

Minutes of CSPC meeting held on 22/10/09

1.10pm – meeting commenced

Attendees:

Supt DICKSON, Insp K.SMITH, A/Insp GALLAGHER, Paula MASTRIPPOLITO, Eric TAYLOR, Leeane HEGENDUS, Eve RAYNOR, Ruth HUMPHERIES, Frances BROWN, Des JONES.

Apologies:

John WILLIAMS MP, Trevor ABLETT, Insp STOLTENBERG, S/C LYNCH, S/C WILKES, S/C COLLINS & Jo GORMAN

Minutes accepted – Insp SMITH

Seconded – Florence DAVIDSON

Superintendent Ian Dickson introduces himself and staff in attendance.

As per our agenda I might take you straight into an overview of the crime so people can see really what's happening in your area in the last 3 months, and then we'll have an opportunity to discuss any particular issues people want to talk about. You might find this interesting when we look at the barrier local area command, that's the command I have, when we have a look at where the crime exists right across the command you see the greater proportion is in the Broken Hill town and then when you have a look at the southern part of the command that's pretty much what we have down here as Wentworth, Dareton, Buronga, Gol Gol.

Superintendent Dickson gives presentation of crime.

Question

"There was a significant fall in Wentworth in September?"

Answer

Superintendent Dickson, "Yes, in all crime there is a significant fall isn't there"

Question

"Is that possibly related to someone that has been locked up?"

Answer

Superintendent Dickson, "Yes, because when you have a look what's happened in Dareton they are not that far apart, it went down"

Superintendent Dickson continues presentation of crime: 6 minutes.

When we start to try and look at the causes of crime the associated factors you can see alcohol is a significant feature of most of the crime, but they could also be domestic related, so it could be domestic and alcohol so domestic violence is a very significant part of our work.

Drug related may well be the people that we have apprehended in possession of drugs what we quite possibly have there in July is that we ran some operations and apprehended some people in possession of drugs, so you can see it's a very high related incidents in that month compared to others so they may have been into search warrants, I think we had a drug dog.

Inspector SMITH

This is the same as the rural crime, a lot of this crime goes unreported. Cst OLIVER has been doing proactive stuff with rural crime

It is the same as the drug related incidents, a lot of that can be proactive stuff because the police are out there and stopping and propping people so they have been picked up proactively.

Superintendent DICKSON

We sent Cst OLIVER to Queensland about two months ago to work with the Queensland rural crime investigators like a development opportunity, he went up there and I think he enjoyed it.

Inspector SMITH

It's very much beneficial they taught him the co-ordinates of properties and everything to make that reporting process for people of rural properties a little be easier.

Question

"How far do the Constable's patrol here?"

Superintendent DICKSON

Probably to Coombah

Inspector SMITH

And Coombah is probably further than half way then you've also got all the property's in as well so we also cover half way to Ivanhoe, so all of Mungo National Park, the other side of Mungo National Park, we cover 5 kilometres outside of Euston, so all the property's that fall in that area.

Superintendent Dickson continues presentation of crime

Question

Francis - Why do they have to have their music just so loud? I mean one home in the whole street, you know there's no consideration. It just about lifts your house.

Inspector SMITH

Is this continuous or one off weekends every now and then

Francis - No on and on, they sort of gather and there's drinking and carrying on. I wait for a certain time and then ring.

Inspector SMITH

Des, someone was going to talk to Dennis McLaughlan. Have you nominated a delegate someone to talk to Dennis in relation to this information sharing.

Des - The last commander that was here didn't want anything to do with us.

Inspector SMITH

No, we do, it's all about information sharing.

Des - That's what we want to do, we want to engage with the local council and police so that

Inspector SMITH

Instead of Dennis, Lisa Byrne is one of the new sergeants at Dareton and she identifies as aboriginal, so that might be a better pair up to have Lisa.

Des – Sometime the tenants are not home, and if they don't know what's going on in their house, you know. Kids are there and they're running a muck. There used to be a contact number for someone in Deniliquin. The Lands Council is the responsible body now out at the mission. The trouble is most of the time it's not the actual tenant that is the problem, usually it's their mates that muck up. See if we know, we can do something about it.

Inspector SMITH

It is what we face, if no one calls the police, then we don't know what's happening out there. No call is a waste of police time if we can reduce the inconvenience that's happening to people.

Francis – Are there any brochures or is there any information about having a stall in the main road like the neighbourhood watch, so people can come down and talk to police, fire and others?

Inspector SMITH

You mean like an open day Francis? I'd love to get someone down to do some engraving on people's property or have the fire and ambulance come down as well. Maybe get a BBQ going. Involve the whole community. Maybe get even more outside agencies involved.

Florence – Perhaps a Volunteer appreciation Day.

Inspector SMITH

That's a great idea.

Question

Frances – They were talking this morning about getting the age for alcohol to 21yrs, how far are they getting with this when are they going to start shutting the shops up at 12 O'clock and not have them drinking until all night?

