

Community Safety Precinct Committee.

MINUTES.

14th February 2011

Attendance.

Superintendent Mark WRIGHT	MW	(Blacktown LAC Commander)
Mr Alan PENDLETON	AP	(Blacktown City Council)
Mr Chris WORTHINGTON	CW	(Office of Nathan Rees MP)
Mrs Susan VOGELS	SV	(Sydwest Multicultural Services)
Mr Mitchell STRUYVE	MS	(Principal Hills Sports High)
Inspector Paul MCHUGH	PM	(Blacktown LAC Duty Officer)
A/Inspector Endre NAGY	EN	(Blacktown LAC Crime Manager)
Sgt Yvette SMITH	YS	(Blacktown LAC Intelligence)
Inspector Robert FITZGERALD	RF	(Blacktown LAC Duty Officer)
Sergeant Paul APAP	PA	(Blacktown LAC Highway Patrol)

Apologies.

Mr Paul GIBSON MP	PG	(Local Member Blacktown)
Mr Nathan REES MP	NR	(Local Member Toongabbie/Seven Hills)
Mr Ed HUSIC MP	EH	(Federal Member for Chifley)
Ms Michelle Rowland MP	MR	(Federal Member for Greenway)
Mr Neil VAUGHN	NV	(Blacktown Workers Club)
Mr Robert CRUMB	RC	(Centro Seven Hills)
Mr Michael CHALTON	MC	(Westpoint Shopping Centre)
Michelle PARR	MP	(Doonside Community Cottage)
Natalie CHIAPPAZZO	NC	(Blacktown Youth Services Association)
Mr David GALEA	DG	(Doonside Public School)
Mr David BAMFORD	DB	(Rotary Club of Blacktown City)

Minute Taker.

Inspector McHugh (Blacktown LAC).

MEETING OPENED: 9.10am

MW: Welcomed committee members and guests Inspector FITZGERALD (Operations Duty Officer) and Sergeant APAP (Highway Patrol Supervisor).

YS: Powerpoint presentation – Crime overview for Blacktown LAC covering the months of December 2010 and January 2011.

GENERAL DISCUSSION WITH RESPECT TO THE CRIME OVERVIEW WHICH FOR THE FIRST TIME ALSO SHOWED BOCSAR CRIME STATISTICS

MS: Are you aware of the ages of those committing stealing offences as many of our school children hang around Seven Hills Centro before catching trains to their destinations.

YS: That information not available today.

MW: Spoke about the upcoming CPP meeting which will have a focus on Graffiti and proactive measures.

AP: Agreed that it is a real issue for Council.

AP: Inquired about any demand on Police for the screw locking number plates?

YS: Indicated she was not aware of further inquiries for this product from the public at this stage.

AP: Inquired about knowledge of Police regarding any issues with persons congregating in CBD exchanging/distributing illegal/restricted substances.

PM: Meeting between local Police and NSW Health representatives in 2010 regarding the local distribution of Methadone and perceived issues with respect to congregation of persons in the CBD who may be participating in the Methadone Program. Discussion also had on the issue of trading in prescription drugs in general. Proactive operations are ongoing.

CW: Asked whether the Department of Housing were invited to these meetings.

MW: Spoke about the current formalised meeting processes and exchange of information between local Department of Housing representatives and Police.

INSPECTOR FITZGERALD PRESENTED TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIS OPERATIONS PORTFOLIO AND CURRENT STRATEGIES, SUPPORTED BY SERGEANT APAP ON THE TRAFFIC COMPONENT. THIS IS FOLLOWED BY GROUP DISCUSSION ON THE SUBJECT.

