



Shire of Northam
Heritage, Commerce and Lifestyle

Shire of Northam

Minutes

Community Safety Committee

16 June 2017



NOTICE PAPER

Shire of Northam Community Safety Committee

16 June 2017

Committee Members

I inform you that a Community Safety Committee meeting will be held in the Council Chambers, located at 395 Fitzgerald Street, Northam on 16 June 2017 at 2pm.

Yours faithfully



Jason Whiteaker
Chief Executive Officer

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1. DECLARATION OF OPENING

Chairperson Cr Julie Williams declared the meeting open at 2.07pm.

The quorum of voting Members is 7. The Committee has reached a quorum.

2. ATTENDANCE

Committee Members:

Chairperson	Cr Julie Williams
Councillor	Cr Denis Beresford
Executive Manager Community Services	Mr Ross Rayson
Northam Roadwise Committee	Mr Cliff Simpson
Local Youth Service Representative	Ms Jane Atterby
Northam Police	SSGT Geoff Dickson
Department Education	Mrs Sharon Bray
LDAG	Mrs Rose Power
Health Representative	Mr Greg Bentley

Committee Ex-Officio Members:

Community Development Officer	Mrs Michelle Blackhurst
Local Youth Service Representative	Mrs Tricia Chrimes
Wundowie Police	SGT Jamie Cresswell
Northam Police	SGT Scott Mills

Special Guests:

2.1 APOLOGIES

Community Representative	Ms Margaret O'Reilly
Holyoake	Ms Eloise Fewster
Councillor	Cr Chris Davidson
Department of Housing	Mr Attila Mencshelyi

2.2 APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Item Name	Item No.	Name	Type of Interest	Nature of Interest

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 12 MAY 2017

Mr Ross Rayson requested two amendments to the Minutes of the previous meeting:

1. Record in section 2.1 an apology from Cr Denis Beresford which was issued prior to the meeting.
2. In section 5.1 the date for the Night Hoop s program should be amended from 22 June 2017 to 22 July 2017.

RECOMMENDATION

Minute No: CSC.035

Moved: SSGT Geoff Dickson

Seconded: Ms Rose Power

That Council accepts the minutes of the Shire of Northam Community Safety Committee meeting held Friday, 12 May 2017 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

CARRIED 9/0

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

5.1 COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CRIME PREVENTION PLAN UPDATE

Address:	
Owner:	Shire of Northam
File Reference:	1.3.12.1
Reporting Officer:	Community Development Officer
Responsible Officer:	Executive Manager Community Services
Voting Requirement	Simple or Absolute Majority

BRIEF

To update the Committee on the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan actions.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan – Action Plan

BACKGROUND / DETAILS

The Shire of Northam Community Safety and Crime Prevention (CSCP) Plan 2016-2020 is a four year strategic outlook for the Shire of Northam that aims to map the issues of primary concern to the community and document the strategies and partnerships to deal with these issues.

Together with key partners, the Shire of Northam is committed to ensuring continual improvements to community safety with a particular emphasis on minimising the occurrence and opportunity for antisocial and criminal activity.

The CSCP Plan 2016-2020 has brought all of the current data together to help the Committee to understand 'What is the Northam story'. This will help the Committee to reconcile where the facts and the perceptions differ.

CONSIDERATIONS

Strategic Community / Corporate Business Plan

Objective: Create an environment that provides for a caring and healthy community.

Strategy: Provide community services to uphold public safety standards.

Action: Review and implement the Shire of Northam Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan

Financial / Resource Implications

N/A

Legislative Compliance

N/A

Policy Implications

N/A

Stakeholder Engagement / Consultation

N/A

Risk Implications

N/A

OFFICER'S COMMENT

The Shire of Northam's Community Development Officer provided an update on recent activities.

Criminal or Offending Behaviour

Lock and Light

SSGT Geoff Dickson provided an update, explaining the process of the program and how the vulnerable community members are being identified.

SSGT Geoff Dickson said that in terms of the importance of Lock and Light, the WA Police has at the forefront of its crime strategies, the need to form strong partnerships with key business partners. In this regard, Northam Police feel that the Lock and Light project is one of the key localised strategies that will be important to both the Shire and the WA Police here in Northam. Helping the community to help itself become more resilient to Crime.

