

RECORD OF MEETING
5th May, 2010
Monaro Local Area Command Community Safety Precinct Committee
Meeting at Monaro Crime Management Unit, Queanbeyan.

Attendance List		
Name	Representing	Present/Apology
Superintendent Gary Merryweather	Commander, Monaro Local Area Command	Apology
Superintendent Joseph Cassar	Commander, Monaro Local Area Command	Present
Detective Inspector Shane Box	Crime Manager, Monaro	Present
Mr. Daryl Hagger	Cooma - Monaro Shire Council	Present
Councilor Martin Hughes	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	State Member of Parliament	Apology
Lee Evans		Present
Mz. Philippa Moss	Representative of Safer Communities and Neighbourhood Committee/ QCC	Present
Mr. Bob Stewart	Member for Bombala	Apology
Mr. John Vucic	Representative for Cooma- Monaro Shire Council	Apology
Mr. Don Cottee	General Manager for Bombala Council	Apology
Mr. Dugald Mitchell	Representative of Cooma Unlimited.	Apology
Mr. Allen Hogan	Representative of Department of Housing	Apology
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 Nemecc	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) 5th May, 2010 Agenda

Agenda
<p>Time: 10 am</p> <p>Venue: Monaro Crime Management Unit, Level 3, Morisset House Morisset Street, Queanbeyan.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome 2. Introductions & apologies 3. Crime review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime trends & Hotspots • Police visibility and deployment in the LAC 4. Previous meeting Actions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Bob Frost: Police reporting lines media release and response. • Superintendent Merryweather: Update; meeting with Juvenile Justice and other agencies re expelled youth interventions 5. General business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philippa Moss, Naomi Nemeč: Community Safety Audits at Queanbeyan 6. Next meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4th August 2010, Southern Area. Location to be advised.

Minutes

The meeting opened at 10.05am

Welcome

Superintendent Cassar, Relieving Monaro Local Area Commander.

Apologies

Apologies and Proxies as per attendance sheet.

Previous minutes

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

Mr. Bob Frost asked for amendment on page 6, first paragraph, last sentence. Jindabyne now has the largest regional bottle shop in Australia to, in the Command.

Previous Minutes Actions

Mr. Bob Frost: Explained to the relieving commander how the media release came to be requested and stated that the reporting lines information submitted to the local community gave the locals a better understanding of what is available to them to report incidents to the police.

Superintendent J Cassar: If the local police are not within their station the calls from the police station are diverted to a manned station. Jobs are then allocated to the local police where appropriate. An audit was conducted recently to ensure this was happening and it was.

Detective Inspector Shane Box: The action item for Mr Merryweather was to meet with Juvenile Justice and other agencies has not yet occurred. However, Family Case Management has arisen with J.J and perhaps there are other avenues out there to address these kids.

Response Mz. Philippa Moss: There is also Catholic Care and Youth Connections throughout our area which offer distance education to certain youth.

Response Mr. Ian Frost: We do work with some of those agencies however we are meaning the more difficult students that will not work with other agencies. The PCYC at Goulburn runs a good program. We really need someone to assist a few days each week with these youth.

Response Mz. Philippa Moss: We have done some research in relation to PCYC and what is required to start one and we have papers that are going before a meeting tomorrow but we are not sure at this stage what will happen.

Response Detective Inspector Box: PCYC can also have issues with where it will operate from.

Crime Review

Detective Inspector Shane Box:

Assaults – Down

Break and enter and Steal – Is a concern for us in the Queanbeyan and Jerrabomberra area. Jerrabomberra has concerns in that people are still leaving garages open, doors unlocked. The Crime Management Unit have conducted patrols of the area personally and are still finding doors open and property not secured. The Crime Management Unit have conducted letter box drops and continued media releases asking people to better secure their property.

Frauds – Will start to increase due to ticketing frauds etc in the snow season. Fail to pay for fuel frauds are steady.

