



northern
beaches
council

MINUTES

COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

held at Police Citizens Youth Club (PCYC), Dee Why

THURSDAY 7 JUNE 2018

Minutes of Community Safety Committee Meeting
held on Thursday, 7 June 2018
at Police Citizens Youth Club (PCYC), Dee Why
Commencing at 8:00 am

ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members

Cr Michael Regan	Mayor – Chairperson
Cr Candy Bingham	Deputy Mayor
Cr Kylie Ferguson	
Cr Sue Heins	
Cr Stuart Sprott	
Supt David Darcy	NB Police Area Command
Belinda Volkov	Sydney Drug Education Counselling Centre (SDECC)
Adele Heasman	obo James Griffin MP Member for Manly
Michelle Erofeyeff	Family & Community Services (FACS)
Ray Mathieson	Community Representative
Ryan Turner	Community Representative
Harry Coates	Community Representative
Christina Franze	Manly Chamber of Commerce

Council Officer Contacts

Kylie Walshe	Executive Manager Community, Arts and Culture
Neil Williamson	Executive Manager Environmental Compliance
Will Wrathall	Team Leader, Community Development
Leanne Martin	Community Safety Co-ordinator
Rita Frost	Executive Assistant to Executive Manager Community, Arts and Culture - Minutes

1.0 APOLOGIES & WELCOME

Mayor welcomed Cr Stuart Sprott and Michelle Erofeyeff

Apologies: John Kelly, Emily Fam, Roberta Conroy, Melissa Palermo, Michelle Povah, Steve McInnes, Doug Brooker,

Absent: Ben Perrott/Peter Smart, Julie Stewart

2.0 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

3.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 April 2018 were confirmed with a clarification around confidentiality from Supt Darcy.

Chair moved that the minutes be accepted moved by Cr Bingham and seconded by Ray Mathieson.

3.1 ALCOHOL FREE ZONE (AFZ) MANLY RE-ESTABLISHMENT

The Manly town centre AFZ expires on 14 July 2018. The Local Government Act has specific legislative requirements for the re-establishment of an Alcohol Free zone for an additional four years. The community consultation process was open to community feedback until 28 May. As required by the legislation all liquor licensees within the area (122) were also advised. Twenty four submissions were received with seventeen in support and seven against. A report has been prepared for adoption at the 26 June Council meeting pending a letter from Police.

Kylie Walshe advised group that the extension proposed by Police for the Manly AFZ will be advertised and re-exhibited.

A question was raised specifically around East Esplanade, Leanne Martin (LM) confirmed that this area is not subject to the AFZ re-establishment as it is an Alcohol Prohibited Area (APA) and the current times would not be changed.

Neil Williamson (NW) advised the group that there was widespread confusion around the establishment and the differences between an AFZ/APA ie roads versus reserves. Group discussed options on how the Committee can advocate for change in this area. Supt Darcy supported this and also highlighted that this confusion impacts events in the area and would benefit from streamlining. Chair suggested that the best channel for advocacy would be to write to the State Government through our local member and encouraged Adele Heasman to follow up on this. Leanne Martin to provide further research around this.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council staff draft a letter in consultation with local MP staff regarding the concerns and confusion about Alcohol Free Zones and Alcohol Prohibited Areas, with a view to requesting the state government review the current provisions.

4.0 AGENDA ITEMS

4.1 POLICE REPORT

Supt Darcy addressed the meeting. He emphasised the important role of Committee members bringing issues forward to him in advance so that he can prepare/respond at future Committee meetings.

Supt Darcy advised group of the recent Coronial Inquiry he attended along with Kylie Walshe. He advised that the recommendations from that inquiry will guide the committee going forward.

Supt Darcy discussed the role of a Suicide Prevention sub-committee, a working group with specialist knowledge to develop practical outcomes and advise the Committee. He advised that this group would need to comprise of stakeholders/services impacted by cliff-top suicides namely, Sydney Water, Catholic Church, Northern Beaches Council, Police, National Parks and Wildlife Services.

