



MINUTES OF MEETING
COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE
HELD ON THURSDAY 9 APRIL 2009

PRESENT:

Councillors

Cllr Jean Hay AM, Mayor	Manly Council
Cllr Barbara Aird	Manly Council
Cllr Alan LeSurf	Manly Council
Cllr Dr. Peter Macdonald	Manly Council

Other Representatives

Lisa Nagle representing Mike Baird	NSW Member for Manly
Superintendent David Darcy	Manly Police
DI Carole Dowsen	Crime Manager, Manly Police
Inspector Beth Cullen	Crime Coordinator, Manly Police
Melissa Palermo	Northern Beaches Health Promotion
Malcolm Pearse	Department of Corrective Services
Jacquiline Smith	Manly Community Centre
Doug Brooker	Manly Liquor Accord
Domenic Larosa	State Transit Authority
Doug Robertson	Community representative
Ray Mathieson	Community representative
Lauren Stracey	MDECC
Sammie Grantham	MDECC
John McShane	Manly Warringah Cabs

Council Staff

Sue Johansson	Community Safety Coordinator
Beth Lawsen	Divisional Manager, Human Services & Facilities

Observer

Clr Hugh Burns	Manly Council
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TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS OF THE COUNCIL

The **Community Safety Committee** met on Thursday 9 April, 2009, to consider the matters referred to it and now reports having reached the decisions taken and recommendations stated hereunder:

OPEN The meeting commenced at 8.00am

ITEM 1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE
No apologies received.

ACTION

ITEM 2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

ACTION

ITEM 3 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

A welcome was extended to Lisa Nagle, who was representing Mike Baird, MP for Manly, and Domenic Larosa, who was Acting Depot Manager at Brookvale while Tony Haven is on leave.

ITEM 4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 MARCH 2009 AND MATTERS ARISING:

Amendments:

The following amendments were agreed in bold:

Item 6: Police Report: Section 79 Application:

Superintendent Dave Darcy is preparing an application to the Director of the Office of Liquor, Gaming & Racing under Section 79 of the Liquor Act 2007 seeking:

- **2.30am cease service of alcohol for a 3am close of Ivanhoe Hotel, New Brighton and Manly Pacific**
- **12.30am close for the Steyne Hotel.**

Item 6: Police Report

Recommendation:

That following the next Community Safety Committee meeting on 9 April 2009, and a briefing by Superintendent Darcy on the Section 79 application, the Safety Committee organise a delegation from Council and the Community Safety Committee including MP Mike Baird, **Mayor Jean Hay & Clr Dr. Peter Macdonald** to meet with the **Minister for Gaming and Racing** to:

- express concern about alcohol related anti-social behaviour in the Manly LGA;
- express strong support for the s79 application to The Minister
- request funding for harm reduction strategies including mandatory levies to be paid by all members of the Manly Liquor Accord.

Following these amendments, the minutes of the meeting held on 12 March 2009 were accepted as a true and accurate record.

ITEM 5 DEVELOPMENT OF COMMITTEE PRIORITIES

The NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) statistics presented at the 9th April meeting are from the 2007 Local Government Area Crime Report Series for Manly. NSW Attorney General's Department has actively encouraged the use of this report. Council's Community Safety Coordinator distributed copies of the draft Crime Prevention Plan for 2009 – 2011. The draft is still a work in progress and has used BOCSAR data from 2007. The draft Plan will be an agenda item at the May meeting.

It was noted by Superintendent Darcy that there appears to be a difference between the BOCSAR data and Manly Police data.

Recommendation

That the information be received and noted.

ACTION

ITEM 6 POLICE REPORT

Superintendent Darcy presented crime statistics for March 2009.

- 25 assaults (non Domestic Violence), up from 21 assaults in the previous month.
- 14 break and enter from dwelling has seen a reduction in numbers from the same period last year (22).
- 4 Stolen vehicles incidents in March, down from 7 in the same period last year.
- Most criminal offences have seen a reduction in numbers,

Police reported that it is becoming evident that many incidents remain unreported. It is likely that actual assaults are most likely double or triple those figures reported.

