

MINUTES

COMMUNITY SAFETY REFERENCE GROUP



9.30AM ON 8 FEBRUARY 2018

PRESENT	
Cr Gordon Bradbery, Lord Mayor	Jane Keating
Maxyne Graham	Ben Walsh
Mark North	

IN ATTENDANCE	
Radda Jordan	Lila Dimoski
Angela Perkovic	Claire Knight

- 1 WELCOME
- 2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY
- 3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - None
- 4 APOLOGIES – Armando Reviglio
- 5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 14 DECEMBER 2017 – Deferred to next meeting.
- 6 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

CCTV

The trees obstructing lights and potentially the planned CCTV at Luke's Place, Corrimal have been pruned. Radda advised the draft Temporary CCTV Policy is with Mike Dowd and Dave Peterson and may take a couple of months before it goes to Council to be endorsed. Radda advised that we are awaiting a response from both Federal and State Governments in regards to CCTV grants which we anticipate an answer by July 2018.

Lord Mayor enquired after an issue with the lights. Radda advised Steve Maidment called Endeavour Energy and there have been no further incidents. Maxyne mentioned that also putting up a sign alerting users of the park of the CCTV cameras it would be a deterrent.

Council has received a letter of support from Police regarding mobility and infra-red cameras. Various intel will be available on best placement spots. The cameras assist police in greater ways such as increasing police patrols without the need for reports and placement of images on police social media pages, increasing success rates of identification of alleged offenders. Maxyne mentioned she tries to encourage witnesses to report crime however they are often reluctant due to safety concerns. Police have now launched the Community Police Portal where people can report minor crimes like lost wallets etc, online. The portal is designed for reports that

don't need any follow up but which need proof of the incident in the form of a police report number.

Kanahooka Point

The Lord Mayor enquired whether the amount spent on responding to reports and maintenance to damage at Kanahooka Point playground and boat ramp was enough to justify security. Police advised they had increased patrols to target drivers but had also submitted a request to Council to place *No Stopping/No Parking Unless Authorised* (between certain times) signs up at the boat ramp. This signage leaves it up to police discretion to permit obvious boat ramp users and move obvious loiterers as they're receiving reports of burn outs, vandalising of signs and littering from the local residents. They advise that their request was unsuccessful and the Lord Mayor clarified that police discretion on who was or wasn't authorised may result in inconsistent and unpredictable guidelines for public use. Lord Mayor suggested perhaps we could put on security for a month as a deterrent to potential trouble makers. Radda wondered if closing the toilets could also be an effective deterrent. Angela suggested User Pays Police were better, effectively doing the job of both policing and acting as security deterrents and advised User Pays Police had been most effective in the Mall and would also display to residents that Council and Police are working together. Radda also suggested that perhaps residents need to remember that their houses are a good distance from the area in question and that social gathering in such an enjoyable communal setting should be expected and accepted by those enjoying residing in such areas. It was agreed that mobile User Pays Police would be the best course of action and Angela will provide Radda with the User Pays rates which Lord Mayor advised he will then build into the budget. Police noted this was a very effective way as User Pays Police can be mobile, with police being able to conduct multiple patrols in user-nominated hotspots spanning parks to the Harbour in single shifts. It will also bring these new hotspots into police awareness during their normal shifts.

The Alcohol Free Zone (AFZ) signs have been installed in the Harbour and police can now enforce them. Lake Illawarra LAC will do an audit to see where we need more AFZs or upgrades/expansion of existing ones. They will have more information for us next meeting.

7 RELOCATION OF METHADONE CLINIC

Police noted that the DA for the methadone clinic's relocation needs to go to Wollongong LAC not Lake Illawarra LAC. Radda reported the plans will go to IHAP (Independent Hearing & Assessment Panel) and the existing Methadone Clinic needs to be vacated by March 2018.

Mark North noted that at Neighbourhood Forum 5 (NF5) meeting the neighbouring Gladstone Avenue property owner and tenants are unhappy about the Methadone Clinic being relocated next door. Radda and Angela noted that addressing the perception of reduced safety was the challenge to overcome. Experience has shown that the majority of participants of the Methadone Clinic are receiving their treatment on their way to work and are in the program to successfully manage their recovery in order for them to continue to be a contributing member of the community, return to health and a rehabilitated life. Angela advised that she has worked closely with the clinic and it's participants on an ongoing basis which has revealed that a compromise of safety near it's proximity is evidently more of a perception rather than a proven risk and asks Mark to convey this to the NF5 at their next meeting.

8 SKATING IN THE MALL

Angela sought suggestions as to what can be done about skateboarders in the Mall. The problems continue because the terrain is receptive to skateboarding, the skateboarders ignore

security guards who don't have authority to apprehend or confiscate and so they continue to offend in peak times and do damage to property. User Pays Police have been utilised. Police suggested speaking to the Police Youth Liaison Officer, however it was noted that many offenders are adults over 18. Suggestions were to allocate a time slot and/or progress a central skate park or see if Council Rangers can confiscate skateboards. Exposing offenders on social media appears to be ineffective in skateboarding communities so we continue with User Pays Police. Damage is being done to the stage area and the bottom of the Mall including the Aboriginal Heritage Fountain. The Lord Mayor suggested that a Mercury/Advertiser media release exposing the damage that skateboarders were doing to Wollongong's Aboriginal Heritage Fountain may help to raise awareness and deter further damage. It was noted the Berkeley Skate Park is working really well.

9 COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE

The renovation of the Berkeley public toilet blocks revealed that there has been some work done but more is required. The lighting surrounding Berkeley Community Centre still needs to be assessed at night by police to determine if a Council night time audit is warranted.

