with police. Asked if a locum officer is possible, not just a back up for a day from another area.

**Mr. Gary Merryweather** - Cluster is working better now at filling in gaps, however to have someone on a long term basis is hard. Reminded that Highway Patrol are also used to support local policing.

**Mr. Bob Stewart** – Council could look at supporting a police house if that would help costs with a locum police officer. The community is concerned due to low policing levels, often for months of the year.

**Detective Inspector Shane Box** – For information, the command has tasking and deployment meetings where we look at the events in all areas of the command for the month. If there is a major event on we ensure that we have more police deployed to that area for those events. We just need to be aware of the events.

**Superintendent Gary Merryweather** – If all areas can forward event information through to Naomi Nemeč for adding to our Events Callander.

Police Staffing – Bombala position should be filled soon. Nimmitabel position has been advertised. Cooma has a new back up lock up keeper. Jindabyne has a new lock up keeper.

For an idea on percentages of officers vs. work load for the Command.

Rough figures – Queanbeyan has 53% of the work load but only 29% of Staff

Cooma has 13% work load with 12.7% of Staff

Jindabyne has 7% work load, Bombala has 1.5% work load and 1.5% staff for the cluster.

Police are trying new initiatives state wide to help reduce crime. This is through lots of media coverage about how people can better secure their goods and houses to prevent crime. Police need community help to reduce crime. This includes securing your windows and doors when you go to bed at night and ensuring garages and work shops etc are locked when not in use. Police would like to get that message out there if you all can help get that message to your communities.

**Mr. Allen Hogan** - Agreed that people can often become complacent and they often remind people to ensure valuables are locked up and secure.

**Superintendent Gary Merryweather** – Further update on Crime. Offenders were arrested down the coast for a large amount of the breaks that were occurring at Bombala. Queanbeyan has arrested a person for some break ins within Queanbeyan. There continues to be a reduction in frauds within the Command. Queanbeyan has seen a reduction in fail to pay for fuel frauds due to continued efforts of Senior Constable Nemeck and the introduction of the pay before you pump initiative. We are still working with some petrol stations.

Reiterated that New Years Eve and Australia Day were quiet and believe a new strategy of the NSW Police assisted in this. Police were high profile from the very beginning of the night and Senior Constable Adam Sutton was in the pubs and clubs right at the start of the night emphasising the importance of their responsibilities and police responsibilities.

The message was clear that Police will not tolerate anti social behaviour from the start.

Cooma race day was the same and on top of not supplying excess alcohol.

Highway Patrol – still a number of PCA and Speeding offences being detected. Including those caught the day after drinking.

There were two major accidents within the command which were a concern to us. We are still focusing on PCA and Speed related offences.

The command will be looking into staffing at Berridale as the officer is off on long term sick due to injury.

**Mr. Bob Frost:** Will inform the community of Police staffing issues.

Winter will soon be on us, do Police have any new strategies.

**Superintendent Gary Merryweather:** We have our first meeting for this year next month. There may be some new strategies such a high profile policing and many of the other strategies used in the past.

**Mr. Bob Frost:** Thinking the community and police could go further by looking at issues associated with those that supply alcohol who have off licenses such as bottle shops. Look at how we can tackle those that supply the majority of alcohol to the community and see if they can be made more responsible in their supply. It is also concerning the amount of alcohol sold after close of pubs and clubs. Due to recent renovations Jindabyne now has the largest regional bottle shop in Australia.

**Superintendent Gary Merryweather:** Your comments will be taken on board during our planning process for the 2010 season.

**Mr. Tim Overall:** Raise the Bus Interchange with the complaints we have been receiving in relation to anti social behaviour and bullying. What is the situation?

**Senior Constable Naomi Nemec:** In relation to the letter received re the female assaulted and refused refuge in a office, I have spoken to all offices down at the location and all deny the incident, stating that on a rare occasion a person may seek shelter from others and they are always open to allowing children to stay within their business until parents arrive. Police officers have conducted foot patrols on a number of occasions down there and see mainly kids being kids, not bullying or assaults. The main issues are that kids will be playing ball or tag and running in and out of the parked cars. For those on looking it may seem like there is some sort of scuffle going on. There is an issue at the location for when the school children are there in that it is only a matter of time until a child is hit by a car, kids are chasing balls and running out onto the road. The bus interchange – for the school children – in my opinion – needs to be moved, even if to the oval across the road.

