



northern
beaches
council

MINUTES

COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

held in the Manly Town Hall Council Chambers, 1 Belgrave St on

THURSDAY 22 APRIL 2021

Minutes of the Community Safety Committee
held on Thursday 22 April 2021
in the Manly Town Hall Council Chambers, 1 Belgrave St
Commencing at 8 - 10am

ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members

Cr Michael Regan	Mayor – Chairperson
Cr Candy Bingham	Deputy Mayor
Cr Sue Heins	
Cr Kylie Ferguson	
Cr Stuart Sprott	
Jason Falinski MP	Federal Member for Mackellar represented by Matthew Kong
Zali Steggall OAM MP	Federal Member for Warringah represented by Peta Garrett
Brad Hazzard MP	State Member for Wakehurst represented by Toby Williams
James Griffin MP	State Member for Manly represented by Kim Preston-Hiney
Rob Stokes MP	State Member for Pittwater represented by Andrew Johnston
Supt Patrick Sharkey	Northern Beaches Police Area Command
Michelle Comito	Catholic Care
John Kelly	Community Northern Beaches
Michelle Povah	Community Representative
Ray Mathieson	Community Representative
Roberta Conroy	Community Representative – left 9.29am
Michelle Erofeyeff	Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ)
Trish Bramble	Manly Warringah Women's Resource Centre
Tony Hilliger	Surf Lifesaving Sydney Northern Beaches

Council Officer Contacts

David Kerr	Director, Community and Belonging
Kylie Walshe	Executive Manager Community, Arts and Culture
Azmeena Kelly	Executive Manager Environmental Compliance
Rob van den Blink	Manager, Youth and Community Development
Kath Young	Community Safety Coordinator
Helen Askew	Program Support Officer, Youth and Community Development

Visitors

Cr Vince De Luca OAM

1.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Chair acknowledged the traditional custodians of the land on which the meeting gathered, and paid respect to Elders past and present.

2.0 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

Jonathan O'Dea MP	State Member for Davidson
Melissa Palermo	NSLHD Health Promotion
Kamal Krishan	State Transit Authority Northern Region
Ray Brownlee	CEO, Northern Beaches Council

The following members were not in attendance:

Luisa de Bont	Community Representative
Stephen Pirovic	Community Representative
Drew Johnson	Manly Chamber of Commerce
Christina Franze	Manly Chamber of Commerce
Doug Brooker	Northern Beaches Liquor Accord
Belinda Volkov	Sydney Drug Education & Counselling Centre (SDECC)

WELCOME TO:

State and Federal Members of Parliament representatives and Cr De Luca.

3.0 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary or non-pecuniary conflicts of interest.

4.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

4.1 MINUTES OF COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 18 FEBRUARY 2021

DECISION

The Minutes of the Community Safety Committee meeting held 18 February 2021, copies of which were previously circulated to all Members, were accepted and confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

5.0 ACTIONS UPDATE

5.1 ACTIONS UPDATE

5.1.1 TERMS OF REFERENCE

Following the Council Meeting of 23 March 2021 Notice of Motion 20/2021, the Committee's Terms of Reference have been amended to include local State and Federal Members of Parliament.

The Committee's Terms of Reference will be reviewed prior to the September 2021 Council elections.

5.1.2 MEETING OF 26 FEBRUARY 2021

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	ACTION UPDATE
6.2.2	Police Domestic Violence data be reported to the Committee.	Police	Complete Included in Police report
6.4.1	That at the next meeting, dog incidents include location of incidents, particularly if related to a dog park.	Executive Manager Environmental Compliance	Complete Included in Compliance report
6.4.2	That at the next meeting, the number of registered dogs be reported.	Executive Manager Environmental Compliance	Complete Included in Compliance report
6.5.1	Samantha King and Patrick Sharkey to meet offline	Police/Sam King	Complete Meeting held
6.6.1	Northern Beaches Liquor Accord Chair, Doug Brooker, offered to meet offline with interested Committee members to consider realistic alternatives to East Esplanade management.	Doug Brooker, Committee Members	Carried Over Not present - confirmation to be sought from Doug Brooker at the next meeting

5.1.3 NORTHERN BEACHES POLICE AND COUNCIL OPERATIONAL MEETING

A Police and Council Operational Meeting was held on 31 March 2021 and key topics included:

- East Esplanade
- Homelessness
- Safety Audits
- Brookvale Oval
- Bus Stop Vandalism
- CCTV
- Youth Operations
- New Belrose Neighbourhood Watch
- Graffiti Removal
- Upcoming events – ANZAC Day, Taste of the Beaches.

The next meeting is scheduled for late May 2021.