Malicious Damage is down but in April it jumped up again possible due to media releasing asking for reporting graffiti.

Response Mr. Tim Overall: Did the school holidays lead to the increase in malicious damage.

Response Detective Inspector Shane Box: Yes, but we are still under target for the year.

Robbery: We haven't had any armed robberies however a young person was confronted by two other people and had some personal items taken. Investigations are on going.

Stealing's are going down but we are above target for the year. Cooma and Queanbeyan have the most reported incidents. Last month the statistics were down so we are happy with this.

Response Mr. David Shelly: Are the stealing's within Cooma from businesses or other.

Response Detective Inspector Shane Box: I would need to drill down in the statistics to answer that. Senior Constable Nemec can assist by supplying more detailed information.

Action Senior Constable Naomi Nemec: Provide information in relation to the stealing's within Cooma to see if they are from businesses and provide to Mr. David Shelly.

Stolen motor vehicles are of a concern for us but not within the Jindabyne Cooma area. We believe that a lot are youth's joy riding and dumping the vehicles, not so much vehicles being stolen and used to commit other offences. We are looking into targets in relation to these matters.

Superintendent J Cassar: From the Bureau of Crime 7 Statistics (BOCSAR) it shows that there is a slight increase in Malicious Damage and Stealing from retail stores within our command. The stealing statistics cover a 12 month time frame and include all three stealing categories.

Response Detective Inspector Shane Box: Bear in mind that Senior Constable Nemec has completed a Security Assessment within Cooma which has lead to an increase in reporting of certain incidents. Nuggets Crossing in Jindabyne has had an increase. This could be because store are leaving items of clothing outside the store to look through. Senior Constable Nemec is conducting a business safety seminar within Jindabyne on the 25th May where issues likes this can be addressed.

Mr. Bob Frost: There has been in the media the incidents of rejected crime. What point is the incident rejected?

Response Detective Inspector Shane Box: We didn't have many rejected incidents within the command. Rejected incidents occur when an alleged crime is reported and then we establish that the crime did not happen. I.e. a person fails to pay for fuel and drives away. The operator calls

police and reports the incident. The person then returns a short time later and pays for the fuel apologising because they forgot. The incident is then rejected by police. Another example. A person reports that he just went to the ATM and was then robbed and his money taken. Investigations show that he was not at the alleged ATM and that he didn't withdraw money. That incident is then rejected. There are other case categories we can use as well such as doubtful.

Response Superintendent J Cassar: An incident will only be marked rejected when supported by factual evidence. The command has recently audited reports of rejected incidents within this command and we have no issues.

Mr. Bob Frost: Why was the Jindabyne Police Station closed?

Response Superintendent J Cassar: There was a smell within the reception area that had to be addressed. The Cottage next to the police station was opened and operated as a temporary police station. However, it was established that there was an old sink pipe in the Jindabyne station that had been cemented over that had been the cause of the smell. This has now been fixed and the Jindabyne Police Station is now open as normal.

Mr. Bob Frost: Next Tuesday there is an .A.H.A meeting at Jindabyne. Why are the police not in attendance. It used to have a good response from local and licensing police and it would be good to have the police back again.

Response Detective Inspector Shane Box: We were not aware of that meeting. As it is the A.H.A who organise this meeting we need them to invite us to the meeting and we can be there. We do have a meeting with OLGR and the licensed premises on the 10th June in Jindabyne.

Mr. Bob Frost: Do we have alcohol crime statistics?

Response Detective Inspector Shane Box: Alcohol related crime incidents are available but we still need to drill down to see how it is linked to the incident.

Mr. Bob Frost: Alcohol related crime is a major concern state wide.

Apology from Detective Inspector Shane Box, leaving early for another meeting.

Response Superintendent J Cassar: Our statistics may not be that high. Linking data links the person to the place where they had their last drink, which may not be the place of concern. We do use these statistics to help develop strategies. We also need to continue media campaigns about effects of drinking alcohol.

