

# Meeting Minutes

17 April 2012 Konrad Seidl | Community Safety Crime Prevention Committee

<b>Meeting Name.</b>	Community Safety Crime Prevention	<b>Meeting No.</b>	2 (2012)
<b>Meeting Date</b>	17 April 2012		
<b>Meeting Time</b>	12:30 lunch followed by meeting 13:00 hours		
<b>Meeting Location</b>	Mullewa Council Chambers		
<b>Attendees:</b>	Des Brick (DB) Chair Konrad Seidl (KS) Johannes Muller (JM) Minute Taker Ian Blayney (IB) Jane Parker (JP) Jeff Graham (JG) Kathryn Park (KP) Jacinta Johnston (JJ) Shane Van Styn (SVS) Yvonne Loveday (YL) Grant Woodhams (GW) Grant Rosman (GR) Tony Mettam (TM) Fiona McDougall (FM) Liz Bradshaw (LB) Raelene Belotti (RB) Tanya Conti (TC) Paul Webster (PW) Tarleah Thomas (TT) Darren Gill (DG)	<b>By Invitation</b>	
		<b>Apologies</b>	Jill Bourke PCYC Jenny Allen (JA) Kate Rickerby (KR) Michael Henderson (MH) Maureen Campbell (MC) Melanie Ring (MR) Jonine Harrison (JH) Tom Hartman (TH) Lou Tatasciore (LT) Jamie Strickland (JS) Leza Radcliffe (LR) Jim Sandy (JS) Kerry Thompson (KT) Wayne McDonald (WM) Philip Jones (PJ) Leedham Papertalk
		<b>Distribution</b>	As above All councillors – through Kylie Payne

## 1 Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country & Apologies

Meeting Chairman Des Brick (DB). Meeting started at: 13:05 hours  
Des Brick welcomed all with acknowledgement of Country & apologies.

## 2 Accept Minutes of Previous Meeting

Accept minutes of meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2012 as true and correct.

**Moved:** Ian Blayney

**Seconded:** Tarleah Thomas

## 3 Items carried over from previous Meeting

### 3.1 PCYC Support

Konrad advises that State Government support for PCYC remains unresolved and

is of some concern.

Ian Blayney supports Konrad's view and mentions that only 1 out of the 29 PCYC still have funding for a staff member. The State Government will not be willing to fund PCYC at the current level. Ian advises that this matter is being looked at.

### **3.2 Batavia Motel Site**

Konrad advises that the City of Greater Geraldton hands are basically tied on this issue other than to request the current owner to tidy it up. Has anything been done?

Shane van Styn responds that a small amount of work has started. Trespass remains an issue which resulted in a small grass fire on site, building rubble being thrown over the fence and many additional windows being broken. The owner has reportedly rejected any form of assistance and is basically allowing the premises to deteriorate. Apparently there are plans afoot to renovate one wing to cater for short term accommodation, but other than that, there appears to be no remedial action taking place. The establishment is under Singaporean ownership which makes consultation nigh impossible.

Des Brick enquires whether a secure perimeter fence would solve the problem.

Konrad Seidl mentions that he has spoken To Phil Melling, CGG, Director of Sustainable Communities who will need look into this headache, however having said this it would appear that the community is stuck with this problem for now.

Des Brick mentions that the current cyclone proof fencing has proved inadequate due to disrepair which allows for free passage and activity on the premises.

Tony Mettam points out that this establishment is an eyesore the fencing needs to be addressed sooner rather than later.

## **4 Items to be discussed**

### **4.1 Graffiti and Vandalism**

Shane van Styn states that lighting in Eighth Street has been raised with him as being inadequate, especially in the vicinity of the skate park.

Konrad Seidl advises that spending money on lighting is not possible at this juncture, but will be considered in future planning development.

Tarleah Thomas points out that Carson Terrace has a strong smell of urine and asks if this could be hosed down.

Konrad confirms that he would look into the matter.

Darren Gill advises that dogs wandering at large within Mullewa have become a huge problem. Most of these dog issues occur during the evenings or overnight.

Konrad mentions that this will be looked into.

Konrad advises that a graffiti grant for the amount of \$18,000.00 appears to have been successful, given that he received an e-mail indicating that the CGG would be advised shortly. Graffiti spots are identified by GPS and can be downloaded to the Police.

Tony Mettam asks if council will remove graffiti from private properties.

