



Shire of Northam

Heritage, Commerce and Lifestyle

**UNCONFIRMED MINUTES OF
COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
09 APRIL 2015**

SHIRE OF NORTHAM

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD ON 09 APRIL 2015 AT 3:00 PM

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1. OPENING AND WELCOME

The Chair, Ms Rose Power declared the meeting open at 3:08pm.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

NIL

3. ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS

Councillor
Executive Manager Community Services
Northam Roadwise Committee

Northam Police
Community Representative

J E Williams
Ross Rayson
Cliff Simpson
Rose Power
Snr Sgt Kevin Maddin
Barbara Silvester

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Community Development Officer
Department Child Protection and Family Support
WA Police
Northam PCYC

Michelle Blackhurst
Dawn Lamperd
Tony Colfer
James West

GUESTS

Holyoake
Drug and Alcohol Office

Mark Allen
Ann-Marie Cunniffe
Michelle Gray

4. APOLOGIES

Chief Executive Officer
Councillor
Department Education
Southern Youth Justice Services
Chief Executive Officer
Northam Police
Wundowie Police
Main Roads Western Australia
Department Sport and Recreation
Avon Youth Services

Jason Whiteaker
Denis Beresford
Sharon Bray
Ellen Coshall
Jason Whiteaker
Snr Sgt Ron Daniels
Sgt Mark Johnston
Barbara Gogan
Jennifer Collins
Venessa Miler

5. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION/COMMITTEE DECISION

Minute Number: Csc.016

Moved: C Simpson

Seconded: R Power

That the minutes of the meeting held Thursday 02 February 2015 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

CARRIED 6/0

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

6.1. PROGRESSION OF COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CRIME PREVENTION PLAN

At its meeting held on Thursday 05 February 2015 the Northam Safer Community Committee resolved to wait for the results of the Shire of Northam 'Community Perception Survey' before progressing with the Community Safety and Crime Prevention (CSCP) Plan so that the data from the survey could be incorporated into the plan. The survey has now closed and the results are being collated.

Mr Ross Rayson said that the results of the survey were received by the Shire of Northam on 08 April 2015 and he had extracted the part relating to community safety for presenting to the Committee. The indication of community perception is that 33% of the respondents are satisfied with the safety and security of the Shire of Northam and this is below the Local Government average. In the past 66% of the respondents were satisfied with the safety and security of the Shire of Northam so the general perception is that people in the Shire of Northam feel less safe and secure here now than they did.

Mr Tony Colfer asked how the survey was rolled out and who responded. Ross said that it the report was broken down by demographical differences to make the results clear.

Mr Ross Rayson gave an outline of how the stats were achieved and noted that safety and security is a high priority area of the Shire of Northam.

Mr Tony Colfer said that this perception seems far stretched and it would be good to have the opportunity to get the truth out there.

Mr Jason Whitaker arrived at 3.15pm. Mr Jason Whiteaker said that the Shire of Northam will be reconciling the two to find where the facts and the perceptions differ. The survey will guide the strategies and perhaps next meeting could be used for workshopping strategies and correlations.

Mr Ross Rayson said that the results of the survey were to be kept in-house as they had not yet been presented to the Council.

Mr Jason Whiteaker left the meeting at 3.25pm.

Mr Ross Rayson and Mrs Michelle Blackhurst attended a meeting with WA Police to discuss the eWatch program as there has been an increase of subscriptions from the local area and the site is not active. The meeting was about how the site can be used to achieve some of the objectives of the Committee. Ms Rose Power said that the York eWatch siter was a great model for the Shire of Northam site.

Ms Rose Power introduced guest speakers Ms Ann-Marie Cunniffe and Michelle Gray from the Drug and Alcohol Office who provided some information about the Alcohol and Other Drug Management Plan (AODMP). This was identified in the CSCP as a strategy that needed to be complete to reduce the level of harmful alcohol and other drug use within the community.

Ms Ann-Marie Cunniffe suggested that the Committee form a sub-committee to drive the AODMP as the Committee was too large to take on the task.

RECOMMENDATION/COMMITTEE DECISION

Minute Number: Csc.017

Moved: R Power

Seconded: C Simpson

That the Committee approve the formulation of a sub-committee to drive the AODMP.

CARRIED 5/1

The CSCP will be reviewed by Council Officers. A proposed project plan for reviewing the CSCP will be tabled at the next meeting.

RECOMMENDATION/COMMITTEE DECISION

Minute Number: Csc.018

Moved: Cr J Williams

Seconded: B Silvester

That Council Officers provide a plan for reviewing the CSCP to the Committee at its meeting held Thursday, 11 June 2015.

