



Shire of Northam
Heritage, Commerce and Lifestyle

SHIRE OF NORTHAM

**MINUTES OF THE
COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON
25 JUNE 2015**

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**Minutes of the Community Safety Committee meeting held in the Council
Chambers on Thursday, 25 June 2015 at 3.00pm.**

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1. OPENING AND WELCOME

The Chairperson, Ms Rose Power declared the meeting open at 3:06pm.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Nil.

3. ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS

Chairperson
Councillor

Rose Power
J E Williams
D G Beresford
Ross Rayson
Kevin Maddin
Cliff Simpson

Executive Manager Community Services
Northam Police Snr Sgt
Northam Roadwise Committee

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Community Development Officer
Department Child Protection and Family Support
Avon Youth Services
Southern Youth Justice Services
Main Roads Western Australia
Department Sport and Recreation
Department Education

Michelle Blackhurst
Dawn Lamperd
Joseph Fitch
Ellen Coshall
Elizabeth Davies
Jannah Stratford
Sharon Bray

4. APOLOGIES

Northam PCYC
Aboriginal Elder Represent
Main Roads Western Australia
Chief Executive Officer

James West
Kerry Collard
Barbara Gogan
Jason Whiteaker

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION

Minute Number: CSC.020

Moved: R Power
Seconded: C Simpson

That the minutes of the meeting held Thursday, 09 April 2015 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

CARRIED 6/0

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6. AGENDA ITEMS

6.1 COMMUNITY PERCEPTION SURVEY UPDATE

| | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Name of Applicant: | Shire of Northam |
| Name of Owner: | Shire of Northam |
| File Ref: | 1.2.3.1 |
| Officer: | Ross Rayson |
| Officer Interest: | N/A |
| Policy: | N/A |
| Voting: | Simple Majority |
| Date: | February 2015 |

PURPOSE

To provide an update to the committee about the Community Perception Survey, relating specifically to safety and security.

BACKGROUND

The Shire of Northam administered the Community Perception Survey through the organisation Catalyse in February 2015 to understand community priorities. Security and safety was one of the focus areas of the survey with results indicating that the community perception is that only 36% of people consider the Shire of Northam to be safe.

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 has engaged Catalyse to facilitate a number of focus group workshops with community members who indicated in their Community Perception Survey

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that they would be interested in participating. The attendees were randomly selected and numbers were limited to 10 participants.

As security and safety was identified as a high priority area it was one of the focuses of the group. The workshops were designed to further investigate people's perceptions so that the Shire of Northam can develop identify actions to overcome the issues.

A copy of the draft report is attached for the information of the Committee and discussion on future actions arising from the report will be undertaken at the meeting.

Mr Ross Rayson will provided an update.

Ms Rose Power asked if the Committee members could answer two questions:

1. What can your individual organisation do to support crime prevention and safety?
2. What collectively can we as a Committee do to improve the perception of safety?

Cr Denis Beresford commented that the perception does not differ from reality. If people perceive it to be a problem then this is their reality.

Mr Kevin Madden said that there were no spikes in reported crime and confirmed that all crime is reportable but it is not always reported.

Cr Denis Beresford said that his perception is spiking and would like to know how to change that perception. The Committee agreed that marketing would help and identified a number of information sharing tools being eWatch, Police on Facebook and Twitter, Visit Northam and the Shire of Northam Facebook pages, the Shire of Northam Newsletter, the WYLD Magazine. Mrs Michelle Blackhurst has been assigned the task of creating a list of information sharing tools.

RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION

Minute Number: CSC.021

Moved: R Rayson

Seconded: R Power

That Council;

Endorse the use of the information collected from the Community Perception focus group workshops to further develop the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan.

CARRIED 6/0

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6.2 COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CRIME PREVENTION PLAN

| | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 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: | 25 June 2015 |

PURPOSE

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

BACKGROUND

It was confirmed at the meeting held on 05 February by Ms Rose Power that the Community Safety Committee had previously resolved to finalise the Community Safety and Crime Prevention (CSCP) Plan and implement a new simple CSCP Plan 2015 - 2018.

The data from the previous Plan has now been reviewed and this along with the results from the Community Perception Survey, the Community Perception focus groups, statistical data and feedback from Committee members and other stakeholders, a simple action based Community Safety Strategy is being developed.

The CSCP Plan 2015 - 2018 will bring all of the current data together to help the Committee to understand 'What is the Northam story'. This will help the Shire of Northam to reconcile where the facts and the perceptions differ.

The Community Safety Committee are well positioned to provide advice on perceived problem areas.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

N/A

CONFORMITY WITH THE STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN

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

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

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

N/A

OFFICER'S COMMENT

The purpose of the CSCP Plan 2015-2018 is not to create new strategies, but to identify activities that stakeholders have already implemented within their own organisations.

Based on the results of the focus group sessions which indicated that the different communities of the Shire of Northam have different issues and barriers, Cr Denis Beresford would like to see the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan divided into sections addressing rural, town and shared issues and solutions.

Mrs Michelle Blackhurst will provide the previous action plan to the Committee at the next meeting indicating which items have been completed.

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6.3 ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS MANAGEMENT PLAN

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 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: | 25 June 2015 |

PURPOSE

To develop an Alcohol and Other Drugs Management Plan (AODMP).

BACKGROUND

Initial stages of the development of the AODMP have commenced. This has included a number of meetings with the Drugs and Alcohol Office and the development of a workshop to begin the planning of the plan with the subcommittee.

The AODMP is a plan that articulates what will happen at a local level to create change in the identified issue.

The AODMP will:

- Provide a means for coordinated and collaborative activity across agencies and communities.
- Recognise that every agency is impacted on by alcohol misuse and is therefore part of the solution.
- Outline a staged approach for creating sustainable change.
- Reflective of best practice and support the outcomes of relevant state and national strategies

It was agreed at the previous meeting that the AODMP should be driven from a local level by a subcommittee, as the current Committee is too large to take on the task.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

N/A

CONFORMITY WITH THE STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN

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

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

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

N/A

OFFICER'S COMMENT

Ms Ann-Marie Cunniffe from the Drug and Alcohol Office is supporting the Safer Northam Committee to produce an AODMP however requires a subcommittee to support the implementation of the Plan.

At its meeting held on Thursday 09 April 2015 the Northam Safer Community Committee approved the formulation of a sub-committee to drive the AODMP.

Prior to the development of the subcommittee, the Drug and Alcohol Office will facilitate a planning workshop which will take place on Friday, 03 July 2015 between 9am and 1pm. This information has been emailed to Committee members. It is recommended that the Committee members attend one of these workshops as this will be where the plan is formed. The purpose of the workshops is not to create new strategies, but to identify what stakeholders are already doing at a local level and how we can work together to create a collective impact.

Attending the workshop does not commit you to joining the subcommittee. Committee members will understand following the workshops if the subcommittee is a relevant opportunity for them and can nominate if they so choose following the workshops.

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

Mr Kevin Madden would like to encourage the group to apply for a grant to purchase a digital message board and 4 mobile CCTV devices. These could then be used by the local Police to position in identified trouble areas.

Mrs Michelle Blackhurst will identify an appropriate grant and present it to the Committee.

RECOMMENDATION/COMMITTEE DECISION

Minute Number: CSC.022

Moved: R Power
Seconded: J Williams

That Council;

Endorse the Committee to submit a funding proposal to purchase 4 mobile CCTV devices and a digital community notice board for the use of the Police.

CARRIED 6/0

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place at the Shire of Northam on Thursday, 06 August 2015 at 3.00pm.

9. DECLARATION OF CLOSURE

The meeting was declared closed at 4.05pm.