

**RECORD OF MEETING**  
**4<sup>th</sup> August, 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<br>Councillor Martin Hughes | Cooma - Monaro Shire Council<br>Cooma- Monaro Shire Council                         | Present            |
| Mr. Dean Lynch                               | Mayor Cooma - Monaro Shire Council  | Apology            |
| Mr. Ian Frost                                | Representative of School Education  |                    |
| Mr. Bob Frost                                | Snowy River Shire Council   | Present            |
| Mr. Paul Greer                               | Representative of School Education  |                    |
| Mr. Steve Whan<br>Lee Evans                  | State Member of Parliament  | Apology<br>Present |
| Mz. Philippa Moss                            | Representative of QCC   | Apology            |
| Mr. Bob Stewart                              | Member for Bombala  | Apology            |
| Mr. John Vucic                               | Representative for Cooma- Monaro Shire Council                                      | Present            |
| Mr. Don Cottee                               | General Manager for Bombala Council   | Apology            |
| Mr. Dugald Mitchell<br>Mr. Bruce Hovey       | Representative of Cooma Unlimited.  | Apology<br>Present |
| Mr. Allen Hogan                              | Representative of Department of Housing   |                    |
| Mr. David Rawlings                           | Bombala Council   |                    |
| Mr. David Shelly                             | Member for Cooma Business Council   | Present            |
| Senior Constable Adam Sutton                 | Liquor Accord Queanbeyan and Monaro Licensing Officer                               |                    |
| Senior Constable Naomi Nemec                 | Community Drug and Alcohol Action Team Queanbeyan/ Monaro Crime Prevention Officer. | Present            |
| Mr. Tim Overall                              | Mayor Queanbeyan City Council   | Apology            |
| Mr. Chris Gibson                             | Representative of Queanbeyan Business Council                                       |                    |
| Mr. John Cahill<br>Mr. John Schumac          | Mayor Snowy River Shire Council   | Apology<br>Apology |
| 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) 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2010 Agenda

| Agenda  |
|---|
| <p><b>Time:</b> 10 am</p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Cooma-Monaro Shire Council,<br/>Council Chambers<br/>81 Commissioner Street, Cooma.</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 Nemec: - Progress on RTA signage re use of fog/driving lights</li> </ul> </li> <li>5. General business</li> <li>6. Next meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2010, Monaro Crime Management Unit, Queanbeyan.</li> </ul> </li> </ol> |

## **Minutes**

The meeting opened at 10.10am

## **Welcome**

Superintendent Merryweather, Monaro Local Area Commander.

## **Apologies**

Apologies and Proxies as per attendance sheet.

## **Previous minutes**

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

## **Previous Minuets**

**Superintendent Merryweather:** In relation to the Education of youth who are out of school, raised by the School Education representatives, discussion have been had with the Youth Liaison Officer for Monaro and various other agencies, who have explained that within Queanbeyan there are other small networks that in place currently to deal with these issues. The School Education representative was asking questions in relation to the PCYC usage in Goulburn. We do not have a PCYC in Queanbeyan and due to low youth figures it is unlikely Queanbeyan will start a PCYC.

**Senior Constable Naomi Nemeç:** In response to RTA signage re use of fog/driving lights. I have been in contact with state RTA and have confirmed that the message “ONLY USE FOR LIGHTS IN ADVERSE WEATHER” will be displayed on four RTA signage boards between Jindabyne and Queanbeyan as soon as the next information rotation takes place. (In the next few weeks). The message will be displayed from 6pm – 12am or right through the hours of darkness. Highway will be informed once the message starts.

## **Crime Review**

**Detective Inspector Shane Box:** Assaults are well below target levels . These do not include domestic related incidents. Alcohol related crimes have dropped off.

Break and Enters are high. A large percentage of them are occurring in Queanbeyan. We have identified some suspects for these offences and charges have been laid.

Frauds are on the increase. These mainly relate to fail to pay for fuel offences and lift ticket offences. These are usually higher in the snow season. Prior to the snow they were quite low. So far this season our ticket frauds in the snow are considerably lower than last year this is mainly due to the lack of patrons due to poor snow conditions.