There have been a number of road blocks to full implementation this financial year. In reality, the project did not get underway until early 2017 and since that time, we have had to iron out a number of practical operational issues with making the process work. A new OIC has been placed at Wundowie Police Station who has indicated he is on board with the project and wants to ensure delivery of benefits in the western wards of the Shire.

Five house holders have been approached to commence the process:

1. Elderly resident died mid process
2. Elderly resident has been issued vouchers but installer has not been able to re-establish contact to finalise the install
3. Resident has had contractor present – installation underway
4. Resident has been on holidays since initial contact – needs follow-up
5. Resident has not been contactable since initial contact – needs follow-up

Local Police have been challenged with a number of operational issues and the refurbishment of the police station which has taken some capacity away from fully resourcing our commitment to this project.

We are excited by this project and look forward to the funding continuing and into the future. We are aware of concern by the Shire that the \$20,000 has not been touched and as such, there will be questions in terms of that. All we can say is that we are on board, committed and will throw everything we can muster at it, as we move forward over the next few months.

Mr Ross Rayson asked if there were any other hold up issues such as accessing of tradesmen. SSGT Geoff Dickson said that there is definitely a waiting period for tradesmen however, he would be inclined to say that the holdup was more a Police issue than anything else.

The Committee agreed they would like to see this program supported by Council again as they can see the value in it.

RECOMMENDATION

Minute No: CSC.036

Moved: Cr Denis Beresford

Seconded: Sharon Bray

That Council carry forward the remaining allocated funds for the delivery of the Lock and Light program.

CARRIED 9/0

Crime Statistics and Crime Mapping

SSGT Geoff Dickson provided an example to the Committee of what hot spotting or heat maps of the Northam area would look like, to demonstrate the lack of crime patterns in the area. The crime mapping of Northam was described as 'a shot gun effect' with crime dispersed evenly across the community, with no real trends or patterns to identify target areas.

The statistics indicate that there have been significant drops in reported crime. SSGT Geoff Dickson said that there will be peaks that will impact on these statistics however the overall crime was not as high as the community perceive it to be. WA Police want to take a lead role in changing the perception of the community with regard to crime. The message is that at the moment, Northam is a safer place. SSGT Geoff Dickson asks that the Committee sponsor that language and promote it within the community. We need to push a positive message.

To reduce crime in Wundowie, Police have been imposing curfews and facilitating curfew checks to ensure that people are adhering to orders and issuing barring notices. SGT Jamie Cresswell said that barring notices are working well to control anti-social behaviour in business. This is a civil Police order from a business that prevents people from legally coming back into a business. This is served by the Police, it is free and it can be served to a person of any age. SGT Jamie Cresswell will provide the Committee with some information about barring orders and what businesses can and can't do to protect their business (in relation to putting up photos of shop lifters etc.) to be passed on to business via the Northam Chamber of Commerce.

Community Awareness

Marketing and Communications Plan

Council staff have created a draft Community Safety and Crime Prevention Communications Plan and the Committee is asked to contribute ideas to the document. This document was provided to the Committee to offer feedback.

The Committee has been asked to provide feedback directly to the Shire of Northam's Community Development Officer Michelle Blackhurst for inclusion in the Plan.

Variable Message Sign

As per the direction of the Committee, the Shire of Northam has now purchased a Variable Message Sign (VMS) which is now available for use by the Police for community safety purposes. The Committee was asked to provide ideas to promote safety and crime prevention messages with the VMS. The following ideas were received:

- Belt up - you're worth holding on to
- Don't trust your tired self – don't drive tired
- Drunk, drugged or high – it's all a DUI
- Thieves pick easy targets – secure your home
- It is an offence to drink in public places – drink responsibly
- Don't make burglars feel welcome – secure your home
- If you see something – say something – Crimestoppers 1800 333 000
- Crime prevention - is everybody's business
- Let's all fight crime – report suspicious activity to Northam Police

Building Partnerships

Night Hoops

Ms Jane Atterby spoke about the Night Hoops Program. The first 6 week tournament is due to commence at the Northam Recreation Centre on 22 July 2017 and they are currently seeking volunteers and participants for the program. The Committee would be provided with a link and a copy of the flyer when it was brand approved by the WA Police.

Community Design

Youth Precinct

Mr Ross Rayson provided an update on the Youth Precinct, advising that The Shire of Northam is seeking the services of a suitably qualified consultant to undertake a full feature survey of the Jubilee reserve, which is the site that has been recommended to Council as the preferred location of the new multi-function youth precinct.

