

**Minutes of Crime Prevention Committee Meeting**  
**Date: Monday 8 October 2012**  
**Venue: Hartley Building**  
**Time: 4.00pm**

**ITEM: 1      PRESENT AND APOLOGIES**

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**Present:** Mayor Maree Statham (Lithgow City Council); Cr Wayne McAndrew (Lithgow City Council); Clr Peter Pilbeam (Lithgow City Council); Natalie Radburn and Mai-Lynn Elliott (Lithgow Community Projects); John Dauth (Housing NSW); Ray Smith (Lithgow Liquor Accord); Sally Taylor (Lithgow Business Association); and Suzanne McNamara (Lithgow PCYC).

**Apologies:** Inspector Chris Sammut (Lithgow Police); Bree Longley (Police); and Kylie Druett (Western Sydney & Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health Districts).

**Officers:** Matthew Johnson and Jennifer Randall (Lithgow City Council Crime prevention Officer)

**Declaration of Interests:** Nil

**ITEM: 2      CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

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The minutes of the 13 August 2012 meeting were endorsed by email by three members and reported to Council on 3 September 2012.

**ITEM: 3      BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

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**Item 8 General Business CCTV Cameras**

There was discussion on the status of current and new CCTV cameras in the CBD as recorded in the 13 August 2012 minutes. The camera on corner of Eskbank and Main Streets at Grand Central Hotel is operational although in a fixed position. It will be able to rotate to various positions once a software upgrade is undertaken. The second camera in Cook Street Plaza will be installed after the software upgrade.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT**

The Business Arising from previous Minutes be received.

**MOVED:** Wayne McAndrew

**SECONDED:** Natalie Radburn

**ITEM : 4      CRIME PREVENTION PLAN**

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**SUMMARY**

Jennifer Randall, the recently appointed Council Crime Prevention Officer gave an introduction on her work program to implement the Crime Prevention Plan.

### **COMMENTARY**

Jennifer detailed that Council will work closely with all members of this committee to develop a multi-agency approach to addressing the specific crime issues the Lithgow LGA is experiencing.

### **Alcohol Related Assault and Malicious Damage**

1. Planning on commencing the second pilot to the late night transport scheme from the 16<sup>th</sup> November to 29<sup>th</sup> December (in the 6 weeks leading up to Christmas)
  - This is intended to reduce alcohol related assaults and malicious damage along the Main Street and surrounding areas
  - We're also exploring some other avenues for the late night transport scheme including working with licensed venues and the local taxi companies to introduce the SecureCab voucher scheme aimed at teenagers, or the Local Liquor Accord and licensed venues to introduce a courtesy bus program
  - Further details will be provided at the next meeting.
2. We're going to work in close partnership with the local Police, Lithgow Liquor Accord and licensed venues to emphasise patron responsibility and responsible service of alcohol.
3. **Malicious Damage in Queen Elizabeth Park:** Lighting and landscape audits to see whether we can improve lighting or change the landscaping to improve surveillance. Additionally, seeking to forge a Council community partnership with private properties along the rear of the park and laneway aimed at improving communication with Police in reporting malicious damage incidents and anti-social behaviour in the park, and at improving malicious damage response times cost-effectively.

Domestic Violence, Steal from Motor Vehicle and Dwelling and drug use won't be part of the grant funded project but that we will as resources allow, work with partners on these.

### **Domestic Violence**

1. Working in partnership with Lithgow Community Projects to address the issue of domestic violence

### **Steal from Motor Vehicle and Steal from Dwelling**

1. Putting notices in the Council Connections to improve awareness of this issue and assist residents in securing their houses and cars against theft.

## **Drug Use**

1. Working closely with the Community Drug Action Team to encourage education and prevention of drug use, particularly in schools.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

### **THAT**

The Report on the appointment of a Crime Prevention Officer and planning for implementing the Crime Prevention plan, including the second part of the late Night Transport trial be received.

**MOVED:** John Dauth **SECONDED:** Suzanne McNamara

## **ITEM : 5 LATE NIGHT TRANSPORT**

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### **SUMMARY**

As discussed in item 4.

## **ITEM : 6 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INITIATIVES**

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### **SUMMARY**

Natalie Radburn from Lithgow Community Projects introduced Mai-Lynne Elliott who is a recently appointed Specialist Aboriginal Caseworker.

### **COMMENTARY**

Mai Lynne works with women and children who have experienced domestic violence, homelessness or sexual assault. Hers is a three year early intervention project that will also work with young women who are alienated or lacking educational opportunities. She is currently undertaking needs assessment and consultation and is developing culturally sensitive ways of working with the aboriginal community. To date she has found that her project is being accepted and viewed in a positive way in the community.

White Ribbon Day is coming up on 23 November so Lithgow Community Projects is looking for ideas and for men to organise. It was suggested that a trivia event be held at the Workies Club with organisations and business encouraged to book a table.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

### **THAT**

The report on domestic violence initiatives be received.

**MOVED:** Suzanne McNamara **SECONDED:** Sally Taylor

## **ITEM : 7 POLICE REPORT**

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There was no Police report

## **ITEM : 8 GENERAL BUSINESS**

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### **SUMMARY**

A number of items were discussed under General Business.

## **COMMENTARY**

### **8.1 CCTV Cameras**

As discussed at the August meeting, there are currently 7 Council managed CCTV cameras in the CBD. There was further discussion at today's meeting on the need to identify future suitable locations should additional funding be received for expansion of the network. Possible locations include:

- Bridge Street in vicinity of Courthouse Hotel and University Campus (Hoskins Building).
- Bridge Street between the Workies Club and Courthouse Hotel this location corresponds with the late night movement of patrons between liquor venues.

It was agreed that the Police be asked to provide crime data to help inform decisions on the best locations to ensure they are evidence based and reflect value for money.

There was also discussion on the possibility of businesses contributing to the cost of new Council cameras or communities and businesses funding their own systems. It was noted that the Federal Coalition has promised \$50million for CCTV cameras if they win office.

### **8.3 Crime Incidents**

Clr McAndrew understands that there has been a recent increase in burglaries, including a number of houses being targeted in one locality, so it is important to have the Police attend the next meeting to discuss.

### **8.4 Public Housing**

John Dauth advised that Housing NSW does not have a policy of relocating so called "problem tenants" from other areas to Lithgow however as Lithgow has a shorter waiting list than many other areas, it is easier for tenants wanting to start afresh to relocate here. Housing NSW has good lines of communication with the Police and have put in place a protocol with the Police that Housing NSW is to be informed whenever a tenant is charged with a serious offence. This can lead to termination of their lease.

The Mayor asked about nuisance behaviours in relation to parties etc. John advised that this is initially a Police matter for party-goers to move on however it would become a tenancy issue if it was a recurring issue at one location.

### **8.5 PCYC**

Suzanne McNamara advised that a new Police Youth Case Manager, Martin Warren, has been appointed after the position being vacant for some time. The PCYC refurbishments are almost complete with the official opening on 28 October from 10am to 3pm. All are invited.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the discussion under General Business be received.

**MOVED:** Peter Pilbeam

**SECONDED:** Cllr Wayne McAndrew

**Meeting Closed 5.00 pm**

**Next Meeting  
Monday 26 November 2012 at 4.00pm in the  
Hartley Building Meeting Room.**