Malicious Damage offences are the lowest for the past three years and are occurring mainly within Queanbeyan. We do see an increase in the alpine area over the snow season.

Stealings – UP. Winter is always bigger for us, but we are down compared to last year.

Stolen Motor Vehicles are a concern and are mainly occurring in the Queanbeyan area. Suspects have been identified. Some are ACT residents. We are working with the AFP regarding this. There has also been an offender charged.

Proactive work. There has been a considerably increase and is at the highest level it has been for a few months.

**Mr. Bruce Hovey:** Is there a high unemployment rate within Queanbeyan?

**Detective Inspector Box:** Can not comment on unemployment, but those identified as committing these offences are youth and are of school age. The majority of offences are occurring at night. They are opportunistic as often keys are left in the vehicle and vehicles are left unlocked. People need to be vigilant in securing their vehicles.

**Superintendent Merryweather:** Queanbeyan is also unique because a lot of the facilities for youth are in the ACT. Often the youth find it hard for transport to access these facilities.

**Mr. Bob Frost:** In general, what has happened with Traffic, PCA's and Drug offences?

**Detective Inspector Box:** The main infringement areas have been Monaro Highway Cooma, Cooma and Jindabyne areas. PCA's continue to be high and we are dealing with this issue. Highway patrol are continuing efforts. Drug Bus has been used at Jindabyne and they had a number of Drug and PCA offences identified. We will continue to use the bus if they are getting results.

## **Commanders Update**

### **Superintendent Merryweather**

Staffing levels- Southern Region. Bombala have 2 new constables. Nimmitabel is now fully staffed. Delegate is fully staffed. Berridale will be filled in next few weeks. At the moment the current officer is on restricted duties.

**Mz. Lee Evans:** How is Adaminaby Staffed?

**Superintendent Merryweather** – A person has been selected and is in the process of moving in the next few weeks. Region wide we have advertised for a second position at Adaminaby. We are looking for interest in that position. Queanbeyan are down a few officers, there are 5 new officers coming soon to replace others who have transferred.

**Mr. David Shelly:** How is Cooma's staffing levels?

**Superintendent Merryweather** – Cooma is fully staffed. We do have a few officers who will be on maternity leave soon but we will be able to manage this. Proactive work at Cooma is good and on top of the work load.

**Mr. John Vucic:** We have positive feed back re high visibility policing in Cooma.

**Superintendent Merryweather** – We have high proactively recorded as well. We have seen fewer assaults outside clubs and pubs. This is not just due to good police work, but also to changes in the licensing laws and Liquor Accords. We are keen to improve our Community

Engagement, especially at Cooma. We would like to know if you have community groups that have a concern re Policing issues and we will attempt to come down and assist.

We have a new District Emergency Management Officer stationed at Queanbeyan. Her name is Dianne Gordon. I am going to ask for her to conduct a local audit regarding the local emergency management committees operational readiness. You may receive calls from her re this. It was highlighted in the Michelago fires and in the Victorian fires as well, that we need to ensure our operational preparedness is being maintained in the event of an emergency.

For general knowledge, anyone can access the BOSCAR site. It may help you answer questions you received in relation to crime trends in your area. It does detail specific offences and utilises more than Police statistics.

General information. Our command issued over 9,500 infringements over the past year.

**Mr. Bruce Hovey:** For information. The Snowy Mountains Highway has heavier traffic than we have seen in past years.

**Superintendent Merryweather:** We have Road Safety strategies and will be releasing Media Releases shortly re road safety issues. The RTA issue funding to pay for extra police on the roads and now that we have had more snow there will be more police now. As an indication one Thursday we had 6 PCA offences by lunch time. We will be targeting PCA, Fatigue and speed.

Asked that all members go back and educate their community that a lot of the break and enter crimes have been opportunistic. We ask that all people secure all valuable items inside their house as a matter of course. That they secure their property even whilst at home. We have had some incidents where the owners have gone outside for a short time and someone has entered their house through opened doors and stolen items.

