



NORTHERN WYONG SHIRE GRAFFITI FORUM **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 25 OCTOBER 2011**

Present: Jillian Hogan, Services Manager, SRNC; Emma Ward, Graffiti Removal Expert and Adviser; Julie Vaughan, Wyong Shire Council; Tricia Carlson, Warnervale Family and Community Centre; Thelma McFarlane, Blue Haven Craft; John Carpenter, San Remo Tidy Towns; Gwen Gehan, Wallarah North Precinct/Blue Haven Craft; Doug Darlington, The Entrance Precinct; Neil Wynn, Mannering Park Precinct; Jean Tyler, Bamboo House; Angela Ware, Student Support Officer, Northlakes High School; Ailie Horswell, Social Work Student.

Apologies: Bill Symington, Councillor, Wyong Shire Council; Martin Winterburn, Assistant Operations Manager, Lake Haven Shopping Centre.

Jillian Hogan opened meeting and welcomed everyone. Two new faces were introduced – Angela Ware, Student Support Officer at Northlakes High School and Ailie Horswell, a Social Work Student who is doing her placement at San Remo Neighbourhood Centre. Jillian recapped as follows:

Integrated Approach

Council and MP's – Writing of Graffiti Management Policy, Funding, Kits, Education, Posters, Changes in Legislation

Community – Paint-outs, Graffiti removal, Letters to businesses and Council, Posters, Collecting information, Graffiti Clean-up Days, Trailer, Murals, Schools

Businesses – Toukley, The Entrance, San Remo, Lake Haven

Police – Information for policy writing, Information sent to graffiti tag team @ The Entrance, PALS, Youth Service and Police working together

Forum Principles

Four E's – Eradication, Engagement in Projects, Education and Enforcement

Aims of Forum = Responsibility, Report, Removal and Reward

Northern Wyong Shire Graffiti Forum Endorsed Initiatives

- The NWSGF supports rapid removal programs – removal within 48 hours.
- The Forum supports recording and reporting graffiti harm.
- The Forum and Wyong Shire Council does not support graffiti art or graffiti walls as a way of deterring graffiti tagging.
- The Forum uses So Safe products.
- The Graffiti Beater trailer is equipped with chemicals, a gurnie and equipment for graffiti removal and is available for use by community and businesses.
- The Forum will provide an introductory kit to community members and groups and educate people on methods to remove graffiti.
- Wyong Shire Council will provide graffiti kits to residents.
- The Forum and WSC supports murals as a means to deter on-going graffiti vandalism and are currently working on murals at San Remo and Budgewoi.

- The Forum and Wyong Shire Council supports tree planting as a way to deter graffiti tagging – San Remo has been done and Warnervale is in the process of being done.
- The Forum and Wyong Shire Council supports the Warner's Education Program.
- The Forum supports Graffiti Action Days – San Remo and Warnervale involved.
- The Forum supports the Wyong Shire Council Graffiti Management Strategy.

UPDATES ON INITIATIVES

Resident's Buckets – Julie

Julie advised as follows:

- Approximately 500 buckets given out so far.
- Residents are still not aware that buckets are free even though it is advertised on all rates notices and Council promote the availability of the buckets at all events that they attend.
- Discussion on \$15000 Council has given to Northern Lakes Regional Business Chamber for bulk chemicals. Julie said the bulk chemicals come in different sizes and were given mostly to groups such as Tidy Towns. Gwen enquired about obtaining bulk chemicals closer to home (rather than have to travel to Toukley). Jillian offered to organise obtaining chemicals for Gwen.
- Julie spoke on how Council were using photos to capture the type of surface being cleaned, the size of the surface and how many community hours were spent in removing graffiti.

Community Buckets – Jillian

- There are still some community buckets available at SRNC.
- Jillian related story of lady who had been told by Century 21 Real Estate to come to Neighbourhood Centre to obtain a community bucket to clean graffiti off her rented premises. Jillian suggested the Forum approach Century 21 Real Estate for sponsorship.

Coordination of Trailer – Julie

- Julie said following discussion with Northern Lakes Regional Business Chamber which was reported in the last Minutes, Council recommended that an EOI process be undertaken to seek support in the management of the trailer. She has been on leave and has not heard anymore. Further to this, in the last week she had seen an email (from Councillor Doug Vincent with an attachment from the Chamber advertising the trailer and free chemicals) and thought this might mean the Chamber was now happy to maintain coordination of the trailer.
- Council has invested a lot of money in the purchase of a significant amount of chemicals for the trailer and Julie said the trailer needs to be "out there" and being used. Council is happy to help promote the trailer but there needs to be a clear process and one phone number to contact.
- Discussion took place on gurnie on trailer and it not being strong enough to clean off some graffiti.
- Discussion took place about communities taking on their own trailer concept and that it is difficult to pick up the trailer due to the geography of the area

Tree Planting – Warnervale

- Tree planting has not yet taken place as Warnervale Family and Community Centre still in process of moving premises. Ruth Punch is “babysitting” trees at present.

CCTV Cameras at Blue Haven – Julie

- Julie reported that funding agreement was received by Council last week. This will allow for the installation of CCTV cameras and the upgrade of security fencing around the site (buildings).
- Expressions of Interest will now go out for tenders for the work and this process should be completed by the end of the year.

Restoring Harmony Project

- Jillian said still waiting for specifications from funding body. Jillian and Julie have spoken regarding working together on this Project and Council's initiatives so to ensure there is no overlap.

JJ Conferencing

- Jillian reported that young people are still cleaning off graffiti through the SRNC's LINKS Youth Service.

