



Shire of Northam
Heritage, Commerce and Lifestyle

SHIRE OF NORTHAM

**MINUTES OF THE
COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON
16 SEPTEMBER 2016**

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Notice and Agenda of the Northam Community Safety Committee meeting to be held in the Council Chambers on Friday, 15 July 2016 at 2.00pm

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1. OPENING AND WELCOME

Chairperson Cr Julie Williams declared the meeting open at 2.05pm.

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

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Parts of Division 6 Subdivision 1 of the Local Government Act 1995 requires Council members and employees to disclose any direct or indirect financial interest or general interest in any matter listed in this agenda. The Act also requires the nature of the interest to be disclosed in writing before the meeting or immediately before the matter being discussed.

NB A Council member who makes a disclosure must not preside or participate in, or be present during, any discussion or decision making procedure relating to the disclosed matter unless the procedures set out in Sections 5.68 or 5.69 of the Act have been complied with.

There were no declarations of interest for this meeting.

3. ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS

Chairperson	J Williams
Councillor	D G Beresford
Councillor	C Davidson
Executive Manager Community Services	Ross Rayson
Northam Police	Geoff Dickson
Northam Roadwise Committee	Cliff Simpson
Community Representative	Margaret O'Reilly
Local Youth Service Representative	Jane Atterby
Department Education	Sharon Bray

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Wundowie Police	Max Walker
Community Development Officer	Michelle Blackhurst

4. APOLOGIES

Department of Housing	Attila Mencshelyi
LDAG	Rose Power
Holyoake	Eloise Fewster

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Northam Chamber of Commerce
Safer Northam Committee
Health Representative

Paul Tomlinson
Brian Webb
Greg Bentley

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RECOMMENDATION

Minute No: CSC.025

Moved: Mrs Sharon Bray
Seconded: Cr Cliff Simpson

That the minutes of the meeting held Friday, 15 July 2016 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

CARRIED 9/0

6. AGENDA ITEMS

6.1 COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CRIME PREVENTION PLAN UPDATE

Name of Applicant:	Shire of Northam
Name of Owner:	Shire of Northam
File Ref:	1.3.12.1
Officer:	Ross Rayson
Officer Interest:	N/A
Policy:	N/A
Voting:	N/A
Date:	15 September 2016

PURPOSE

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

BACKGROUND

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

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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.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

N/A

CONFORMITY WITH THE STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN

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

STRATEGY: Provide an environment that enhances and builds on the liveability of the Shire.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

N/A

OFFICER'S COMMENT

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

Please refer to the attached Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan 2016-2020 'Action Plan' update.

Criminal or Offending Behaviour – Lock and Light Program

The proposed Lock and Light Program will support vulnerable residents who make up the majority of the soft targets in our community to live independently through improving their personal safety when in their homes. The program aims to increase their sense of wellbeing while reducing their sense of vulnerability.

The objectives of the project are:

- To increase the awareness of seniors and the general community regarding safety and security in the home environment.
- To provide senior residents with safety and security assessments of their own homes and upgrade home security in 'priority' homes to reduce the opportunity for crime in our community.

The program will provide the opportunity for our vulnerable residents to have a home security assessment undertaken which will raise their awareness about what aspects of

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their homes are not secure. Each senior household will then be able to apply for funding up to an agreed limit for the installation of home security devices such as security doors, window locks, door peep holes, window security screens, sensor lighting, UV pens for property marking and identification purposes and information about crime prevention.

Michelle Blackhurst advised that Council has agreed to provide the Community Safety Committee with \$20,000 to implement this project and that Council Officers will be actively seeking organisations to partner the project.

Criminal or Offending Behaviour – Alcohol and Other Drugs Management Plan

The next AODMP meeting will take place at 10am on 23 September 2016. The new project Officer facilitating the Plan is Eloise Fewster from Holyoake following the resignation of Kendra Grace.

Minutes from the AODMP meeting held on 22 July 2016 have been provided to the committee.

Community Awareness – eWatch

The Northam Police and the Shire of Northam regularly release eWatch Newsletters to keep the community informed. The Wundowie Police are now on board to ensure that the information is also relevant to Wundowie residents. A eWatch campaign will take place in Wundowie commencing 22 September 2016 to encourage Wundowie community members to subscribe.

Michelle Blackhurst advised that members of the Community Safety Committee can include community safety themed information in the eWatch Newsletters by emailing content through to cdo@northam.wa.gov.au.

Community Awareness – Business Security Brochure

A Business Security brochure has been developed as an action of the Committee's Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan. This will be distributed through the Northam Chamber of Commerce to local businesses and is available for download from the Shire of Northam website.

Community Awareness – Burglary Awareness Packs

To educate community members about improving security in their homes we plan to extend the Lock and Light program with the Burglary Awareness Packs.

Burglary Awareness Packs will include:

- Ultra violet pen
- Ultra violet key chain light
- Shire of Northam Home Security Assessment Checklist
- Shire of Northam Home Security pamphlet
- eWatch brochure and pen

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These will be distributed within the Shire of Northam when the Lock and Light program is launched.

Community Design – Youth Precinct

Michelle Blackhurst advised that a 'Statement of Requirement' has been developed to seek quotes from organisations to conduct the feasibility study to determine the viability of developing a youth precinct in Northam.

Mr Ross Rayson advised that the feasibility study would be complete by the end of t 2016 and that Council has committed funds in this financial year's budget to build the youth precinct following the feasibility study.

Sharon Bray from the Wheatbelt Regional Education Office is assisting with youth consultations.

Community Design – Community Plans and Designing out Crime

The Shire of Northam is currently reviewing and renewing the community plans for Wundowie, Clackline, Bakers Hill and Grass Valley. An action of the CSCP is to 'Conduct a Designing out Crime Shire of Northam study to review current public places. This will be included with the community plans.