- AP: Question about vehicle recognition technology (which was a reference to the current Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) capability of NSW Police).
- PA: Gave an overview of how this capability operates and that it is used by Blacktown LAC HWP staff.
- BF: Spoke about the work being done by Blacktown LAC to ensure a push bike patrol capability for the command to proactively patrol and respond to incidents which will compliment the foot patrol and vehicle response. Local media article on this subject outlined to committee members.
- AP: Question regarding trail bike riding complaints in Marayong received by Council.
- MW: Outlined trail bike patrol capability operating from Mt Druitt LAC Highway Office.
- ACTION:** **Referred to Quakers Hill Local Area Command for follow up in the suburb of Marayong.**
- BF: Spoke in general regarding complaints surrounding trail bikes and Police strategies and constraints. Police and Council meet and work through this issue, which is an ongoing process.
- AP: Raised the Australia Day activities at Rooty Hill which were for the first time alcohol free after ongoing alcohol related issues in past years. Very pleased with the outcome of the day.
- BF: Outlined Australia Day Police Operation conducted and welcoming of the alcohol ban from Police perspective.
- AP: Outlined that there were 69 alcohol confiscations according to the Mt Druitt Local Area Commander.
- BF: Spoke about the media focus on alcohol free. Indicated a number of people were stopped with alcohol confiscated, with no trouble on the day. Also spoke on NYE local operations.
- AP: Requested feedback on this year's NYE operations compared to the previous year in terms of issues.
- BF: Outlined that both this year and the previous year were similar in terms of the Police response and the conditions on the ground.
- MW: Spoke about Australia Day Operations and the fact that the ban on alcohol at the Rooty Hill celebrations definitely helped in the management of the day.

CW: Asked about the percentage of Assault offenders who are recidivist offenders.

MW: Talked about the majority being Common Assault offences with the typical push and shove scenario. In terms of recidivism it was negligible.

YS: Spoke about opportunism. Two people having a disagreement before a fight ensued.

CW: Asked about the category of crime recidivism is most prevalent.

YS: Indicated Steal From Motor Vehicle offences as the most probable.

MW: Talked in general terms about Steal From Motor Vehicle offences and offenders.

BF: Spoke about current operations targeting Steal From Motor Vehicle offences and displacement of crime.

CW: Question about drive by shootings, whether they are random or targeted.

MW: Usually targeted.

MW: Concluded discussion about Blacktown LAC focus with respect to operations. There is a science to what we do.

GENERAL BUSINESS.

MW: Opened up meeting for general business.

AP: Very pleased that we get this type of information on the table.

MS: A year ago I spoke about the concern I had about the commencement of delivery of laptops to our schools for individual issue to high school students. A year on from school perspective it does not seem to be a problem. Is that the experience of the Police?

MW: Has not presented as an issue.

YS: School children tend not to get their lap tops out in public view whilst on public transport, whereas phones and smaller devices are another issue. These smaller popular items are targeted.

- SV: Spoke about funding made available to Sydwest for driving lessons, general driving education and mentoring for migrants. We are working closely with African women in an effort to empower them. Encouraging them to become Australian citizens. Commenced a mens group also, 'African Men In Action'. If there any relevant local issues, we can make contact with the group to address them on the issue.
- PA: Confirmed Blacktown Highway Patrol officers shortly to do a talk with respect to driving, rules etc at Sydwest for migrants.
- CW: Asked as to whether any Police recruits coming through are from the local area.
- MW: Spoke about the Command Multicultural Community Liaison Officer (MCLO) having facilitated and coordinated buses to take local residents to the Police Academy for the upcoming Police Open Day on Sunday 20 February 2011. Same process adopted last year.
- MW: Spoke about a perceived increase in African teenager attendance around the Blacktown Railway Station and CBD on Friday nights. Stressed that no issues as a result. It is an observation which may be linked to organised activities.
- MW: Spoke about the positive feedback received over the last two years in relation to the general actions of young people in Westpoint. Spoke about the vibe changing for the better.
- PM: Invitation to committee to host next meeting, with specific request to Council.
- AP: Council will hold next meeting.
- MW: Closed the meeting and thanked all for attending.

MEETING CLOSED 10.20AM

NEXT MEETING IN COUNCIL PREMISES ON DATE TBA.