Konrad advises that graffiti on private property remains the property owners responsibility. The City of Greater Geraldton does however supply graffiti removal kits which are obtainable upon request from the CGG depot.

Yvonne Lovedee asks if this information could be made available to the public in TAG to which Konrad responds in the affirmative.

Des Brick enquires if graffiti on private properties has been a problem in Mullewa.

Darren Gill confirms that graffiti is becoming more and more of an issue in Mullewa but actual reporting remains loath.

Tony Mettam advises that accurate statistics are wanting as the public does not generally report this activity with the majority of instances reported by council.

Darren Gill advises that most reported problems in Mullewa stem from kids under the age of 10 causing damage to property with "gings" setting off fire extinguishers and general juvenile nuisance behaviour.

Konrad Seidl advises that juvenile nuisance behaviour has increased during the school holidays in the vicinity of the Rest Centre. Increased Police and Ranger attendance appears to be working well.

Des Brick asks for more information on the Positive Parenting Programme for children under the age of 10.

Darren Gill advises that the PPP is a fairly new concept mainly done through the schools system but deserves further investigation.

#### **4.2 Crime Prevention through Environmental Design**

Konrad Seidl advises that a CCTV camera for Crime Prevention use in Mullewa has been forwarded to the Minister who showed a very positive interest. The matter has been flagged as a priority for the next budget to get things up and running. A CCTV camera will also be installed in the vicinity of Breakers to service the new library. This work will get under way shortly and has been flagged with Western Power as a priority.

#### **4.3 Property Crime (Theft & Burglary)**

Tony Mettam informs the committee that incidents are nowhere near his last report and reflect a positive downward trend. It is also noticeable that curfew trends have shown a marked decrease. It is a well know fact that crime is cyclic and at present the pattern reflects a downward slide which is good. The biggest problem with burglaries is unlocked premises that opportunistic offenders take advantage of. Most instances of theft or burglaries are of a petty nature and randomly opportunistic. Although the media has been pretty good with public awareness, most people simply ignore sound advice.

Darren Gill mentions that a few incidents have occurred at schools and the Police are well onto these matters. There has been one report of motor vehicle theft which turned out to be a staff member.

Konrad Seidl advises that a Business Crime Prevention workshop is being arranged for businesses and retailers dealing with amongst other things the laying of goods for display. Ian Blayney has been approached to get members involved with the 29<sup>th</sup> May 2012 set aside to achieve this workshop. Konrad mentions that he would like to see Mullewa involved with a slightly different slant.

Des Brick what about rural crime such as stock theft, fuel etcetera.

Darren Gill responds that there have been a few incidents of fuel theft but these have all been of a minor nature.

Tarleah Thomas concurs that random thefts of farming tools have occurred but in general things aren't looking too bad. Petrol bowsers are now being locked.

Ian Blayney suggests that spikes in the occurrence of theft are largely dependant on economic conditions.

#### **4.4 Public Perception of Crime**

Jeff Graham presents the committee with the findings of the "Mullewa Community Safety and Crime Prevention Survey" and highlights some of the content contained in the booklet. The aim of the booklet is to provide a base measurement for comparison with future outcomes and actions.

Tony Mettam points out that public perception of crime paints a picture that does not fit with reality. The public generally accept that an incident that occurred in an area ten years ago would still be the norm today which distorts the truth and facts of reality. Opportunistic crime only fuels this perception and could be avoided by simply securing property and locking up.

Des Brick asks, if the public perception is askew and crime is generally opportunistic, how then are we best able to get this message out to the public to take precautions as simple as locking up. Des suggests that this matter be flagged with Konrad to come up with ideas, workshops or programmes.

Tony Mettam suggests that the office of crime prevention get involved to drive the point home much the same as the "stop smoking" campaign.

Des Brick suggests that insurance companies get onboard to help change public perception with education. Surely this will be in their interest as well.

Tarleah Thomas; do targeted house have security screens and if not is there funding available from the Government.

Darren Gill responds that the majority of homeowners are just careless and that public education and awareness is probably the best outcome.

Konrad Seidl points out that the report as per page eight supports public perception that Graffiti vandalism within Mullewa is of concern.

Darrell Gill responds that police statistics on reported incidents does not reflect the public perception. Darrell also mentions that he has been stationed in Mullewa since December and has not experienced this phenomenon. General delinquency issues stem from suspension from school and low school attendance and this is an issue that needs to be addressed within the community.