The homeless people at City Beach foreshore continue to reside there. The Homeless Hub have engaged with them to encourage them into temporary accommodation and Council's Regulation & Enforcement have removed the rubbish. The onset of the colder seasons may see a greater uptake of the temporary accommodation offered.

The Perceptions of Safety Survey results showed 400-500 people responded representing around 50/50 ratio between city and suburb dwellers. Main concerns are drugs and alcohol fuelled crime, speeding and dangerous driving and theft. All results have been tabled in a report by IRIS and a Summary of Findings is being developed, to update the community.

The Women's Safety Project funded by the NSW Department of Justice is aimed at reducing harassment of women in the CBD. The slogan is *'I Belong in the 'Gong'* and the purpose is to raise public awareness, review evidence, raise security and retailer awareness and launch a media campaign on WIN TV who has also agreed to run 3 commercials gratis.

10 GRAFFITI REPORT

Statistics since November 2017

- Council has provided 6 graffiti removal kits to the public
- 15 new cases of graffiti on private property were reported
- 342 cases of graffiti on Council property have been reported or removed

Anthony Jones of Ayjay will commence mural work on the carpark/Smart Swim School wall in Dapto on 12 February and anticipates it will take around 10 days to 2 weeks to complete.

A mural is also proposed for Kanahooka Point.

Unanderra Corrective Facility is planning to join our team of Community Partnerships doing graffiti removal and Dapto Rotary and Essential Personnel continue to remove graffiti from private property. Angela enquired as to the cost of anti-graffiti coating for Cultural Services' existing murals and Lila advised she will liaise with Cultural Services to find out.

11 POLICE REPORT

Lake Illawarra LAC

January crime statistics were low. Going forward they will be conducting a number of safety audits with Melanie Duncan of Council.

- BBQ with Housing NSW on 20 February 2018.
- Police are holding a Fundraiser for NSW Police Legacy & Blake Brotherson's Kokoda Trek honouring the sacrifice of his father Robert Brotherson who died in 2002 whilst he completed his student placement at Lake Illawarra LAC. The fundraiser is on Friday, 6 April, 6.30pm – 11.30pm at Kiama Pavillion. Maxyne offered to sell a book of tickets as did Angela Perkovic through the Visitor Information Centre. Ben will bring a book.

12 REPORTS FROM OTHER AGENCIES

Neighbourhood Forum 5 (NF5)

Mark North advised NF5 enquired after the DA for the Oxford Multicultural Child Care Centre in Wollongong. They are questioning whether people can see in to the centre and also whether the noise from the centre was excessive.

Mark North also noted abandoned cars at two locations, one long-standing. It was ascertained that once police defect stickered the car, if it is not removed by the owner after 30 days, it was the responsibility of Council's Regulation & Enforcement to arrange for it to be towed. The location of one car was in the carpark on Mount Ousley Road just after the safety ramp and the other was along Squires Way just after the bridge southbound. The latter also appeared to be a homeless person. Claire will lodge the necessary reports for abandoned vehicles in Council's system for R&E to action.

Warrawong Residents Forum

Maxyne Graham reported that she is now only funded to focus on children aged 0-5 and is exploring ways to engage more of that age group in her position as a formerly youth-orientated community liaison.

13 NEXT MEETING

Thursday, 12 April 2018.

14 CLOSE

The meeting concluded at 11.30am.

Minutes to be confirmed at the next meeting to be held at 9.30am on Thursday 12 April 2018.

ACTION SUMMARY

Item	Action	Officer	Status
1/18	Armando to talk to Tracey Kirk-Downey to confirm that the trees adversely affecting lighting in Corrimal had been trimmed.	Armando Reviglio	Completed. Trees are now pruned.
2/18	Radda to follow up with WCC's signage department for W'gong Harbour restricted parking project.	Radda Jordan	Completed. Signs are now installed and police can now enforce them
3/18	Radda to follow up with City Centre Management team regarding skateboarders in the Mall.	Radda Jordan	Completed. Angela Perkovic is present at 8 Feb meeting
4/18	Sharon White to speak to Jane at Lake Illawarra LAC to ask their patrol units to take note of the lighting at the park around the Berkeley table tennis table.	Sharon White/ Jane Keating	Ongoing
5/18	Melanie to follow up with Facilities about why lighting at the back of the Berkeley Community Centre has been switched off.	Melanie Duncan	Ongoing
6/18	Police to review existing AFZ zones and provide advice on upgrades or expansions.	Ben Walsh/ Sharon White/ Jane Keating	Ongoing
7/18	Armando to discuss possible removal of toilet block at Winnima Way Berkeley with Tracey Venaglia taking into consideration accessible toilets strategy.	Armando Reviglio	Completed
8/18	Armando to follow up with Mandy Booker, FACS and NSW Housing to see if the visits to the homeless people at the WIN Stadium foreshore have commenced.	Armando Reviglio	Completed
9/18	Angela to provide Radda with the User Pays Police rates	Angela Perkovic	
10/18	Radda to ensure the Wollongong LAC received the Methodone Clinic DA pathway case – not Lake Illawarra LAC	Radda Jordan	
11/18	Claire to lodge abandoned vehicle cases in KANA for Regulation & Enforcement to action.	Claire Knight	Completed. R & E reports that Mount Ousley vehicle removed by unknown person by 20/02. Homeless Person moved of his own accord.
12/18	Claire to advertise the police fundraiser on the Council Bulletin Board	Claire Knight	Completed. Posted on Bulletin Board.
13/18	Lila to provide Angela with costs pertaining to anti-graffiti coating for existing murals and liaise with Cultural Services in this regard.	Lila Dimoski	