Mr. Bob Frost: There are concerns that the law allows people to supply youth at private and public premises/areas when the permission of the parent is given. People need more information on the laws.

Senior Constable Naomi Nemec: People within the community can establish a Community Drug and Alcohol Team (CDAT) team. The purpose of a CDAT is designed to target educating the youth and parents about the laws and effects of alcohol. They have access to Attorney General Grants and can get funding for such education programs. I would be more than happy to assist with the set up of one. We are looking at establishing one at Cooma. Communitybuilders.com.au has more information.

Mr. Bob Frost: In relation to the police run briefings at the start of the snow season, it seems that the information hasn't progressed much. This was discussed at our debrief from last season. We would like to see a more positive input on how we can control the incidents and discuss some positive new initiatives we can try.

Superintendent J Cassar: Can the debrief from last year be forwarded through so information can be forwarded back to Shane Box. It is not too late for adjusting this year's presentation.

Mr. Bob Frost: There seems to be an increase in sales from bottle shops and parties at home causing problems, a shift from licensed premises to local homes.

Commanders Update

Superintendent J Cassar: There are 2 vacancies within the Command. One at Cooma and one at Queanbeyan. There are three new personnel at Cooma and one new officer at Jindabyne next month. Nimmitabel, Bombala and Highway Patrol have each received a new officer. Additional 12 staff for the snow season plus an extra Cooma Highway Patrol officer and vehicle. There will be Vikings operations there again targeting antisocial behaviour and Alcohol related crime. We will be running another Alpine Operators Course to train up more staff for the snow season.

Anzac Day Operations were conducted throughout the command up to 6am the next day. There was a little bit of anti social behaviour and a few minor arrests but in all the day went well. There was good community support as well.

'Go Slow' Operations were conducted over the long weekend with around 110 breaches being detected. Nil fatal accidents. The Highway Patrol are now at full capacity and are still targeting the Jerrabomberra hot spots and school zones.

Councillor Mr. Martin Hughes: There are concerns of the Michelago officer not working at Michelago and working promoted at Queanbeyan. Can a constable come back to Michelago.

Response Superintendent J Cassar: He is relieving as a Sergeant and has not been promoted but the command is providing him with the opportunity to advance his skills and his career. He is not in a permanent position and will return to Michelago at some stage. Michelago is receiving a police response from Queanbeyan at this stage.

Mr. Bob Frost: Will the drug testing bus be back in Jindabyne this year?

Response Superintendent Joseph Cassar: Will consult with Highway Patrol but can not see why it will not be back this year.

Mz. Philippa Moss: Advising the committee that Queanbeyan City Council has received funding from the Attorney General Department and we will be conducting Community Safety Audits within Queanbeyan over the next few weeks in conjunction with Naomi Nemecc. These areas were determined by a steering committee as areas that have the highest need for an audit and we will use what money we can to fix these areas. A lady from The Age who is covering all.

Mz. Lee Evans: We have received a number of verbal and some written complaints about people using the two smaller head lights/fog lights on the Monaro Highway. What are the offences?

Senior Constable Naomi Nemec: I emailed Monaro Highway Patrol Office and they stated that it is a ticket offence to leave them on. They must only use them when they need to enhance better vision at night and even if they are used to enhance better vision at night they MUST turn them off as they would their high beams as they approach another vehicle.

Mz. Lee Evans: Are we able to use the RTA signs during the snow season to show a message to state this. There are a lot of people who may not be aware that it is an offence.

Action: Senior Constable Naomi Nemec: I will speak with our Highway Patrol who have contact with RTA to see if this is possible.

Mr. Martin Hughes: Positive comments that Cooma Highway Patrol have been far more visible of late and they have received positive comments. Stated it is unfortunate that RTA has a low priority in including more passing lanes to accommodate the snow traffic.

Superintendent J Cassar: Thankyou. Next meeting is Wednesday the 4th of August, 2010. Venue to be fixed. Venue will be within the Southern Region.