**Senior Constable Naomi Nemec:** Asked that this message be relayed for stealing from motor vehicles as well. Too many stealing have occurred because valuables have been left in vehicles. Please ensure all valuables are removed when you leave the vehicle and that the vehicle is secured.

**Superintendent Merryweather:** We are still working on our Customer Service.

### **General Business:**

**Mz. Lee Evans:** We did receive a message complaint of a person who was quite upset about police not shooting a horse that was in distress. He was referred to Equarms.

**Superintendent Merryweather:** We do not shoot horses. It can also raise issues of who is the true owner of the horse. Horses should be put down by vets.

**Mz. Lee Evans:** I will speak to the race course and explain this.

**Mz. Lee Evans:** We have received complaints that there has been a number of dog baiting in Colobins Cres, Jindabyne. 4 dogs have reported to have been baited. It is possible someone is baiting the currawongs as well. They have found what they believe to be a bait and it is currently being tested.

**Mr. Bob Frost:** I was not aware of it.

**Action: Mz. Lee Evans** will supply Mr. Bob Frost with details of the baiting.

**Mz. Lee Evans:** I have received complaints about the warning signs about the Clyde Mountain. I have been informed to contact Palarang Council.

**Superintendent Merryweather:** They are RTA signs and you can contact RTA as well. The RTA put a lot of research into where these signs are placed at each location.

Sadly our fatalities are on the increase and the RTA is trying to decrease this.

**Mr. David Shelly:** I have received reports from businesses within Cooma that people are in their vehicles skylarking at the Skate Park during business hours. They are coming quickly down the street and turning quickly into the skate park car park area. They also appear to be seeing who can leave the car park the quickest as well. People reporting are concerned for the safety of the area.

**Superintendent Merryweather:** Police patrols of the skate park have been recorded and are high.

**Mr. John Vucic:** Cooma have received positive feedback that policing is the best of this area for a long time.

**Action: Senior Constable Naomi Nemec:** Relay this information to Cooma Highway Patrol for their tasking. Forward this information to Monaro Intel to ensure that it is still on taskings.

**Mr. John Vucic:** Congratulations and thanks to Cooma Policing, there are no complaints. Good high visibility policing. However, we have complaints about the vandalism that occurred at the school. In relation to the large traffic volume on the highways, we have had reports of over 28, 000 vehicles a day coming through. As of the 9<sup>th</sup> of August 2010 we will have Corrective Services joining with us in a work release program for low risk inmates. We are pleased to have this partnership within this area. The snowy region may start soon. We have had an increase in dog attacks in the area.

**Mr. Bob Frost:** This could be due to recent changes in the legislation. Now a dog only need to appear to be going to attack. There has been an increase across the board in relation to dog attacks. We have had positive feed back about the local police patrolling in Perisher. The Perisher Police shop front has been open often. Highway patrol have been seen often and are doing a good job. The locals have been discussing how pleased they are with the policing approach taken. However, the regional AHA at Jindabyne did not have a policing presence and it appears that they are loosing their relationship with the police. They raised a lot of policing issues and there were no police to discuss this.

**Detective Inspector Box:** This issue has been raised with Senior Constable Adam Sutton. Police did not receive an invitation to this meeting. I will ask Senior Constable Sutton to make contact with the AHA to see if it is possible for police to be invited to the next meeting.

There has been liquor licensing operations within Jindabyne over the snow period and the premises appear to be operating better than last year. There is still a flow on effect from licensed premises although they can not be blamed for those who drink at home and are turned away at the door.

**Mr. Bob Frost:** Confirming that there are no alcohol free zones within the Jindabyne area. There was no representation to ask for them to be renewed on time.

**Senior Constable Naomi Nemeč:** Can we have the old expired signs removed from their position.

**Mr. Bob Frost:** I will pass this message on. There are also three locations within Jindabyne that have approached us to inform you they are happy to host police official seminars etc.

**Superintendent Merryweather:** Thankyou. The next meeting is on **Wednesday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November, 2010** at Monaro Crime Management Unit, Queanbeyan.