

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY PRECINCT MEETING, HELD IN THE MEETING ROOM AT EUSTON CLUB ON FRIDAY 8TH MARCH 2019, COMMENCING AT 2:06PM.

PRESENT:

Inspector Stuart Gordon (NSW Police), Superintendent Paul Smith (NSW Police), Acting Inspector Trent Swinton (NSW Police), Senior Constable Gemma Samoun (NSW Police), Mr Michael Kitzelmann (General Manager, Balranald Shire), Ray Davy (Director of Infrastructure and Development, Balranald Shire) Mrs Vicki Barnes (Kyalite Hotel), Jennifer Bax Alvarado (EA Balranald Shire)

APOLOGIES:

Mr Paul Hadlow (VRA), Cr Jeff Mannix, Sgt. Narelle Tucker (NSW Police), Mr Wayne Whitby (General Manager Balranald District Ex-Services Memorial Club Ltd)

PREVIOUS MINUTES: Minutes of 13th December 2018 were moved by Superintendent Paul Smith and Seconded by Mr Michael Kitzelmann as being a true and correct copy.

UPDATE FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

Regarding the intersection of Market Street and McCabe Street - Inspector Paul Smith advised that he has been in contact with RMS & BSC
Ray Davy advised that this was also discussed at the Emergency Management & Infrastructure meetings.

Michael Kitzelmann advised that the police Housing was not made available to BSC, this is potentially because the Highway Patrol may come back to Balranald.

Michael also discussed about the growth of residents to Balranald including, Nut Farms, Solar farms, Iluka and Crystal mines and indicated that BSC will need to establish a housing plan to facilitate the growth needs of at least 350 permanent people plus seasonal people over the next 5 years.

Senior Constable Gemma Samoun advised that the Balranald pub has been very busy every night but the behaviour has been very good.

Kyalite Hotel is also seeing increased activity.

Action: Development of a demographic model with statistics for growth of the future. BSC to develop this document to assist police with planning.

Inspector Stuart Gordon and Acting Inspector Trent Swinton provided an update for the quarter.

A Drug Related Report was delivered with comments on the use of drug dogs from Broken Hill which had been used for the first time in approximately 20 years. Access to the dogs is based on information received.

Michael Kitzelmann updated the group on the staff drug testing that BSC are now performing on a regular basis.

POLICE STATISTICS & UPDATES – Barrier Police District

Acting Inspector Trent Swinton provided a detailed report on the statistics from 1st December, 2019 to 28th, February 2019.

Refer attached presentation for finer details.

In Summary

63 x Assaults across the Barrier district with
3 in Balranald
1 in Euston

13 x Breaking & Entering across the Barrier district with
5 in Balranald
1 in Euston

15 x Stealings across the Barrier district with
6 in Balranald
2 in Euston

28 x Malicious Damage incidents, across the Barrier district with
11 in Balranald
2 in Euston

Superintendent Paul Smith indicated that both Balranald and Euston are clean tidy towns that are well presented and that stealings are typically opportunistic.

OTHER DISCUSSIONS

Several motor vehicle accidents with fatalities were discussed, the need for improvements on the Euston Bridge were raised.

Vicki Barnes identified that there are a lot of trucks that speed past the hotel at Kyalite and she has concerns given there are other vehicles turning into the road and there is a large bend on the road just down from this area.

ACTION: Present to the traffic Committee for review. Trent will speak with the Police Traffic department.

It was suggested that some type of community education be produced identifying that it is legislation that police carry weapons and tool belts. Some patrons of the hotels have felt intimidated that these are being worn when police are just doing a walkthrough.

Inspector Stuart Gordon advised that staffing at Euston will be increased by 1 staff member by the first week back from school holidays, approximately the end of April.

Ray Davy discussed the speed being travelled on local roads, specifically Bertram & Taylor Rds and also on Morris Rd. The speed limit is 80Km and the roads are narrow. It was discussed what the impact on locals and the commercial agricultural industry might be if the road access was changed. Some of the options discussed included chicanes, stop signs, etc.

ACTION: Acting Inspector Trent Swinton to provide Sgt. Narelle Tucker information on the issues with the roads discussed as police would like to focus on areas like this.

Michael Kitzelmann discussed the SES relocating to Balranald and The Rural Fire service building a new shed.

The Urban Fire Service has installed yellow lines outside the Balranald hotel to provide access to the fire hydrant. A recommendation was for cats' eyes and signage to be installed.

ACTION: BSC to provide this information to the community.

Acting Inspector Trent Swinton asked a question about youth in the community. Funding requirements were discussed with Youth being the targeted area recommended. Senior Constable Gemma Samoun identified some areas for funding and requested that it be used for young football players who could not afford their membership and uniform costs. This was a way to keep the youth busy and keep them from being bored.

Acting Inspector Trent Swinton advised that Dept P&C were a potential source of funding.

ACTION: BSC to look at Grants available.

The question was asked when the Ivanhoe Rd works would be completed. Answer 30th June 2019.

Michael Kitzelmann advised that the Balranald to Oxley Road (3kms) would be completed this calendar year.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for 21st June, 2019 at 11am. To be held at the Kyalite Hotel.

CLOSURE: There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.05pm.