Use of CSO Workers

- Julie said Council has community service orders as an organisation and CSO workers are used at Bateau Bay but this is not happening this end of the Shire.
- Jillian reported that Probation and Parole already have graffiti removal on their scope – partnership with Council is using CSO workers to clean off graffiti. Chemicals, paint and sprayer needed. Needs activation by Council.
- After discussion on how to organise, Jillian to notify Julie by email of person to contact at Probation and Parole.
- Julie said Council has mini bus with supervisor for CSO workers. Neil suggested hooking trailer on back of bus although man power would be needed.

Replacement of Entry Signs – San Remo - Julie

- Julie was unaware that issues were not resolved.
- Forum previously requested that the two signs be removed and replaced with new ones.
- After discussion, Julie will follow up as the appropriate service request (for removal and replacement of signs) has not been lodged.
- Jillian said she had put a service request in for cleaning of signs in late 2010 but the cleaning equipment had burnt into the sign so not readable.

Warners Education Program - Julie

Julie reported as follows:

- The Warners Education Program is a graffiti education program for schools. It is based in Victoria and is highly used in schools in New South Wales. The school

system have found the program powerful and positive and it has links to the school curriculum. The Police are also supportive of the impact it is having.

- Funds to run the Program in schools in Wyong Shire are in the Council budget, quotes are being finalised, time frames and discussions with Principals of schools are being organised. The Program should start next year.

NEW PROJECTS

Provision of T-Shirts - Emma

- Emma passed around sheet with diagram of what t-shirt will look like with logos on and detailing quote from Trio Embroidery. Total price for 30 garments is \$1584.00. Council's donation of \$1100 will allow for the provision of 21 t-shirts.
- After discussion it was decided to go ahead with the purchase of 21 t-shirts.

Cleaning of Wooden Fences

- There was discussion on how difficult it is to remove graffiti from wooden fences. Jillian said the majority of houses along the main thoroughfare through San Remo had wooden fences and these were often covered in graffiti.
- Doug Darlington felt the best way to remove/cover graffiti on wooden fences was to paint over.

Generic Letter for Letterbox Distribution in Budgewoi and Other Areas - Emma

- Emma passed draft brochure around for everyone to see. Emma said it still needs some fine tuning and proof reading.
- To move the task forward it was decided that the following be done:
 - the brochure be proof read
 - the brochure be printed
 - letterbox drop the brochure to houses who have graffiti on walls and/or fences
 - everyone to keep some brochures in their car so if passing a house which has been graffitied they can put one in letterbox.
- Thank you extended to Emma for her great work in preparation of the brochure.

List of Sponsors – Jillian

- Jillian to compile power point slide with list of sponsors.

San Remo/Blue Haven Christmas Celebration – Trailer on Display

- The San Remo/Blue Haven Community Christmas celebration is to be held on Wednesday 7 December 2011 from 6 pm – 9 pm.
- Jillian to email Mark Izzard to ask to have trailer on display.
- Discussion took place on who would man stall.

Airless Spray Machine

- Discussion took place on above.
- John Carpenter showed Dulux Spray Fast machine which was purchased from Bunnings at \$28.00.

MURAL PROJECT

- Jillian showed photos of the completed mural at San Remo shops and the Budgewoi mural which is still in the process of being painting. It is looking great and community members in Budgewoi are already talking about the painting of murals at other entry points.

OTHER ITEMS DISCUSSED

- Julie spoke on Council being contacted by the Attorney General's Department as a priority local government area (Wyong Shire third on list) to apply for funding as part of their Crime Prevention Program. Submissions are due early November 2011.
 - Interested to hear about Graffiti Management Strategy
 - Talked re toilet blocks and community buildings being attacked
 - Anti-graffiti coating – graffiti so much easier to remove
 - Targeting Wadalba – bad/community art/ant graffiti coating
 - Crime Prevention Plan – opportunities for ongoing funding
- Discussion on Darren Webber's Offer
 - Gwen asked re grants – Darren Webber – apply for funding
 - Jillian to look at funding criteria
 - Level of funding for youth activities
 - Perhaps for Extreme Park
- Neil asked about reporting incidents of graffiti to Police. He said he had a couple of email addresses but when he had emailed reports he never receives an email back to say that his report has been received.
 - Discussion took place and suggestion made that the Forum revisit "Reporting to Police"
 - Request that Murray Alcott come to Graffiti Forum meetings.

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2011
AT 4 PM
AT SAN REMO NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

**PLEASE BRING A PLATE TO THIS MEETING TO CELEBRATE
OUR ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHRISTMAS!**



TASKS

Jillian to:

- 1) **Bulk chemicals** – organise to obtain for Gwen.
- 2) **List of Sponsors** – create power point slide of sponsors.
- 3) **Use of CSO Workers** – Send email to Julie Vaughan with name of person to contact at Probation and Parole.
- 4) **Trailer on Display at San Remo/Blue Haven Christmas Event** – Jillian to email Mark Izzard.
- 5) **Funding Criteria** – Jillian to look at – Darren Webber

Emma to:

- 1) **T Shirts** – go ahead with ordering – update – **Authorisation to use WSC Logo – Who?**
- 2) **Draft Brochure/Generic Letter for Letterbox Drop** – update.

Doug V to:

- 1) **Tree Planting at Warnervale** – Doug to contact **Trish Carlson** to organise contacting Council to check that trees are okay to plant and to obtain permission to plant them.
- 2) **Mural at Budgewoi** – Doug to contact the relevant people from Budgewoi Vision re funding towards artist for mural at Budgewoi.