The function of the sub-committee would be to review the current research around suicide in particular cliff top strategies and provide recommendations to the Community Safety Committee to consider. Supt Darcy recommended that all stakeholders be brought together for a seminar where they can understand the gaps that currently exist. He advised the group that he was concerned about post-care, when police successfully negotiate people away from cliff tops. Immediate care is available but the post-care weeks and months later needs to be addressed. He also advised the group that Lifeline are investigating technology to assist clients who are at risk with an app (near-cliff technology). At risk sufferers can download the app on their phone and if in danger the phone will activate and contact Lifeline.

Cr Heins shared her observations and how the public also negotiate people down from cliff tops, in her opinion the technology would only benefit clients already registered, for many sufferers the suicide was not pre-meditated. Belinda Volkov (BV) advised that despite this, the technology would have a positive impact, her service counsels people who sign a suicide contract whereby they give a verbal agreement to remain safe until their next counselling session, this has proven to be very effective.

The sub-committee to review the data and understand where the most impact can be achieved and find the gaps. Group discussed a suicide prevention grant and how it could be best utilised. Kylie Walshe (KW) discussed the importance of a broader suicide prevention strategy, including what happens to families/communities impacted after suicide.

Supt Darcy raised the proposed Telstra tower for North Head and his discussions with Telstra and that it should be added as a recommendation going forward. Supt Darcy mentioned he had a contact at Telstra (Stephen Howe). Adele Heasman advised group that she understood an application was currently submitted. Chair recommended that James Griffin's Office and Tony Abbott should be contacted to advocate for a Telstra Tower at North Head.

Recommendation

- A. That the Police update be received and noted.
- B. That the recommendations provided in the Suicide Prevention Report be endorsed:-
 - 1. That the Committee support the development of any collaborative suicide prevention strategies and continue to monitor the issue.
 - 2. Convene a working group/sub-committee with specialist knowledge, to continue to look at practical outcomes and strategy development.
 - 3. That a Guest Speaker/s with expert knowledge on the subject matter be invited to present at a future meeting.
 - 4. That Council advocate on behalf of the Community Safety Committee for installation of a Telstra Tower on North Head.

4.2 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE REPORT

Neil Williamson (NW) addressed the meeting, outlining current projects and activities that come under Environmental Compliance. He advised the group about the wide range of issues that rangers are responding to including off leash dogs, pollution events and outlined problems with abandoned shopping trolleys.

NW highlighted the various strategies to manage abandoned waste in particular shopping trolleys and informed the group that Council is working with retailers to manage this issue.

Staffing vacancies continue to impact service levels particularly the recruitment of rangers. This impacts Council's ability to respond to the 30,000 requests received each year. Chair confirmed this point explaining to the group how the current staff freeze is making it difficult to fill positions.

NW outlined a pro-active approach they are aiming for with compliance issues such as education for dog owners, waste management etc. NW will provide statistics around compliance activities for the next Community Safety Committee.

The group discussed the issues around abandoned shopping trollies, Cr Bingham advised that coin-slot trollies have been explored but not viable due to vandalism. Cr Bingham suggested the shopping trolley app is useful to register abandoned trollies and this should be more widely promoted.

NW gave an update on Night rangers, day rangers are managing the shifts up until 11pm. Group discussed recruitment of part-time rangers, NW advised that he is looking into the option of creating a pool of casual staff to provide additional staffing. Animal Management Officers (Dog rangers) have been readvertised, animal management is critical to community safety. NW advised he is happy to be the contact for anyone interested in ranger positions.

Recommendation

That the Committee note the information received and Council staff to provide statistics around compliance activities for the next meeting.

5.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

5.1 EAST ESPLANADE

Council staff provided a presentation on the Community Safety Audit held on East and West Esplanade on 20 April 2018 (8pm to 9.30pm).

Issues highlighted were signage, broken lights, toilets and toilet signage. The poor condition of toilets, in particular Manly Wharf facilities was stressed as a major issue. Chair suggested that the best channel to advocate on this issue would be through James Griffin's Office. Chair suggested Adele Heasman to contact RMS /Manly Wharf Management to enquire about provision of amenities for this area and advocate for improvements.

Group discussed issues around public urination. Supt Darcy advised additional toilets may not always be the solution, however additional lighting would help.

LM will continue to follow up the action items included on the Audit. It was agreed that these issues would be considered in the East Esplanade Reserve Management Plan.