Council will make a decision on the final location and the project at its meeting on 21 June 2017 and the project will then proceed to the next stage which is creating a detailed design.

Mr Ross Rayson provided an update on the CCTV Project, advising that the installation of the new clusters has commenced. The project was waiting on the arrival of the tower which will be placed on Mt Ommaney and this was expected to be complete within the next 2 months.

Both SSGT Geoff Dickson and SGT Jamie Cresswell asked the Committee to consider looking in to the possibility of supporting further installation of CCTV in Northam and Wundowie.

Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan

The actions in the current plan are nearing completion. Mr Ross Rayson suggested that the plan would need to be reviewed. This will initially be done via an email group where Committee Members will be provided with the opportunity to provide input. Mrs Michelle Blackhurst to organise.

RECOMMENDATION
Minute No: CSC.037
Moved: SSGT Geoff Dickson Seconded: Ms Jane Atterby
That Council accept the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan update.
CARRIED 9/0

5.2 Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan update

Address:	
Owner:	Shire of Northam
File Reference:	1.3.12.1
Reporting Officer:	Community Development Officer
Responsible Officer:	Executive Manager Community Services
Voting Requirement	Simple or Absolute Majority

BRIEF

To seek Committee input in updating actions in the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan.

BACKGROUND / DETAILS

The current Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan is nearing completion. Committee members have been provided the opportunity to provide input initially via email. The Committee is now asked to review and finalise the changes.

CONSIDERATIONS

Strategic Community / Corporate Business Plan

Objective: Create an environment that provides for a caring and healthy community.

Strategy: Provide community services to uphold public safety standards.

Action: Review and implement the Shire of Northam Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan

Financial / Resource Implications

N/A

Legislative Compliance

N/A

Policy Implications

N/A

Stakeholder Engagement / Consultation

N/A

Risk Implications

N/A

OFFICER'S COMMENT

As most of the previous strategies have been completed, Officers are seeking Committee input into developing new strategies and additional actions to complete outstanding strategies.

The Committee talked through potential additional actions and recommend further changes be made to the Plan based on feedback from the meeting as well as emails received from the Committee over the next two weeks. The altered Plan should be presented to the Committee prior to the next meeting to provide the opportunity for feedback prior to accepting the final document at the next meeting.

SSGT Geoff Dickson wanted the Committee to include the investigation of a street chaplaincy program. He said that it would need a funding solution and a home to base the service. Mr Ross Rayson suggested that the Committee

should be presented to by an existing street chaplaincy program to understand the dynamics of the program. SSGT Geoff Dickson agreed to organise this.

Ms Jane Atterby talked about the potential for Northam PCYC to have a room available for a drop-in centre/street chaplaincy service. Ms Atterby asked the Committee to email her with any suggestions to support this.

Ms Rose Power added that the Roadwise Committee has put in an application to have the Elephant in the Wheatbelt permanently located in Northam and there was potential to raise awareness about road safety with a campaign "Where is the Elephant Going to Live".

SGT Jamie Cresswell wanted the Committee to consider some actions to have traffic calming devices installed in and around Wundowie as hooning is a major issue there. Other anti-hooning actions would also be helpful. SGT Jamie Cresswell has been asked to provide some information to Mrs Michelle Blackhurst about locations for the traffic calming devices. Mrs Michelle Blackhurst will arrange a meeting between SGT Jamie Cresswell and Council's Executive Manager Engineering Services, Clinton Kleynhans to discuss the matter further.

Both SGT Jamie Cresswell and SSGT Geoff Dickson wanted the Committee to include seeking further funding to have more CCTV installed in both Wundowie and Northam. SGT Jamie Cresswell and SSGT Geoff Dickson were asked to provide some information to Mrs Michelle Blackhurst about where CCTV would be most helpful to them.

The Committee agreed that the main focus of the actions and additional strategies of this plan will be to promote a positive perception of crime within the Community.

6. URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY PERSON PRESIDING OR BY DECISION

No urgent business was introduced.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Meeting dates for 2017:

Friday, 18 August 2017 at 2pm
Friday, 13 October 2017 at 2pm
Friday, 08 December 2017 at 2pm

8. DECLARATION OF CLOSURE

The meeting was declared closed at 3.56pm.