**Mr Tim Overall:** Thank you. Jerrabomberra Morella Ave issues, the lines are now marked on the road way and it seems to be keeping the traffic within those lanes and slowing them down. The Traffic Management Team is still working on the issue with some calming devises still to go in.

**Superintendent Merryweather:** The highway patrol has enforcements out there and states that the behaviour of motorists is improving. The Traffic Committee have the lines up and have cones out there. When the highway patrol was out there for one day they booked around 20 people. Most were local residents.

**Mr. Tim Overall:** My apologies for leaving early. 11.00am

**Senior Constable Nemec:** Police will be conducting a risk assessment in conjunction with Queanbeyan City Council (QCC) on the Karabah Shops and car park area this month. Recommendations out of the audit will be supplied to QCC and I understand that they currently have some funding to fix some identified issues; hence the recommendations should be actioned quickly. To my knowledge there has not been an increase in the number of reported incidents in the area.

**Mr. Bob Stewart:** Bombala Council may fund some cameras to go into some businesses within Bombala. The Businesses are aware that they need to up grade their security.

**Superintendent Merryweather:** Cooma Police have increased their school patrols and they are recording them on our COPS.

**Mr. John Vucic:** Congratulations for the good work shown during the course of the Bush Fires. The response was excellent. Very happy with the Policing presence within Cooma, it is noted that they have been patrolling. Well done on the Numeralla driving issues. There are nil complaints from that area as well. Apologies on behalf of the Mayor for Cooma from not being here today. He is recovering from an illness.

**Senior Constable Nemec:** In relation to the Numeralla driving issues, an email was sent to Sergeant Tappley of Cooma Highway Patrol requesting staff be tasked for the location. Extra patrols are being conducted of the area (although they already conducted some patrols of the area). I spoke with Sergeant Tappley this morning who stated the driver behaviour at the moment is good. Inspector Rooney also attended the town of Numeralla and spoke with the community there in relation to the issues. Sergeant Tappley is currently a member of the local Traffic Committee and is happy to speak with anyone who has any concerns of this nature at any time.

**Mr. Bob Stewart:** How are the Police vacancies filled? Locally or organisation and policy?

**Superintendent Merryweather:** The Command has to follow Organisation policy in filling vacancies within the local area. I have also had discussions with the Police Union recently who are also placing pressure to rectify staffing issues. The Command is attempting fill vacant positions as we can

**Mr. Bob Stewart:** Look at council to contact Mr Whan in an attempt to put the pressure on to change the policy so there is more flexibility and less time gaps in vacancies and a letter to the Commissioner to complain as well as Bombala and Nimmitabel is very concerned about the time it takes to get replacement officers.

**Mr. Ian Frost:** Raised the issues of suspension and expulsion in schools where Queanbeyan doesn't have the avenues for distance education for those not allowed to attend school. Goulburn PCYC has 9 kids for distance schooling. What can we do here for distance education for local expelled children?

**Superintendent Merryweather:** We have a meeting with Juvenile Justice in relation to early interventions for troubled youth. We could look at combining Schools children as well. The Y.L.O and the S.L.O could look at some initiatives as well.

**Action:** A meeting to be coordinated between Juvenile Justice, Y.L.O and S.L.O and Education Dept to examine some local initiatives for early interventions for young children, consultation with Mr. Ian Frost for further possible actions.

**Mr. Allen Hogan:** The changes to the Child Protection Act may cause us some issues. Will work with is and deal with issues it may bring for the dept of Housing.

**Senior Constable Adam Sutton:** Nil issues raised with Licensing.

**Mz. Lee Evans:** What is the current situation with the Go Bus?

**Senior Constable Adam Sutton:** It was advertised but no one replied for the job. Liquor accord meeting this month where the issue will be raised again. There are minor issues regarding waiting for a taxi due to turn around times.

**Superintendent Merryweather:** Thanks to all. Next meeting 10am 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2010 at the Monaro Crime Management Unit. Level 3 Morisset House, Morisset Street, Queanbeyan. The following meeting will be held down south if someone is willing to offer a venue.

Meeting closed 11.03am