6.2 STATE CCTV INFRASTRUCTURE FUND

Name of Applicant:	Shire of Northam
Name of Owner:	Shire of Northam
File Ref:	1.3.12.1
Officer:	Michelle Blackhurst
Officer Interest:	N/A
Policy:	N/A
Voting:	Simple Majority
Date:	07 July 2016

PURPOSE

To update the Committee about the State CCTV Infrastructure project.

BACKGROUND

The Shire of Northam has secured funding through the State CCTV Strategy Infrastructure Fund to install new CCTV equipment and infrastructure throughout Northam. Securing additional funding will boost the overall functionality of CCTV in Northam, giving the Shire access to new state of the art technology.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

N/A

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CONFORMITY WITH THE STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN

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

STRATEGY: Provide an environment that enhances and builds on the liveability of the Shire.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Grant funding of up to \$220,000.00 together with Council contribution of \$15,000.

OFFICER'S COMMENT

Ross Rayson updated the Committee about the current position of the project.

He advised that the funding body required three quotes for the project to move to the next phase. At the close of the Request for Quote stage of the project only attracted two quotes, the project would be delayed as the Shire of Northam are required to approach the market again.

6.3 WUNDOWIE COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS – PUBLIC SAFETY

Name of Applicant:	Shire of Northam
Name of Owner:	Shire of Northam
File Ref:	1.3.12.1
Officer:	Michelle Blackhurst
Officer Interest:	N/A
Policy:	N/A
Voting:	Simple Majority
Date:	15 September 2016

PURPOSE

To update the Committee about feedback received from the Wundowie community consultations that were conducted as a part of the Wundowie Community Plan.

BACKGROUND

Community consultations were facilitated using three different methods of collecting information:

- Three workshops were held, two in the Wundowie town site and one at El Caballo Resort with residents of Bodeguero Heights and the Lifestyle Village. 59 people attended in total.
- A community 'Wishing Tree' was provided for people to place feedback on over a number of weeks. 350 responses were received.

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- A community survey was conducted and 119 responses were received.

Improving public safety was identified as a high priority to the community.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

N/A

CONFORMITY WITH THE STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN

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

STRATEGY: Provide an environment that enhances and builds on the liveability of the Shire.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

N/A

OFFICER'S COMMENT

The Community Safety Committee has been provided with a summary of the feedback relating to public safety.

More specifically, people are concerned about:

- Hooning
- Number of Police available to the community (particularly after hours)

Whilst we as a Committee cannot control these concerns, there are steps that we can take to reduce them. Council officers are seeking input from the Committee that can be actioned to reduce the community concerns.

Hooning

Cliff Simpson advised that Roadwise could assist with providing Wundowie residents with bin stickers 'Slow down and consider our kids' which will coincide with a media release to raise awareness that the community has acknowledged that there is an issue and action is being taken to reduce the issue. Cr Chris Davidson has offered to distribute these in the Wundowie community and SGT Max Walker and Cr Chris Davidson will arrange to have a photo taken to accompany the media release.

Cliff Simpson has also offered to set up a Roadwise stall at community events held in Wundowie to raise awareness about unsafe driving. The Committee also talked about setting up the crash trailer during these events.

SGT Max Walker advised that the community can assist Police by reporting the hooning. Unfortunately, without the reports coming in the Police cannot build the judicial record to

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charge the offenders and in Wundowie we need to raise awareness about the importance of reporting.

SGT Max Walker advised that a covert camera operation is currently organised to take place on an undisclosed date.

SGT Max Walker requested that a way that the Committee can assist would be to look into facilitating a project to upgrade the CCTV infrastructure in Wundowie and to encourage people to report crime.

Police Availability

SGT Max Walker advised that the Wundowie Police Station is a permanently policed police office. The officers do not work 24 hours per day however they do work all of the usual police shifts and not just Monday to Friday during office hours.

Wundowie Police are responsible for the outskirts of Wundowie and not just the town site. It may appear that they are not available however, this could be that they are patrolling an area other than the town site.

SNRSGT Geoff Dickson asked if the Shire could look into traffic calming devices for the Wundowie town site. Council Officers will follow up this enquiry.

SGT Max Walker requested assistance from the Community Safety Committee to encourage the community to report crime. He also asked for the Committee to look into ways for the Wundowie community CCTV infrastructure to be updated. Council Officers will follow up on this enquiry.

7. OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF THE COMMITTEE

Rose Power asked for the LDAG FASD Week report to be shared with the Committee. This report has been emailed to the Committee.

This item was moved to be discussed following item 4

Ross Rayson raised a matter from Council regarding the Committee recommendation CSC.024 which was asking Council to endorse that a representative from the Safer Northam Committee be appointed to the vacant Community Representative position on the Community Safety Committee.

The Local Government Act 1995 stipulates that a Council must appoint a person to be a member of a committee. The Interpretations Act extends the definition to appointing or designating a person by name or by appointing the holder of an office by the term designating the office. Consequently the Council can appoint to the committee a position rather than a name if required.

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The Community Safety Committee would like to appoint the Chairperson (or proxy in the absence of the Chair Person) of the Safer Northam Committee to take up the vacant community representative position on the Community Safety Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

Minute No: CSC.026

Moved: Cr Chris Davidson

Seconded: Mrs Sharon Bray

That Council appoint the position of Chairperson from the Safer Northam Committee to the vacant Community Representative position on the Community Safety Committee. In the situation where the Chairperson is not available, a proxy may attend the meeting in the place of the Chairperson.

CARRIED 9/0

Cliff Simpson left the meeting at 2.30pm.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place at 2pm on 11 November 2016.

9. DECLARATION OF CLOSURE

The meeting was officially closed at 2.39pm.