



NEW SOUTH WALES POLICE FORCE

Albury Local Area Command
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NSW Police Force
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Minutes – Community Safety Precinct Meeting Albury Police Station Wednesday 10/6/09 Start: 10:05am

Attendees:

Name	Organisation	Title
Sgt Paul Gay	NSWPF, Albury LAC	Intelligence Supervisor
D/Insp Brad Blanchard	NSWPF, Albury LAC	Crime Manager
S/C Matt Barnes	NSWPF, Albury LAC	Crime Prevention Officer
Mr Barry McFarlane	Urana Shire Council	Deputy Mayor
Ms Heather Webster	Albury City	Community Safety Officer
Ms Denise Osborne	Greater Hume	Mayor
Mr Gary Poidevin	Corowa Shire	Mayor
Mr Karl Tymkiw	NSWPF, Albury LAC	Manager
Mr Patricia Gould	Albury City	Mayor
Supt Gary Commins	NSWPF, Albury LAC	Local Area Commander
Mr Peter Prentice	NSWPF, Albury LAC	Intelligence Analyst

Apologies: Mr Peter Routley (Urana Shire Council)

Convenor: Supt Gary Commins.

Welcome to attendees by Supt Commins.

Adoption of minutes of previous meeting moved by Mr Poidevin and seconded by Mr MacFarlane. Carried with no dissent.

Actions Arising From Last Meeting

ACTION: NSWPF to make contact with Department of Education regarding alcohol education. Communication between School Liaison Officer & Youth Officer and Dept of Education has occurred.

ACTION: Mr Prentice to inform Insp Peirce of dates for events calendar. Contacted Hume Shire Council to determine dates. Completed 12/3/09.

ACTION: Statistics to be included in next meeting (Sgt Gay). Information has been included

ACTION: Meeting to be organised between Crime Manager and Chambers of Commerce representatives. Discussions have occurred between parties.

ACTION ITEMS

ACTION: Sgt Gay to provide statistics for suburb of Jindera. Feedback would assist reporting of crime.

No further action items. **Page 2**

ACTION: Crime Prevention Officer to conduct safety audit/walk through (and provide info for next neighbour hood watch meeting). **Page 2.**

ACTION: Crime Prevention Officer to make enquires with Dept of Education.

Presentation by Sgt Paul Gay – Snapshot of business plan target compliance (year to date targets)

- Expectation that clear up rates will increase with introduction of SF Focus.
- Query from Ms Webster regarding difference between robbery and stealing answered.
- 75% of crime category target will be met, Albury LAC came close on remainder.

- Major Traffic Crashes:
 - Will be below target for the year.
 - Query regarding increase in May, increase possibly due to bad weather. There were 2 multiple vehicle crashes in May.
 - Alcohol related crashes discussed. Alcohol a low factor in crashes.
 - Liaison between Road Safety Officer (Kate Kohne) and Albury HWP has not occurred and would be beneficial.
- Malicious Damage:
 - In relation to Graffiti, using thick black texta and fluorescent hair dye spray appear to be the current methods. Det Insp Blanchard advised that Albury LAC has created a Strike Force to address youth related crime and Graffiti will fall under that.

Around Table

Mayor Poidevin:

- Nil to report, all well in Corowa.

Mayor Osborne:

- How many incidents occur in Jindera, masked by inclusion in Albury sector. **Action:** Sgt Gay to provide statistics for suburb of Jindera. Feedback would assist reporting of crime.
- Discussion regarding Jindera Public School and security. Insurance companies won't cover school. Observed that Dept of Education has it's own security unit.
 - **Action:** Crime Prevention Officer to conduct safety audit/walk through (and provide info for next neighbour hood watch meeting).
 - **Action:** Crime Prevention Officer to make enquires with Dept of Education.
- Henty: Not the issue Border Mail has made it. Walla has concerns regarding no police in town.
 - Comment from Commander regarding staff placements: Walla officer is a weapons trainer (requiring him to be absent from sector to train and be trained). He also is tasked to patrol Jindera. Officers in outstations work in clusters, you may not have your town's officer but area will be patrolled by someone in cluster and by HWP. All officers have a career path requiring them to maintain skills; this is not necessarily possible if they remain in outstations all the time. Balancing resources with need is difficult. NSWPF wish to support all communities.

Mayor Gould:

- Schools: Have fences affected the number of incidents? Sgt Gay responded that there has been a decrease in crime at schools since the installation of fences.
- QE2 square still a problem, youth mainly, graffiti declined.
- Council staff will be going to traffic management centre in Sydney. Purpose to see how traffic managed and assist in improving Albury traffic movement.

Ms Webster:

- Graffiti: Juvenile Justice and Albury Council involved in partnership. Young offenders with community service hours will clean graffiti. Comment from Commander that NSWPF needs to be informed of agency projects.
- Night Rider Bus: MOU drafted between Albury City Council and Liquor Accord members to do with funding of bus, current plan is that council and licensed premises (4 at present) will pay an equal share of cost. Accord considering taking on all of cost.
- Working on crime prevention plan. Seeking Attorney General grant.

Mr Tymkiw:

- Aboriginal positions to be advertised widely, close 3/7/09, should be filled by end of July, 2009.
- Trail bikes: Business proposal submitted to region for 2 trail bikes and a trailer, currently under consideration.

Mr McFarlane:

- Demolition of police residence commenced this morning. Construction should be complete in 3 months.
- Poor perception regarding reporting, belief that nothing happens with reports once they have been given. Comment from Commander: OIC should be following up so victim has knowledge of resolution. This is a customer service responsibility and is promoted throughout the organisation.

Insp. Blanchard:

- S/C Watson is to initiate program involving young people. A young person that has adverse contact with police will be given the opportunity to volunteer and give something back to the community. Young person's involvement requires their approval and their parent's approval. The volunteers will assist in removal of graffiti. Businesses will be approached to supply paint, brushes and overalls. Areas will be prioritised; young persons may not be cleaning their own graffiti.
- Banning Notices: Explanation of potential effects. Comment that a group of offenders in constantly harassing staff and users of Lavington library and that council needs to act. The manager of the organisation needs to issue notice or the Police can do it on behalf.
- SF Focus: Targeting juvenile offenders.

Commander Commins:

Compass: Region went well, Albury LAC went well. Questioned of 3 incident types; Break and Enter (Dwelling and Non-dwelling) and sexual assaults.

Border Mail article re Thin Blue Line discussed. Albury LAC is suffering from staff absences (leave, long term sick, restricted etc).

Sen Const Krooglik's comments/concerns are recognised and no doubt somewhat genuine.

When the first response agreement can't be filled locally then NSWPF needs to move staff in from sectors as well as utilising resources from within Albury itself. Overtime is not an absolute answer as it also brings about issues relative to officer fatigue, may increase stress and add to the problem. Staffing levels are acceptable if 100% of staff were available. Unfortunately like all other areas of employment, absences do cause local issues.

Next meeting: Wednesday, 9/11/09

Meeting end: 11:20am.