

# Record of Proceedings

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## Community Forum Monday 13 November 2017

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The Community Forum commenced at 6.30pm and was held in the Council Foyer,  
62-64 Menangle Street, Picton 2571.

## WOLLONDILLY SHIRE COUNCIL

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## **OPENING BY THE CHAIRPERSON**

The Chairperson, Cr Briggs opened the Community Forum at 6.30pm. The Chairperson welcomed all those in attendance at the Community Forum. The Chairperson introduced the Mayor, Cr Hannan; Councillors and Directors to the Community Forum participants. Cr Smith was congratulated on his recent election to East Ward following the By-Election.

The Chairperson stated that the electronic recording of the Community Forum and the use of electronic media during the proceedings is not permitted including devices such as laptops, mobile phones, tape recorders and video cameras. The Chairperson requested that participants switch off their mobile phones.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

The Chairperson acknowledged the Traditional Custodians of the Land:

I would like to pay my respect and acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which this meeting takes place, and also pay respect to Elders both past and present.

## **PRESENT**

Councillors: Landow, Hannan (Mayor), Gould, Briggs, Khan, Deeth, Lowry and Smith.

## **ALSO PRESENT**

Executive Director Corporate and Community, Director Planning, Director Infrastructure and Environment and One Administration Officer.

## **APOLOGIES**

Councillor Banasik and the General Manager

## **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

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Formal Community Forum Matters

**FORMAL COMMUNITY FORUM MATTERS**

TRIM 1350

1. **Community Safety**

Constable Amy Buschmann from St. Marys Local Area Command (LAC) opened the presentation and provided the following statistics.

In October there were 125 assaults; 5 robberies; and 2 offenders being monitored for Break and Enters. Retail theft was mainly contributable to youths stealing from shops. This has been alleviated by incorporating this into operation "light fingers" where a number of charges have been laid with 20 to 30 person searches conducted.

Constable Buschmann advised that malicious damage incidents have decreased with Warragamba having significantly lower occurrences than other areas in the St. Marys LAC. Domestic Violence reports have also decreased. They have 10 offenders on their list currently who they are doing compliance checks on.

Participants were informed that a merge between St Mary's and Penrith LAC was occurring and by 17 December 2017 they will be called Nepean Police Area Command.

The constable advised that there is currently one officer stationed in Warragamba who starts their shift at St. Mary's and then relocates. The station at Warragamba is being renovated and upgraded. It was noted that the house that the police officer used to live in is being demolished. The constable was unsure as to the future plans for Warragamba Police Station.

Chief Inspector Shane Howard from Campbelltown LAC continued the presentation firstly by giving an apology for Inspector Tara Norton.

The Chief Inspector advised that Campbelltown LAC are merging with Macquarie Fields which will result in around 300 members in this force.

The crime figures for the Appin area over the last three months were down with a number of operations happening in the area. Statistics presented were as follows:

- 5 x Assaults
- 12 x Business Inspections
- 17 x Domestic Violence incidents
- 11 x Move On
- 25 x Personal Searches
- 21 x Vehicle Searches
- 9 x Licencing Legislation matters
- 3 x Stealing
- 1 x Stolen Motor Vehicle
- 6 x Malicious Damage (Included Council gates to fire trails)

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Formal Community Forum Matters

In total there were 177 incidents over the reporting period. Over half of which, are as a result of the police being proactive in the area.

The Chief Inspector highlighted the fact that no break and enters occurred and that Alcohol Free Zones are now being enforced in the area. The police perspective being that it was a very positive result for the past three months.

Participants were advised that with the increased LAC they still intend to continue in the area.

Chief Inspector Pearsall from Camden LAC wound up the presentation with the statistics for The Oaks and Picton.

The Inspector highlighted the following statistics for the previous four months, July to October 2017.

- 12 x Assaults
- 13 x Break and Enters
- 21 x Domestic Violence matters
- 2 x AVO (Apprehended Violence Order) Breaches
- 5 x Drug Detections
- 6 x Fraud
- 13 x Person Searches
- 133 x Traffic Incidents

It was stated that visibility in the area is up with Officer Simon Jones very active in The Oaks. There is a lot of proactive activities happening with an increase in personal inspections.

The inspector noted that assaults are slightly up since September as is fraud matters which are up state wide.

Statistics were provided for Picton as follows:

- 61 x Assaults
- 5 x AVO's
- 17 x Break and Enter
- 218 x Business Inspections
- 79 x Domestic Violence Incidents
- 33 x Drug Detections
- 32 x Fraud
- 41 x Major Traffic Crashes
- 57 x Malicious Damage
- 171x Personal Searches
- 111 x School Inspections
- 5 x Stolen Vehicle/Vessel
- 2176 x Traffic Offences

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Formal Community Forum Matters

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The participants were advised that assaults were up a little, coming into warmer months they are generally alcohol related. Drug offences are also up which is positive as it indicates police are being proactive.

The Chairperson, on behalf of the Wollondilly community, thanked the police for coming out this evening and for all the work they do in the area.

A number of questions were asked and answered by the police from each LAC on the night.

Formal Community  
Forum Matters

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Community Question/Statement Time

**COMMUNITY QUESTION/STATEMENT TIME**

In line with the Community Forum Guidelines matters must be submitted on the *Community Forum Question/Statement Form* in order to be addressed. The Record of Proceedings will only record the name of the person who raised the Question/Statement, who they represent and the topic discussed. Any additional documents handed in on the night will be noted. No verbal comments from the speaker will be documented.

A copy of all questions submitted by the cut off time is given to Councillors to consider regardless of whether they are addressed during the proceedings.

The Chairperson stated that Community Question/Statement Time is for matters that relate to items in Council's Ordinary Meeting Agenda. Reports are written by Council officers and reflect the views of the applicants' proposal, community views, legal aspects and where appropriate, comments.

All questions must be submitted in writing by 12 noon on the day of the Forum. There will be a maximum of 2 speakers for and against a matter with each speaker limited to 5 minutes.

The Chairperson reinforced that Community Forums are to provide information and to allow comment and are not a debate night. The Chairperson asked that speakers address them and Councillors on all occasions, to stay on the subject matter and avoid making personal remarks about individuals.

The Executive Director, Ally Dench read out the Executive Summary from the Council report for each agenda item discussed throughout the night.

TRIM 1978

Ques 1 Mr Tim Bennett-Smith representing Picton-Thirlmere-Bargo RSL sub Branch  
Matter raised: NOM 3 submitted by Cr Briggs relating to the Naming of Sportsgrounds in Honour of Local Fallen Soldiers

Mr Bennett-Smith addressed the Forum.

Additional information was handed in on the night containing research on the three names submitted by Cr Briggs as reported in the Macarthur Chronicle.

Community  
Question/Statement  
Time

WOLLONDILLY SHIRE COUNCIL

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Informal Question/Statement Time

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**INFORMAL QUESTION/STATEMENT TIME**

There were no informal questions/statements.

Informal Question  
/Statement Time



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Conclusion and Informal Discussions

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**CONCLUSION AND INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS**

The Chairperson thanked those present for attending, for the feedback provided and interest shown in the matters discussed. The Chairperson invited everyone to tea and coffee and to speak openly to Councillors about any matter they wish to raise.

The Community Forum closed at 7.13 pm.

About 10 people present.

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Your Councillors

**YOUR COUNCILLORS**

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Community Forum Dates

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**COMMUNITY FORUM DATES**

Community Forums will generally be held on the second Monday of each month and will commence at 6.30pm except in the case of a public holiday when it will be held on the second Tuesday.

Dates for upcoming Community Forums in 2017 are as follows:

- Monday 4 December 2017