

**MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL DARLING SHIRE COUNCIL –  
COMMUNITY SAFETY PRECINCT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**HELD AT THE MENINDEE CENTRAL SCHOOL ON  
Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May, 2010**

**TIME COMMENCED: 11.20am**

**ATTENDEES:**

**Ike Williams – Barrier LAC  
ACLO Jan Fennell – Barrier LAC  
Supt Ian Dickson – Barrier LAC Commander  
Det Insp Mick Stoltenberg – Barrier LAC  
Sgt Greg McMahon – Barrier LAC  
Ray Longfellow – CDS  
Moya Reid – CDS  
Pansy Williams – Menindee Working Party  
Marie Kelly – Menindee Health Service**

**APOLOGIES:**

**Mr John Williams MP  
Clive Linnett  
Bill Britt - RFS  
Michelle – Safe Families.  
Trish Webb – Education.  
Tim Hazel – CDS  
Barry Philp – State Water**

(AS PER AGENDA ITEMS)

Introduction by Supt. Dickson. Police to present crime statistics. Members feel free to contribute comments.

**BUSINESS ARISING:**

- Information received by Analyst Lynch from Kym fuller as requested.
- Liaison between const Bear and DVLO Buchanan did not happen. New officers are coming shortly to Ivanhoe. They will be tasked to maintain this liaison with DVLO. SLP on Maternity leave. The command will attempt to progress some school issues without her.
- Trial Curfews established at Menindee. Supt Dickson outlined history of this program. Discussed police powers and how this program goes beyond that with consultation with the community. The program works with consent of

families and carers of children. Currently 7 signed up.

Jan Fennell gave examples of how it can and has been used. Initial signs appear good for families and communities. Expect more families to sign up this afternoon.

The program needs community support and will continue whilst that is in place. The program will be pushed through the LACACC as well.

The Command is keen to look at rolling this out into other communities. Ivanhoe and Wilcannia will be next.

Congratulations to Jan Fennell and SC Jim McMillan for the establishment of this program.

- More contact details to be accumulated for the CSPC

## CRIME STATISTICS

Presented by Crime Manager, Insp Mick Stoltenberg.

Reactive Crime – Wilcannia busy in January and reducing each month after summer. Ivanhoe, Menindee, White cliffs fairly stable. The Command is fairly happy with the level of crime in Eastern Cluster at the moment.

Assaults, Break ins, Malicious Damage, Stealing – also trending down since January across all towns in the Shire. The Mid Strength Trial is on-going in Wilcannia. Initially this made a huge impact in Wilcannia. 28 days for first incident to be reported after intro. The violence has begun to rise again but the severity of the crime has been significantly reduced since the Mid Strength trial. We will approach Health some time soon to review to see if they have had similar results.

Health advise they appear to have less Ambulance call-outs. Numbers not available.

Reactive by Assoc. Factor – DV related down slightly across the shire since the warmer months.

New Rural Crime Investigator has commenced. SC Daryl Olver. Based in Dareton but keen to get around the LAC to investigate Rural Crime.

Assaults by Assoc. Factor – The LAC aims to increase the reporting of DV and are aiming to have DV incidents rise. Want people to have faith that action will be taken when reporting DV incidents.

Menindee has support agencies for DV to assist as well as Broken Hill.

The Command is going to release a flyer with a snapshot of services for police to leave at scenes of DV.

DV days still need to be conducted in Ivanhoe to increase awareness of processes, rights and support agencies.

Commander discussed the DVEK kits available to assist police with investigations.

Breaking Offences – Wilcannia the main area of concern in the Shire.

Malicious Damage – Can have a large impact on Community. Most vulnerable in Central Darling are people's homes. Some may be attempt Break-ins.

Stealing – Main area of concern in Wilcannia. Problem throughout with opportunistic crime of stealing from MV or dwellings.

Graffiti is not a big issue in CDS.

#### GENERAL BUSINESS:

How bad is Drug related Crime?

Stoltenberg. Difficult to quantify. Alcohol is still by far the worst. People don't admit to taking drugs. Often appearances of alcohol and drugs. Cannabis is the most used drug. Occasionally prescribed drugs like Oxycontin (hillbilly heroin). Some reports of amphetamines. Rarely get reports of Heroin.

Health – Difficult to quantify people presenting with drug problems.

Trish Webb – Suggestions that drugs are increasing with youth in Wilcannia. Perceived by community that police are turning a blind eye.

Dickson – Discussed need to obtain evidence. Information needs to be relayed to police. Need specific information to obtain Search Warrants. Several instances of small amounts of information can add up to a significant amount of information to action. Use of Crime Stoppers is also useful.

Reports of Petrol sniffing is non-existent in Wilcannia at the moment.

Rural Patrols – Are they encouraged to conduct them in remote centres? There is possibly an amount of resentment of police for not doing rural patrols.

S/Sgt Hurst has put in place Operation 'Trailblazer'. This is rural patrols into rural areas over 3 days. This is done, roster permitting. We can't rely on RCI and expect remote area police to conduct rural patrols. It is within our plan to conduct these patrols.

The community expect there is a need for police to get out and meet and greet the rural members of the shire.

All Police stations in CDS have police officers selected to transfer. Commander currently negotiating the transfer dates. Have been backfilling Ivanhoe with Nick Robertson.

Discussion on police saturation of White cliffs for Gymkhana. Reports last year that police weren't wanted because 'everyone likes to drink and drive to the event from town'. This is not acceptable. Also 2 fatalities and 3 people killed in a short space of time. The police officer from Tibooburra assisted on wake after funeral. Arrested offender for PCA. When he went to bed the tyres were let down on the police truck and drunken people were then driving around the officer taunting him. Subsequently we sent 13 HWP police from all over the state for Gymkhana. Also sent Licensing police to Gymkhana. Full of praise for management of Gymkhana by licensee and committee.

S/Sgt Hurst mentioned the Extended Alcohol trial. Fortnightly meetings are no longer being held. Council have been supplied a letter of support re AFZ for all Wilcannia Streets. Police fully support an AFZ for the whole of Wilcannia.

Closed Roads - concerns with persons using them. Police have power to issue a ticket for the offence.

Request that Council consider increasing signage in regard to seat belts. 4 fatalities in 12 months where persons who died were not wearing seat belts.

- Commander Dickson to reply to Shire with information in regard to persons driving on closed Roads.

**TIME COMPLETED: 12.35PM**