DISCUSSION

Availability of CCTV at Manly Wharf and surrounding area was discussed.

6.0 AGENDA ITEMS

6.1 POLICE REPORT

Superintendent Patrick Sharkey provided an update on local Police matters.

- Crime statistics continue to largely trend downward across the board in all categories.
- Reports to Police involving Domestic Violence remain stable with no overall significant change.
- Malicious damage is an emerging issue. No specific crime patterns are evident in regard to malicious damage. Incidents at Collaroy were raised and discussed.
- Increased trend in motorbike theft, and theft following advertisements for sale of high performance vehicles in the south of the LGA.
- Northern Beaches PAC have been proactive and have had increased legal actions across the Northern Beaches compared to last year. Actions have included bail compliance checks, move on directions, firearm prohibition searches and drug detection.
- Legal action rates in relation to juveniles have increased in comparison to last year.
- A formal assessment of the Mental Health Pacer Trial is being undertaken. Anecdotally, Pacer has resulted in positive outcomes. Police continue to work with CCNB in relation to postvention support.
- Sexual assault reports have increased with the majority being historical incidents. [Sexual Assault Reporting Option](#) (SARO) is available online. Moving forward, education campaigns for school children and adults are key.

The Committee were encouraged to share with networks the following key safety messages:

- Break, enter and theft from homes and vehicles generally occur when homes, premises or vehicles are left unattended and unlocked.
- Ensure homes, premises and vehicles are locked.
- It is an offence to leave vehicles unsecured.
- Remove items of value from vehicles.

Following last meeting in regard to dialling Triple Zero (000), should only be called if:

- someone is seriously injured or in need of urgent medical help
- your life or property is being threatened or in danger
- you have just witnessed a serious accident or crime.
- [When to call Triple Zero](#) provides further information.

DISCUSSION

- The former Manly Aquarium in West Esplanade area was discussed. Due to significant groups of juveniles gathering at this location, particularly during school holidays, Police have patrolled the area and given move on orders.
- Licensed premises are resuming operations and people are gravitating back those facilities.
- Drink spiking – Police have not found evidence of this occurring locally.
- Collins Beach and Little Manly are included as part of the East Esplanade Police patrols and monitoring.
- Youth congregating on the oval at Collaroy Plateau - Police have attended and liaised with local residents and as a result, actions have been taken.
- Avalon Recreation Centre ongoing issues – Council staff and Police are aware of reported incidents and have responded.
- Police are investigating break and enters in the Curl Curl, Freshwater and Dee Why areas.
- Incidents need to be reported to Police within a timely manner.

6.2 COMPLIANCE REPORT

The Executive Manager Compliance provided an update on Compliance matters.

The presentation will be circulated with the Committee Minutes, which include dog attack data. Northern Beaches Council records indicate that 33,313 dogs and 13,282 cats are registered within the LGA.

Council continues the ongoing education campaign in conjunction with local vets in regard to registering animals and responsible pet ownership.

An education campaign is also underway in regard to Real Estate advertising signs and Rangers are monitoring compliance.

Public health food premises inspections have been reintroduced.

DISCUSSION

Cats found in Council reserves are referred to Council's Bushland Management Team. Traps are available for hire by community members. For more information go to [The Feline Factor](#).

Alcohol Prohibited Areas - Ranger Patrols are primarily in the Manly area. If there are particular concerns at other locations, they should be reported to Police or Council.

Dumped waste – The Compliance Team liaise with the housing management agent in relation to reports of dumped waste.

Fox sightings should be reported to the Compliance Team who will liaise with the appropriate agency.

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
6.2.1	In future statistics, include dog breed data	Azmeena Kelly	17 June 2021

- | | | | |
|-------|--|---------------|--------------|
| 6.2.2 | In future statistics, include the number of cats seized | Azmeena Kelly | 17 June 2021 |
| 6.2.3 | Review and make clear Council's Alcohol Prohibited Area website information. | Kath Young | ASAP |

6.3 EAST ESPLANADE UPDATE

The East Esplanade precinct and the challenges experienced in this area by Council, Police and residents were discussed.

Following Council's meeting of 23 February 2021, Item 15.2 Notice of Motion 9/2021 the East Esplanade Working Group (Working Group) was formed. The first meeting on 24 March was attended by Police, local residents, Councillors and Council staff, which included a walk around East Esplanade and surrounding residential areas. Representatives from 'Save the Office' were unable to attend.

The Working Group is still in the process of formulating strategies. The group will meet again in May to consider strategies and report back to Council.

DISCUSSION

Council has undertaken a great deal of work in the area following the East Esplanade Management Plan 2018, including new toilets, park upgrade, signage and CCTV.

