



northern
beaches
council

MINUTES

COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

held online via TEAMS on

THURSDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2021

Minutes of the Community Safety Committee

held online via TEAMS

8am, Thursday 18 November 2021

ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members

Cr Michael Regan	Mayor – Chairperson
Cr Kylie Ferguson	
Cr Sue Heins	
Cr Stuart Sprott	
Zali Steggall OAM MP	Federal Member for Warringah represented by Bronwen Regan
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
David Gbogbo	CatholicCare
Roberta Conroy	Community Representative
Ray Mathieson	Community Representative
Michelle Povah	Community Representative
Michelle Erofeyeff	Department of Communities and Justice
Ashling O'Brien	Manly Chamber of Commerce
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
Kath Young	Community Safety Coordinator
Helen Askew	Program Support Officer, Youth and Community Development

Visitors

Liza Cordoba	Manager Strategic Place and Planning
--------------	--------------------------------------

1.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Mayor 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

Cr Candy Bingham	Deputy Mayor
Angela Whitby	CatholicCare
Doug Brooker	Northern Beaches Liquor Accord
Lynelle Hales	Chief Executive Officer Sydney North Health Network

The following members were not in attendance:

Cr Stuart Sprott	
Jason Falinski MP	Federal Member for Mackellar
Brad Hazzard MP	State Member for Wakehurst
Jonathan O'Dea MP	State Member for Davidson
John Kelly	Community Northern Beaches
Luisa de Bont	Community Representative
Stephen Pirovic	Community Representative
Drew Johnson	Manly Chamber of Commerce
Trish Bramble	Manly Warringah Women's Resource Centre
Melissa Palermo	NSLHD Health Promotion
Belinda Volkov	Sydney Drug Education & Counselling Centre (SDECC)
Kamal Krishan	State Transit Authority Northern Region

Christina Franze has stepped down from the Committee. Ashling O'Brien was welcomed as a new Manly Chamber of Commerce representative.

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 7 OCTOBER 2021

Minutes of the Community Safety Committee meeting held 7 October 2021, copies of which were previously circulated to all Members, were hereby confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

5.0 ACTIONS UPDATE

5.1 ACTIONS UPDATE

1. MEETING OF 7 OCTOBER 2021

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	ACTION UPDATE
6.3	The next Compliance Report to the Committee include longitudinal data and be presented in a line graph.	Azmeena Kelly	Completed
6.5	Survey to be distributed to Committee members for completion and discussion of results at next meeting.	Kath Young	Completed

2. NORTHERN BEACHES POLICE AND COUNCIL OPERATIONAL MEETING

The Committee noted the matters discussed in the Police and Council Operational meeting held on 1 November 2021.

Highlighted matters included: the management of locations experiencing alcohol related antisocial behaviour; Council's re-establishment of Alcohol Free Zones in Avalon, Church Point, Dee Why, Freshwater, Mona Vale, Newport (2 zones) and Palm Beach for a period of up to 4 years from 1 December 2021; the associated signage installation program beginning on 19 November 2021; and an overview of upcoming events.

DISCUSSION

Australia Day Big Breakfast celebrations are not planned for 2022 due to ongoing public health restrictions however smaller scale events and ceremonies are planned in the lead up to Australia Day.

East Esplanade fencing is still in place to allow new turf to establish. Date for removal of fencing is still to be determined.

6.0 AGENDA ITEMS

6.1 MANLY PLACE PLAN AND NIGHT TIME ECONOMY PROJECTS

Liza Cordoba, Manager Strategic and Place Planning provided a presentation on the:

- Manly Place Plan project
- Manly Night Time Economy project.

The projects commenced in July 2021 with the establishment of the study area and engagement of consultants. The objectives of the work being undertaken are to:

- Work with the community to create a vision and subsequent plan for the Manly town centre
- Align any changes to ensure Manly town centre is vibrant, safe, inclusive and sustainable now and into the future

- Respond to the actions and recommendations of existing strategic documents of Council and the State Government
- Deliver a Night Time Economy Study for Manly centre and principles to adopt across the Northern Beaches.

The Manly Night Time Economy Strategy consultants have engaged with key stakeholders. Acoustic assessments will be undertaken during the December/January summer peak period to provide a baseline. The Community Safety Committee will have the opportunity to submit feedback on the draft Night Time Economy study and acoustic study before the report is submitted to Council.

The Manly Place Plan Project Working Group will meet again in early 2022. The Community Safety Committee will have the opportunity to consider the draft Place Plan. It is anticipated the report will be presented to Council in mid-June 2022.

DISCUSSION

The Committee acknowledged the importance of maintaining a Night Time Economy and supporting local businesses. New major residential developments in central Manly and the resulting increase in residents and impact on the project was discussed. It was noted that increased residents make a Night Time Economy more viable.

Conflicts around land use will be considered within the Night Time Economy Strategy and consultants will consider what controls need to be in place to mitigate future acoustic issues.

Discussed international practice of strengthening acoustic controls on new builds in Night Time Economy areas. Strengthening of acoustic controls will also be incorporated into the new Environmental Control Plan.

6.2 POLICE REPORT - SUPERINTENDENT PATRICK SHARKEY

Superintendent Patrick Sharkey provided an update on local policing matters.

It was noted that, despite a slight rise after lockdown, crime has decreased in all crime categories.

High visibility patrols are being conducted to prevent and address anti-social behaviour. Stationary random breath testing is now being re-introduced and Police are supporting community compliance with Public Health Orders and enforcing Orders, if required.

Domestic Violence

Reported domestic and family violence incidents are lower than in previous years. It was noted that this trend was not evidenced by local services. Legal action rates relating to Apprehended Violence Orders and Domestic Violence Related Assault have increased.