Malicious damage is often unreported, and even tolerated by the community, particularly around the North Steyne area.

Section 79 Application:

Manly Police have been progressing well with the Section 79 Application. This was to have been submitted on 7th April, but will now be submitted on 14th April. Council will receive a pdf version of the application.

Super'ndent Darcy

Superintendent Darcy is continuing to negotiate an outcome with the Manly hotels in parallel with the application.

The Committee was informed that Manly Council's General Manager has provided a submission to the Section 79 Application. Cllr Dr. Peter Macdonald requested that the Section 79 submission letter on behalf of Manly Council to be circulated to Councillors for their information.

General Manager's comment: The General Manager's submission was made by way of interview with the Police, the content of which will be included in Council's S79 Disturbance complaint.

CSC

Superintendent Darcy would be pleased to receive additional statements of support from Manly Councillors.

Precincts have been contacted for their input.

Recommendation

That the information be received and noted.

ITEM 7 RANGERS' REPORT**ACTION**

Ranger activity was presented for the summer period:

	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>
Abandoned vehicle investigations	62	59	38
Fines, Boards, Bikes & Blades	90	14	5
General warnings Bikes & Blades	8	83	147
Dangerous Dog Investigations	1	1	2
Noise complaints attended by Night Rangers	10	18	21
Homeless persons complaints/actions	2	2	0

Homeless persons:

Superintendent Darcy advised that following complaints about homeless people at Gilbert Park, he has arranged a meeting with local residents of the Grand Esplanade to attempt to foster an understanding of the issues of homelessness.

Homeless people are often inappropriately blamed for noise and anti-social behaviour. The Manly Community Centre continues to work closely with the homeless population, many of whom have mental health and alcoholism issues.

The Centre provides a 5 day/week service which has successfully rehoused many, reducing numbers from 37 to 6 homeless people.

Recommendation

That the information be received and noted.

ITEM 8 SAFETY RATING SYSTEM FOR LICENSED VENUES

Northern Beaches Health Promotion, with help from the Little Manly Representative, MDECC and Department of Corrective Services has made a submission on the discussion paper outlining a new safety rating scheme for NSW licensed venues.

The safety audit evaluation for MISS Manly was given as an example of similar local projects. Following discussion of this topic, there was agreement that safety is a very subjective issue. Constant monitoring would probably be required to ensure such a rating system was consistent. Licensed premises have several levels of rating imposed on them already, including insurance requirements.

Venues with a high safety rating could probably utilise the system as part of their marketing strategy.

Recommendation

The submission was noted by the Committee and contributing members of the Committee were thanked for their efforts, particularly Northern Beaches Health Promotion.

ITEM 9 GRAFFITI

Following the resolution of the extraordinary meeting of Council on 20 October 2008 Council held a joint meeting with key stakeholders (including school principals, Manly Police and Community Safety Committee representatives) on 31st March 2009 to discuss the issue of graffiti in Manly.

A summary report of the meeting was provided to the Committee.
Key points of discussion from this meeting were:

- The NSW Government introduced the Graffiti Control Act 2008 which commenced on 20 February 2009.
- Council's cost of removing graffiti is increasing, cost to date for 2008/09 is \$53,365, which has exceeded the cost for the whole of 2007/08.
- There is zero tolerance within schools, with tough consequences for offenders
- Actions could include:
 - Sharing photographs of tags between schools, councils and police to try to identify offenders.
 - Engage graffiti artist to speak to school students about legal graffiti and the difference between art and illegal tagging.
 - Need to educate the community to report graffiti.
 - Rapid removal is essential.

At the Committee meeting, Superintendent Darcy explained that it was often difficult to press charges, with the need to prove within reasonable doubt that an offender is guilty. It is also likely that the community is failing to report this crime.

MDECC referred to a paper "*Graffiti, Crime Prevention & Cultural Space*" by Rob White, which the Community Safety Coordinator can distribute by email to interested Committee members.

