Burleigh Police Community Consultative Committee
Minutes of Meeting - 21/06/2010

Chair: Margie Gardner **Secretary**: Dan Byron

Committee meeting opened by Chair at 5:05pm in the Hall at Fradgley Hall, Burleigh Heads

Attendance and apologies as per Attendance Book.

Minutes of previous meeting: Moved Christine Smith, seconded Ken Evernden, that minutes be accepted as true and accurate record.
CARRIED

Business Arising:
Graffiti Audit held on 15/05/2010 – Report back from Dale Jackson

- Great attendance by community and Bunnings "red shirt" team.
- Over 240 Tags/graffiti logged and over half has been removed already.
- Next step will be to encourage "crime prevention through environmental design" (such as darker coloured fences)

Dale Jackson announced that Data-dot property identification kits are now available from any PCYC on the Gold Coast.

Correspondence: As per register.

Financial Report: Nil

Reports: Police:
Senior Sergeant Chris Ahearn:
Sen Sgt Ahearn reported that local crime statistics are travelling well:
Key Points:

- Car Theft offences have significantly decreased. Most offences occurring between 4am – 8am.
- Stealing from vehicles offences have had a slight decrease. Often occur on Saturdays between 8pm & 12am along Gold Coast Highway
- Burglary offences principally occurring in residential areas (not business). Main areas include Burleigh St, Christine Ave and Burleigh Hill. Two offenders have been caught.
- Major Traffic operation recently resulted in 29 drink driving/'drug driving' arrests. Offences such as these will be targeted further to reduce this number.

General business:

1. Snr Sgt Chris Ahearn spoke about group study exchange to United States. The trip was sponsored by Rotary and Chris spent five weeks in North Carolina and received some great insights into the police officers in schools program. The program helps to address issues such as Substance abuse and violence by building relationships between students and police and showing how crime affects their community – Similar programs on the Southern GC having great results.

2. Jennifer Grainger – Community Development Officer from Community Development Office spoke about homelessness and the Homeless Connect initiative. Homeless Connect started in San Francisco in 1984 to provide better access to services and networks for homeless people and people at risk of homelessness. **The number one cause of homelessness is domestic violence and the primary victims are children under the age of 12**. In Australia today there are approx 24,000 children and 18,000 seniors homeless or at risk of becoming so.

Homeless Connect started on the Gold Coast three years ago and the numbers of attendees, volunteers and services increase greatly each year. The day involves activities, referrals and services such as JP's and Identity renewal. All attendees get hot meals and donations of food, clothing and toiletries – DONATIONS OF CANNED FOOD, SHOES AND TOILETERIES

The HC collection point will be located at Sign A Rama West Burleigh, unit 2/76 Kortum Drive West Burleigh. Donations for Homeless Connect can also be left at any St Vincent De Paul shop on the Gold Coast or by contacting Jennifer Grainger Community Development Office 07 5576 0956 or Margie Gardner on 0410 627 911.

- **Homeless connect will be held on the 4th of August at Albert Waterways Community Centre**

3. Several issues such as Graffiti were discussed at length. Addressing this issue is neither simple nor quick but a whole of community approach will have lasting effects. Police are working in schools and in communities to tackle issue and all tags are recorded in a database to aid in prosecution and investigation.

As meeting time is limited, it was agreed that instead of the committee dealing with specific incidents and recurring issues, these matters should be communicated to Committee Secretary to be collated. This will give operational police a better idea of where and when incidents are occurring and allow them to better target resources.

Note: This is in no way intended to take the place of usual process of reporting, such as calling Police or Crimestoppers.

Next meeting: Monday August 9 at 5pm – Fradgley Hall, Burleigh Heads

Meeting closed 6:30pm