Konrad Seidl; the lack of entertainment and events is probably also a contributing factor which leads to boredom and anti social behaviour. Community violence should also be tackled more vigorously and could be addressed better if there was a broader spread of agencies at this meeting to support strategies.

Grant Woodhams; Community violence - what is meant by the term community violence? Some years ago Geraldton experienced riots and gained a reputation based on this – what exactly is meant by community violence in this instance.

Konrad Seidl responds that the broader aspect of the term violence which includes, feuding, family fights and disagreements as well as domestic violence which all impact on the community in some way shape or form should not be lost in translation.

Shane van Styn observes that possible overcrowding of houses tend to spill over into the streets. It would appear that responses referred to in the survey are not the actual problem but public perception is.

Tarleah Thomas mentions that most incidents occur in waves and that currently the area has settled down.

Darren Gill mentions that although there is much talk within the indigenous community very little is reported. Although family feuds are disbanded by the police the community prefers to keep these issues in-house without police interference.

Tony Metttham thanks Jeff for his hard work in collating and producing a good report. Tony reiterates that although the survey reflects current public perception on crime, it does not measure up to reality. If police statistics reflected and validated this perception then there would be room for concern. Having said this, the committee should strive to improve community perceptions and concerns by following up every reported case with a “No Tolerance” approach.

## 4.5 YOUTH

### Youth n Motion

- **National Youth Week**
  - Is being celebrated on Thursday 19 April between 6pm and 9pm at the foreshore
  - Stalls and activities for all members of the family
  - Will have 4 additional security guards from HiLite Security
- **Extend Wonthella Skate Park Stage 2**
  - Community group have met with Convic Design consultants
  - Proposals are being submitted to be included in the Draft Sporting Futures Report.
  - William Shi, Recreational Planner will now take on the key role in this development
- **Youth Resource Centre Feasibility Study**
  - Expressions of interest were advertised for consultants to undertake the feasibility study by end June.
  - Successful applicant will be advertised shortly
- **Youth Coordinating Network**
  - Monthly newsletters are compiled by Karina Day, Youth Development Officer, and circulated via email within the 50 plus membership.
  - Items to be included in the newsletter can be forwarded to [karinad@cgg.wa.gov.au](mailto:karinad@cgg.wa.gov.au)
- **Youth Council**
  - As part of the City’s 2029 & beyond consultation it was proposed that a Youth Council be established.
  - Kat Williams, Youth Outreach Officer, has been researching and will present findings to CGG Council in May
  - With sustainability being a key factor the formal ‘council’ may not suit Greater Geraldton. More research to be completed using the ‘World Café’ technique with students as used in the City’s 2029 & Beyond project.
- **Midnight Basketball**
  - Will commence in May
  - The organising committee is still seeking membership
  - Steve Jacob, Youth Officer, will be the Tournament Manager for the first tournament. Steve is “hoping” to get Mullewa students to participate – a few challenges to overcome.

- **Youth Bus**
  - 65 plus youth converge at the youth bus on Thursday nights
  - Additional activities such as the Karaoke bus, gyro wheels as well as the basketball keep all engaged.
  - Looking at increasing the presence of Youth Coordinating Network members with additional activities.

#### **COMING EVENTS:**

- 21/22 April – Valley View Vintage & Military Drive & fly In at Northern Gully
- 25 April Anzac Day
- 28 & 29 April – Geraldton Boat, Caravan & Camping Show at the Geraldton Turf Club
- 2 June – Mullewa Muster (inaugural rodeo)
- 17 August Proposed funding workshop with at least 4 key funding bodies

Konrad asks Yvonne if workshops are set.

Yvonne asks if she can back to Konrad or alternatively agencies present could speak to her at the conclusion of the meeting for more information.

Des Brick thanks Yvonne for her comprehensive and detailed report.

## **5 General Business**

Ian Blayney mentions that burglaries in the locality of Strathalbyn appear to have increased. A \$500.00 rebate for security screens is available to senior citizens and a brochure will be released shortly.

Des Brick mentions that during community engagement on Local Laws and beach access, breaking into vehicles has been sighted as a big problem.

Tony Mettam refutes this notion and points out that this is not a crime wave. Only one incident has been reported and this where the vehicle owner left the vehicle unlocked with the keys in the ignition. Again an opportunistic situation.

There being no further business for discussion Des Brick thanks the committee for their attendance and valuable contributions.

Next meeting date: **20th June 2012**

Meeting closed: 14:50 hours.

Next meeting: **Randolph Stow Rooms 1 + 2 Library**