

Minutes

Lithgow City Council

Crime Prevention Committee
04/02/2013

ITEM: 1 PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

Attendees: Mayor Maree Statham, Clr. Inzitari, Clr. McAndrew, Inspector Chris Sammut (Chifley Local Area Command), John Dauth (NSW Housing), Suzanne McNamara (PCYC).

Officers: Melanie Jones (Community Development Officer LCC), Jennifer Randall (Crime Prevention Officer LCC).

Apologies: Matthew Johnson (LCC), Vicki Walsh (Lithgow Taxi Co-op), Jim Nicholls (LCC), Sue Rose (Chifley Area Command), Bree Longley (Chifley Area Command)

ITEM: 2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

No confirmation of Previous Minutes from Meeting held 26/11/2012 as there was no quorum

Amendments: Nil.

ITEM: 3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

3.1 Current status of CCTV Cameras

Jennifer Randall (LCC) advised that after discussion with Jim Nicholls (Project Manager of CCTV at LCC), Lithgow Council is currently in the process of getting quotes and preparing a cost analysis for a second camera in the Cook St Plaza. Additionally, Lithgow Council is in the process of getting quotes for the upgrade of existing system hardware and software for CCTV.

Inspector Chris Sammut requested that Council introduce a contact number for any after hours faults that may occur with the existing CCTV. Additionally, Inspector Sammut requested that Council look into providing a larger monitor at the Lithgow Police Station to monitor the current CCTV.

3.2 Lighting Issues

Jennifer Randall (LCC) informed the committee that a lighting audit around the alleyways of Main St had been completing and lighting had been fixed. A lighting audit of Queen Elizabeth Park is yet to be completed.

3.3 Secure Taxi Rank

Clr. McAndrew requested a formal review of the Secure Taxi Rank and an explanation as to why this will not be pursued.

3.4 Littering

Mayor Marie Statham stated that she is appalled with the amount of littering occurring between Wallerawang and Wallerawang Cemetery and between Portland Pool and Portland Tip. Inspector Sammut stated that Police still give out fines for littering, however he will request that highway patrol to focus on people covering their loads and littering. Melanie Jones (LCC) reported that Council's Environmental Health team have taken the lead on tackling the issue of littering and have put out a media release highlighting the issue, ordered signs notifying people to cover their loads and informing people of the fines involved in littering. Additionally Lithgow City Council Rangers have the ability to fine people who do not comply with local government regulations.

Mayor Statham suggested that every 2 – 3 months each town should reinstate Tidy Towns and do some tidying up. Council should write to Tidy Towns to ask them if they're interested in becoming part of this initiative. Clr. Inzitari requested that General Manager Roger Bailey clarify with Council workers as to whether or not they are authorised to pick up rubbish from the side of roads and if so, instruct them to do so whenever they are driving past.

John Dauth (NSW Housing) suggested that more organisations within Lithgow should register as being candidates to host Work Development Orders for the Office of State Debt Recovery as these workers can then clean up the community as part of their Work Development Order. Inspector Sammut suggested that the Council should consult the Lithgow Correctional Centre Community Consultative Committee Meeting concerning the potential for low risk prisoners to do some community service in the form of cleaning up the roads in the Lithgow LGA as an opportunity for prisoners to give back to the community.

Clr. McAndrew suggested that Council should write to the Roads and Maritime Services about taking better care of their roads and to find out which roads are Council's responsibility and which roads are the Roads and Maritime Services responsibility.

3.6 Alcohol Free Zones

Jennifer Randall (LCC) informed Committee that Council is still currently waiting for submissions due by the 8th of February, 2013. Inspector Sammut stated that fully supports the reinstating of these zones.

3.7 Crime Prevention Committee Meeting Schedule for 2013-

- Monday 4th February
- Monday 18th March
- Monday 6th May
- Monday 17th June
- Monday 29th July

- Monday 9th September
- Monday 28th October
- Monday 16th December

Moved: Clr. Frank Inzitari

Seconded: Suzanne McNamara

ITEM: 4 CRIME PREVENTION PLAN

Committee decided to wait for an update from Matthew Johnson (LCC).

ITEM: 5 LATE NIGHT TRANSPORT

Jennifer Randall (LCC) gave the final figures for the second pilot of the Nightrider Program. During the 14 days that the nightrider ran for, a total of 52 passengers utilised this service. Clr. McAndrew requested a full review of the Late Night Transport Service with the participation of Licensee's, taxi representatives, the Local Business Association and the Council.

ITEM: 6 POLICE REPORT

Inspector Sammut gave an overview of the status of crime in Lithgow from October to December 2012. Overall, Inspector Sammut suggested that Lithgow is not a dangerous area and that there are no significant crime problems in Lithgow. Incidents of Domestic Violence Assault, Break and Enter non-Dwelling, Robbery, Sexual Assault, Steal from Dwelling and Steal from Retail Store have all gone down during this time. Incidents of Break and Enter Dwelling, Drugs Detection, Steal from Motor Vehicle, Steal from Person, Street Offences, Police Powers and Police search Powers have all risen but not significantly. Malicious Damage to property is steady.

Inspector Sammut requested that Council look into putting a camera up at the railway station. Additionally, Inspector Sammut requested that Council maintain a central register as to which premises along Main Street have CCTV in their shops.

Mayor Statham and Clr. Inzitari requested that CCTV be placed in the front counter at Council premises.

Clr. McAndrew raised a concern about Break and Enters in the Lithgow area since October 2012. Inspector Sammut stated that there was no significant intelligence to suggest that the break and enters that have occurred have had significant planning or organisation put into them, and that there is no pattern to these offences.

ITEM: 7 GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 CCTV

Clr. Inzitari suggested that Council do a survey of businesses in Main Street to ascertain who has CCTV cameras in their premises that point towards the street.

7.2 PCYC Youth Sponsorship

Clr. Inzitari said that the Youth Committee Meeting had discussed the idea of starting a sponsorship program for underprivileged and at risk youth aged 12-16 so that they can use the facilities at PCYC. Clr. Inzitari said that he hoped that the Police would be able to contribute to this cause. Council is currently waiting for the Budget to be advised so as to ascertain how much funding can go towards this cause.

7.3 Local Sponsorship to Improve Police – Youth relations in Lithgow

Inspector Sammut suggested that Council acquire sponsorship from local food companies to participate in a program to improve the relationship between local Lithgow youth and the Police. This program involves giving police vouchers to establishments such as Subway or local fish and chip shops in order to pass on to kids in the community that Police see doing good things out in the community.

7.4 Code of Conduct for Committees

Code of Conduct for Committees noted.

7.5 Housing NSW (Lithgow)

John Dauth (Housing NSW) is leaving his position in Lithgow to work in Penrith. There is no longer a Lithgow housing manager for Housing NSW. This position will now be managed from Penrith.

7.6 Emora Park

Clr. Inzitari expressed concern over the fact that repairs to the steps have not been finished and certain steps have not been removed in the park. Councillors sought clarification over responsibility for maintaining the park. Councillors expressed concern over the aspect of liability if someone is injured in the park due to a lack of maintenance.

Incoming Correspondence

Nil

Reports

Nil

Meeting Closed 5:13pm

Next Meeting: Monday, 18th March, 4pm Hartley Building.