The Committee discussed the need for the following:

- to identify hotspot areas for graffiti in Manly
- to provide information to the community on graffiti removal methods, and how to make it more difficult for graffiti tags to be made (e.g. graffiti resistant materials, darker surfaces)
- to increase a sense of pride in the community
- young people need to be involved in this discussion following the invitation for a Youth Council representative to join the Committee
- to investigate new legislation which allows for councils (with agreement of owner/occupier) to enter and remove graffiti. Where owner/occupier has not consented, the council can do so only if the graffiti is visible from a public place.

Recommendation

The Community Safety Committee recommends that Council:

- Continues the policy of rapid removal.
- Publicise and continue to offer a monetary reward of up to \$1,000 upon the conviction of a graffiti vandal for their crime.
- Establishes a database of graffiti tags and display on line on Council's website (sharing information across organisations).
- Re-establish a dedicated Council hotline to receive community reports.
- Mount a public awareness campaign to encourage residents to report graffiti.
- Develop an information resource to assist residents in removing graffiti and how to graffiti proof property against tags e.g. graffiti resistant materials, darker surfaces.

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- Consider the requirements that would be necessary for removal of publicly visible graffiti from private property.

ITEM 10 LIQUOR ACT 2007

This report will be deferred until the May Community Safety Committee meeting to allow for Manly Licensing Police to attend.

Recommendation

That this report be placed on the Community Safety Committee's agenda for 14th May 2009.

ITEM 11 OLGR SOCIAL PROFILE FOR MANLY

The Office of Liquor Gaming and Racing has provided a series of social profiles of areas.

Recommendation

That the information within this report be noted and received.

ITEM 12 General Business brought to the attention of the Chair prior to the meeting and approved for consideration

Membership:

A vacancy presently exists for a representative to attend from The Corso Precinct.

It is proposed that Mr Errol Hunt be invited to apply for appointment to the Committee in the absence of a representative from The Corso.

Recommendation

That Council approve the appointment of Mr Errol Hunt to the Committee as the representative of The Corso Precinct following his application to Council.

Manly Bathers Pavilion DA:

Two separate development applications for alterations and additions to the Manly Bathers Pavilion level 1 and 2, including fitout for a restaurant have been referred to the Committee for comment.

A site visit was made by the Community Safety Coordinator, Council's principal and senior planners, Superintendent Dave Darcy and Detective Inspector Carole Dowsen. The developers and architect explained that the DA was for two restaurants only, there is a bar area on level two, but this is to serve patrons waiting for meals. To reduce the impact of noise on local residents, the entry and exit points will be onto the East Esplanade area. Security will be engaged, to ensure the safety of patrons along the Esplanade. They have offered to provide a Plan of Management or Business Plan which will explain the details of security, suggested hours of operation, and who they intend to target as patrons. Parking has been arranged at the Grand Esplanade. It is understood that the venue would close at midnight.

The Community Safety Coordinator will investigate the current liquor licence type.

The Committee agreed there are varying opinions regarding the

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extent and the scale of the two DAs.

ACTION

Recommendation

The Committee requests the General Manager to provide information on the proposals in the DAs at the Community Safety Committee's May meeting.

DGM/EMES

Risky Drinking Workshops

As part of the 'Supply Means Supply' campaign, MDECC conducted three workshops on the Northern Beaches for parents on issues related to underage drinking. These were held at Manly on 2nd April, Pittwater on 6th April and Warringah on 7th April.

MDECC reported these were hugely successful, parents particularly wanted to hear about the impact of alcohol on brain development, what services were available and how to communicate effectively about the issues of alcohol.

Several of the parents attending these workshops have consequently signed up for 'Parenting Prepared' workshops also held by MDECC.

Recommendation

That the information be received and noted.

Late night transport cards

Council's Road Safety Officer has provided several of the business-card sized, concertina-fold 'Late Night Transport Wallet Card' designed to discourage drink driving, to encourage hotel and entertainment venue patrons plan their night out safely, and to assist them travel safely home from Manly on all evenings of the week. This initiative was launched last week.

Recommendation

That the information be received and noted.

CLOSE Meeting closed at 10.00am

The next meeting will be held on 14th May 2009 at 8.00am