Superintendent DICKSON

That part of the thing about shutting up early in some community's they have come agreements with new and restrictive alcohol sale practices, there in small community's where you can really put a cauldron around the community, you couldn't do it here like Des just said, if you do it at Gol Gol, they would just come up to Dareton, if you did it at Dareton they would go to

Wentworth and if you did it at all three they would go to Mildura.

Inspector SMITH

There are certain places in the state where they put more restrictive conditions such as security guards walking around the parmentier and no shots are sold in the premises. Australia is probably is the biggest or the second biggest consumer of alcohol in the world, it would be nice to be able to close places down but unless they come under significant notice the way society is going it is really hard to reduce.

Superintendent DICKSON

Is your liquor accord up and running here Kylie?

Inspector SMITH

Yes

Superintendent DICKSON

How many meetings have you had?

Inspector SMITH

We have had one as the new group and elected a committee.

Superintendent DICKSON

There was a liquor accord for the whole of Barrier command and the liquor accord is where all the licences contribute money to a fund they manage then they self regulate in terms of how they do business. They get together and do meetings they talk about helping each other in terms of responsible service of alcohol.

Inspector SMITH

Take-away purchases cause us our biggest drama out of all those assaults in the three month period only two occurred on licensed premises, if you were to look at that in any city command they would be ecstatic that they only had two assaults on licensed premises.

Superintendent DICKSON

Kylie does work very close with the licences now with it's own accord instead of going up to Broken Hill. I guess it was less relevant, this way Kylie gets to work very close with them we can do a lot of work with licences as we have noted with those crime figures more assaults occurred in residents premises, this being Domestic related incidents, they are the two main incidents.

Inspector SMITH

We have Shannon Knoll, Jimmy Barnes, Adam Brand on the 10th of January next year the conditions that I have suggest that goes on the licensed premises are: 8 security guards walking parameter. We really have a big impact on licensed premises, when alcohol is taken out of the licensed premises to the home we have no control how it gets distributed and who it gets distributed too.

Superintendent DICKSON

Is there any other issues that people have, not only crime, our reaction to the community our response to crime, anything we could do better, anything we could do differently, things that we don't know about?

Committee member– Monday and Friday on the ABC they have a talk back interview with the Inspector at Mildura and Swan Hill and I havnt heard Kylie on the radio.

Inspector SMITH

When I first started here I had a meeting with Jusinta Alan- Grange I did indicate with her that I would be more than happy to do those things with her on a weekly basis, it could be because it is Victorian News, I have spoken with Jacinta on several occasions when there is something to report, I have offered more meetings with Jacinta. Maybe this is something we could look at more with the inter agencies.

Francis – It appears that Coomealla, Dareton and Wentworth School have there own newsletters but, we don't seem to find out what is happening in the community,

Inspector SMITH

Coomealla High School students build those boxes with plants and put them around the community, it could be another project where they build a couple of notice boards and put them up at fishers, then Wentworth and at Buronga to display some of the newsletters.

Florence DAVIDSON – There is an information centre in Mitchell Street, we supply information on a whole range of things not just on family support but a whole range of things, we have three staff at the centre, Rex Smith, Will Johnson and Louis Smith. It will not be open all the time, because they also have a caravan which is mobile, we will be taking that to Wentworth, Namtijara and Buronga. There will be internet access so people can utilise the internet, which will provide more opportunities for information. It also means we will be able to supply what we have been talking about in the interagency group, supporting in productions, a range of services being introduced to Wentworth to the greater area health, it will have a lot to do with follow up information. If not, they will research that information and supply you with that information. We are trying to seek long term funding, instead of short term funding, but this can only happen if we have people using the services.

Inspector SMITH

I mentioned early we also have jurisdiction on the water. Over the Christmas and New Year period we will attempt to put the police launch in the water for about 5 hours.

Superintendent DICKSON

We have extra funding for overtime to have a Police presence on the water over that period.

Inspector SMITH

If his maritime boat goes out over summer we will try and get extra funding to have the police boat out in the water. These two agency work well together.

Superintendent DICKSON

It is a good Police presence

Inspector SMITH

For the ski races we are trying to get the organisers to do user pays which will get officers extra funding, we should approach council to get approval to have this completed, the council require a DA to have approval for the race. There is a race coming up in October 2010 where we will require more police attendance on the water.

Ruth HUMPHRIES– I have heard we are losing our ambulance

Inspector SMITH

I believe you have more Ambulance Officers being allocated to this area. They did take two of the officer's that were on loan to this area off them. However I have been informed that they are increasing the Ambulance numbers from two to three. But for a more informed response you would be better off speaking to a representative from the NSW Ambulance Service.

Superintendent DICKSON

There will be another meeting in January, we will supply you with a date later on, we will see if Kylie can get onto the council to see if we can get the tracks blocked off where the stolen cars are going.

Superintendent DICKSON & Inspector SMITH

Thank-you

Inspector SMITH

I will give my apologies for the next meeting as I will be overseas for the next meeting.

MEETING CONCLUDED AT 2PM