CARRIED 6/0

6.2. UNADDRESSED DELIVERY OF INFORMATION TO SHIRE OF NORTHAM RESIDENTS

Ms Rose Power noted that the information has now been sent to each household in Northam, Wundowie, Bakers Hill and Clackline outlining the strategies to mitigate motor vehicle theft and break-ins, and promoting the eWatch program. As a result of this initiative, the eWatch subscribers for the Shire of Northam has increased from 87 to 112.

7. AGENDA ITEMS

7.1. PRESENTATIONS BY STAKEHOLDERS

At the initial meeting of the Committee it was agreed that the first important step for the Committee was to begin to develop a clear understanding of the issues and challenges facing the community in relation to safety and subsequent crime prevention. As a consequence the focus of the Committee meetings will be on receiving presentations from key Committee members/stakeholders.

The presentations/briefings are designed to provide the opportunity for the relevant stakeholder to paint their picture of Northam in the context of their specific area of interest/focus.

7.1.1 PRESENTATION BY THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORT AND RECREATION

Mrs Jenifer Collins was not able to attend the meeting and the Department of Sport and Recreation was not represented.

7.1.2 PRESENTATION BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR CHILD PROTECTION AND FAMILY SUPPORT

Ms Dawn Lampert presented information about the Department for Child Protection saying that they provide a range of child safety and family support services throughout Western Australia.

Ms Dawn Lampert said that they have three main service areas being:

- 1 Supporting children and young people to have much improved life chances.
- 2 Protecting children and young people from abuse and neglect.
- 3 Support families and individuals at risk or in crisis to manage their lives and keep themselves and their families safe.

Ms Dawn Lampert said that they currently have 102 staff with 42 of these being Child Protection Workers.

7.1.3 PRESENTATION BY HOLYOAKE

Note: This item was brought forward and was presented directly after item 6.1.

Mr Mark Allen from Holyoake said that Holyoake was also known as Wheatbelt Community Alcohol and Drug Service (or Wheatbelt CADS). The Holyoake Wheatbelt Team provides assessment, referral and counselling to adults, young people, and families, and aims to reduce alcohol and other drug related harm in the Wheatbelt region.

The main office is in Northam and Holyoake also have satellite offices in Narrogin and Merredin, providing services for individuals and family members who are experiencing alcohol or other drug issues. The service offers individual counselling and group programs.

The Holyoake Wheatbelt Community Alcohol and Drug Service Team currently provides outreach services in Moora, Gingin, York, Goomalling, Wongan Hills, Brookton, Kellerberrin, Wagin and surrounding areas.

Other services and programs that Holyoake provide include:

- Counselling for people with alcohol and other drug issues and those who are impacted by someone else's alcohol and other drug use.
- Outreach services.
- Early intervention and prevention of drug use problems.
- Support for schools experiencing drug use incidents.
- Referrals to other agencies.
- Education programs.

Mr Mark Allen said that Holyoake was funded for prevention programs. Mr James West asked if PCYC could tap into this and Mr Mark Allen said that they could.

Mr Tony Colfer left the meeting at 4.07pm.

7.2. CHANGES TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Ms Rose Power has requested that the Northam Safer Community Committee consider changing the Terms of Reference of the Committee to include three extra ex-officio members.

The proposed new ex-officio members are key stakeholders and will assist the Committee by providing an insight from within specific target groups.

The proposed new ex-officio members are:

- 1x Aboriginal Elder
- 1x Mental Health representative
- 1x Holyoake representative

RECOMMENDATION/COMMITTEE DECISION

Minute Number: Csc.019

Moved: R Power

Seconded: C Simpson

That Council approves the changes to the Terms of Reference to include the additional ex-officio members in the Northam Safer Community Committee.

CARRIED 5/1

7.3. PROGRESS ON ACTION TAKEN BY POLICE TO DEAL WITH JUVENILE CRIMINAL ACTIVITY AND IN PARTICULAR BURGLERY

A question was raised by a resident regarding the increasing amount of criminal activity by juveniles in Northam. This is a topic of interest to the Northam Community and it would be beneficial for the Committee to understand the actions that Police are taking to deal with the situation.

The Police are actively exercising intervention activities including applying a curfew to known offenders and regular patrols. Police are being proactive but again they need to rely on the public to report suspicious behaviour. When the public report suspected activities this helps to build an intelligence picture which takes us to a judicial bar. The message we want to get out is that it is crucial for the Police to receive this information from the public but they will not always see the immediate action.

8. OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF COMMITTEE

There was no urgent business introduced. DATE OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING
The next meeting will take place at the Shire of Northam on Thursday, 09 April 2015 at 3pm.

9. DATE OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next meeting will take place at the Shire of Northam on Thursday, 11 June 2015 at 3pm.

10. DECLARATION OF CLOSURE

The meeting was declared closed at 4.35pm.