As the Working Group has been formed under a Council Notice of Motion, the findings, strategies and action plans of the Working Group will be reported to Council.

In the meantime, Ranger patrols in the area consider community events and/or warm weather events and are adjusted accordingly.

The Working Group will consider the West Esplanade area separately due to the different nature of issues.

Michelle Comito, Chair of the Northern Beaches Community Drug Action Team (CDAT) suggested CDAT's experience would be of value for the Group.

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
6.3.1	Liaise with Michelle Comito in regard to CDAT's drug and alcohol strategies to support the East Esplanade Working Group	Rob van den Blink	ASAP

6.4 HOMELESS STREET COUNT 2021

The statistics were shared from the Homeless Street Count held on 22 to 23 February 2021. Foot patrols circulated around the Manly CBD and in vehicles across the remainder of the Local Government Area. A 'Hot Spot' methodology was used targeting known areas.

The statistics indicated a homelessness decrease of 20% from last year. It was noted that due to additional Government funding many homeless persons in the area were able to be housed during COVID19. The statistics and presentation will be circulated with the Committee Minutes.

DISCUSSION

The purpose of the street count is to get a snap shot of the local situation to improve service

delivery, not to move homeless people on.

Bush fire management committees can report planned hazard reduction burns to Council who will liaise with primary homelessness service providers such as Mission Australia and Community Northern Beaches (CNB). Services could then work with persons in the identified area.

6.5 COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN BRIEFING

The key elements of the draft Community Safety Plan 2021-2026 (the draft Plan) were presented to the Community Safety Committee. The presentation will be circulated with the Committee Minutes.

The Better Together – Social Sustainability Strategy 2041 is also currently under development and is a guiding document for the draft Plan.

‘Better Together’ has 3 Strategic Directions – Safe, Inclusive and Connected.

The Safe pillar aims to achieve two outcomes:

- Safe Places: our community is safe in public, at home and online
- Safe People: our community has access to people, organisations and information that can help when they need assistance.

Under ‘Better Together’, Council will develop a series of further Action Plans. The draft Community Safety Plan is the first Action Plan to be considered by Council.

Both ‘Better Together’ and the draft Community Safety Plan will be reported to Council in May 2021 for approval to go on a 28 day public exhibition period, where community feedback is welcomed, including from Committee members.

7.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

- Surf Life Saving Northern Beaches - Tony Hilliger reported a strong relationship with Council.
- Storm water drains and sewage overflow – a safety hazard in some areas. Pollution problems particularly in Cabbage Tree Bay and East Esplanade. It was noted that this is a State Government issue.
- Youth, alcohol and drugs – Michelle Comito reminded the Committee that it is important to look at the reasons young people may make the decisions they do. Sometimes young people are facing other serious life challenges such as family breakdown, domestic violence, mental health issues and this is influencing their risk taking behaviours. For this reason we should also be looking at the services available to support those life challenges and that we may not have enough resource in those areas to meet the need. Programs such as Links to Learning who work with disengaged students have recently lost their funding due to a pilot scheme, as well as other local services having a decrease in funding. This all impacts young people and their ability to get the support they need in order to decrease further risks.

It was noted that some Members of Parliament were advocating on behalf of these and other services.

- Superintendent Patrick Sharkey shared with the Committee that the Northern Sydney Local Health District are trialling a Rapid Response Mental Health team for youth as part of the NSW Mental Health Strategies.
- North Head mobile phone triangulation – approval has been given for installation however

negotiations are underway with the Harbour Trust in relation to installation cost. Advocacy on this issue by State Members of Parliament was noted.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

MEETING OF 26 FEBRUARY 2021

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
6.6.1	Northern Beaches Liquor Accord Chair, Doug Brooker, offered to meet offline with interested Committee members to consider realistic alternatives to East Esplanade management.	Doug Brooker, Committee Members	Confirmation to be sought from Doug Brooker at the next meeting

MEETING OF 22 APRIL 2021

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
6.2.1	In future statistics, include dog breed data.	Azmeena Kelly	17 June 2021
6.2.2	In future statistics, include the number of cats seized.	Azmeena Kelly	17 June 2021
6.2.3	Review and make clear Council's Alcohol Prohibited Area website information.	Kath Young	ASAP
6.3.1	Liaise with Michelle Comito in regard to CDAT's drug and alcohol strategies to support the East Esplanade Working Group.	Rob van den Blink	ASAP

The meeting concluded at 9.46am

This is the final page of the minutes comprising 9 pages numbered 1 to 9 of the Community Safety Committee meeting held on Thursday 22 April 2021 and confirmed on Thursday 17 June 2021