A draft of the plan will be presented to the next meeting.

Group discussed effectiveness of turning on sprinklers at East Esplanade, NW advised against. He advised that parks were concerned about damage to sprinklers heads. Supt Darcy was supportive of sprinkler use, advising there can be benefits when issues are displaced.

Supt Darcy suggested a sprinkler trial from 10.30pm/11pm at night. Chair sought confirmation on sprinklers, to understand if they can be trialled. LM advised the Management Plan will be in place by Summer and this will be considered as part of the strategy. Supt Darcy suggested social media is also a factor exacerbating the issues at East Esplanade.

Sue Heins posed question about paint that glows in the dark – white to improve dark areas, Council staff to investigate further.

Recommendation

That the Committee note the information received and agreed the following actions:

1. That James Griffin MP's Office is approached to contact RMS regarding improvements at Manly Wharf toilets.
2. Council is requested to investigate appropriate times to trial the use of sprinklers to displace crowds at East Esplanade from 11pm.
3. Council staff to investigate the use of paint that glows in the dark for use in this area.

5.2 DRUG USE / REHABILITATION BRIEFING

Belinda Volkov (Senior Counsellor Sydney Drug, Education and Counselling Centre (SDECC)) delivered a presentation on drug usage on the Northern Beaches and current treatment approaches.

Group discussed various aspects of the presentation and thanked Belinda Volkov for her insight and expertise on the subject.

Recommendation

That the Committee note the information received.

5.3 SUICIDE PREVENTION

Please refer Item 4.1

KW talked to the report provided in the Agenda, the group covered many of the issues earlier in the Police report. It was discussed that the recommendations be accepted with the addition of the proposal to advocate for the Telstra Tower on North Head.

Recommendation

That the Committee note the information received (see Item 4.1)

5.4 MORE TO MANLY UPDATE

Leanne Martin (LM) provided the More to Manly update. Group discussed various aspects of the report. Leanne advised group about the mural proposals and process for artist selection and confirmed the grant is to be finalised by end of year. Cr Bingham requested that lighting again be reviewed in this area – Cr Bingham to discuss with Henrietta Lane owner.

Ray Mathieson raised concerns around the tattoo parlour location in Darley Rd Manly. Police advised they have made full representations against the development however there is no planning regulation that currently addresses tattoo parlours. Group discussed if recommendations can be made to LEP to discourage tattoo parlours in inappropriate locations due to both the perception and real connection with criminal activity.

Recommendation

1. That the Committee note the information received

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTIONS

ITEM
NO. ITEM

3.1 ALCOHOL FREE ZONE (AFZ) MANLY RE-ESTABLISHMENT

That Council staff draft a letter in consultation with local MP staff regarding the concerns and confusion about Alcohol Free Zones and Alcohol Prohibited Areas, with a view to requesting the state government to review the current provisions.

4.1 POLICE REPORT

That the recommendations provided in the Suicide Prevention Report be endorsed:-

1. That the Committee support the development of any collaborative suicide prevention strategies and continue to monitor the issue.
 2. Convene a working group/sub-committee with specialist knowledge, to continue to look at practical outcomes and strategy development.
 3. That a Guest Speaker/s with expert knowledge on the subject matter be invited to present at a future meeting.
 4. That Council advocate on behalf of the Community Safety Committee for installation of a Telstra Tower on North Head.
-

4.2 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

Council staff to provide statistics around compliance activities for the next meeting.

5.1 EAST ESPLANADE

That the Committee note the information received and agreed the following actions:

1. Council is requested to investigate appropriate times to trial the use of sprinklers to displace crowds at East Esplanade from 11pm.
 2. Council investigate the use of paint that glows in the dark for use in this area.
 3. That James Griffin's Office is approached to contact RMS regarding improvements at Manly Wharf toilets.
-

5.4 MORE TO MANLY UPDATE

1. That the Committee note the information received
2. That Henrietta lane owner be contacted regarding mural/lighting.

The meeting concluded at 9.58

This is the final page of the Minutes comprising 10 pages
numbered 1 to 10 of the Community Safety Committee Meeting
meeting held on Thursday 7 JUNE 2018