Electronic Fraud

A high number of reports are being received for electronic based fraud. To assist the community, the [NSW Police fraud](#) webpage and [Northern Beaches Police Area Command social media](#) include safety tips, videos and related posts.

Theft

Incidence of break and enter, theft, stealing from houses and cars have decreased. In many cases, houses or cars had been left unattended and unlocked. To prevent opportunistic theft, the community is reminded to lock windows and doors in cars and houses and to not leave valuables in cars.

Police have executed a number of search warrants for offences relating to break enter and steal, and have made arrests in relation to street offences, robbery and affray.

COVID19

Continue to check [NSW Public Health Orders and restrictions](#) for updates. Home checks by Police are ongoing. Police advise the community to look after yourself and set a good example for others.

Emergency Operations

Police have participated in search and rescue operations for a number of persons in lost or in distress at bushland and cliff locations.

In conjunction with Council and other services, planning is underway for the bush fire season, Christmas/New Year and Australia Day.

Drugs and Alcohol

Drug detection operations are in place throughout the Northern Beaches local government area. The Northern Beaches Liquor Accord is meeting next week.

DISCUSSION

The potential to establish a separate Manly Liquor Accord was raised and discussed given the high number of venues in a concentrated area and the large size of the local government area. It was noted that this is able to be considered but that Liquor Accord Agreements are voluntary.

Discussed the enforcement of take away liquor sales in line with the [Statement of Regulatory Intent - Liquor Act 2007](#) in regards to COVID19. This statement is intended to support small business during COVID19 and recommends a reasonable approach to compliance with regulations for take away liquor and home deliveries. Police monitor this situation and address any issues. Government will be reviewing outdoor licensing and supply of alcohol by unlicensed establishments in April 2022.

Police are continuing to enforce alcohol related compliance issues across the Northern Beaches, e.g. businesses, public space offences, compliance with alcohol restrictions. As a diversionary tool, Police frequently act on underage drinking by issuing Young Offender Act warnings and referrals to the [Your Choice](#) program.

Recent incidents at Freshwater were discussed, including damage to Freshwater Surf Lifesaving Club. Strategies have been implemented to increase security and are having an impact. Noted that several areas experienced issues at the same time as Sydney came out of a long lockdown. Also noted that public drinking and hoodlum behaviour are a long term and ongoing cultural issue for the Northern Beaches and offenders are locals.

Appreciation was extended to local Police for attendance and management of an incident at Freshwater Surf Life Saving Club. Additional measures are being taken to increase security and securely store equipment.

6.3 COMPLIANCE REPORT

The Executive Manager Environmental Compliance gave a presentation on compliance matters. The presentation, which includes longitudinal data in line graphs as previously requested, will be circulated to the Committee.

Matters raised included statistics on dog attacks, companion animal management, proactive patrols of off leash areas and Ranger patrols of the Alcohol Prohibited Areas around Manly.

Proactive Compliance included trolley management, liquor licensing, erosion and sediment control on building sites and arbovirus surveillance program in Warriewood wetlands, Middle Creek around Narrabeen Lagoon and Scotland Island.

The Executive Manager Environmental Compliance thanked the Committee for their interest in Council's compliance response over the Term.

DISCUSSION

Supermarket trolley management and related legislation was discussed.

Dog management signage at Narrabeen Pool has been effective.

Discussed the presence of horses at beaches and noted the access point can be crowded at Narrabeen. A policy review in 2022 may consider this matter.

6.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE - ISSUES ADDRESSED DURING COUNCIL TERM

A summary of matters considered by the Committee during the current Council Term were noted and highlights were discussed.

Appreciation was extended to Committee members for their contribution to community safety on the Northern Beaches.

6.5 SURVEY OF COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

A summary of the feedback from the Community Safety Committee Survey was noted. Members who have not submitted a survey, are encouraged to do so by Thursday, 2 December. Information collected will assist in a review of the Committee's Terms of Reference and processes.

The Committee's draft Terms of Reference will be presented to the new Council early in 2022. Following Council's consideration, 2022 Community Safety Committee meeting dates will be set.

DISCUSSION

Committee members raised additional suggestions including:

- Increasing the number of youth representatives on the Committee
- Including community education and preparedness for bush fire, flooding and environmental concerns with guest speakers
- Safety Audits as a key to identifying site issues across the Northern Beaches.

7.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 Appreciation was extended to all Committee members for their contribution to safety on the Northern Beaches. Councillor Kylie Ferguson, who is not standing for re-election, was particularly acknowledged for her commitment. Thank you also to Superintendent Sharkey and Northern Beaches Police.

7.2 Manly Uniting Church's 'Neighbourhood meals – emergency relief' information was shared with the Committee.

- 7.3 2021/22 Christmas/New Year services information is currently being reviewed and when finalised, will be available on Council's Food Services webpage. The information will be ordered by days available for ease of access.

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
7.2	Distribute to the Committee the Manly Uniting Church's 'Neighbourhood meals – emergency relief' information and upload to Council's Food Services webpage.	Kath Young	ASAP
7.3	Upload 2021/22 Christmas/New Year services information to Council's Food Services webpage, including listings in chronological day order.	Helen Askew	ASAP

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

ITEM NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DUE DATE
7.2	Distribute to the Committee the Manly Uniting Church's 'Neighbourhood meals – emergency relief' information and upload to Council's Food Services webpage.	Kath Young	ASAP
7.3	Upload 2021/22 Christmas/New Year services information to Council's Food Services webpage, including listings in chronological day order.	Helen Askew	ASAP

The meeting concluded at 9.36am.

This is the final page of the minutes comprising 8 pages numbered 1 to 8 of the Community Safety Committee meeting held on Thursday 18 November 2021 and confirmed in 2022