



Aurora Community Association General Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday 18th February 2014

Venue: Creeds Farm Living and Learning Centre, Snugburgh way Epping North

Attendees: Toni-Marie, Cara, Tony, Ankim, Ruth, Surbi, Sash, Thomas, Shali, Wilma, Dianne, Tony

Time: 7.30pm

1. Welcome (Toni-Marie)

2. 7.35pm- 8.30pm guest speaker Sandy O'Connor, Whittlesea Crime Prevention Officer from Victoria Police. The following points were made by Sandy.

Victoria is one of the safest place to live in Australia. The City of Whittlesea area is a reasonably safe place.

80% of crime is opportunistic. It is a community responsibility to deal with crime issues e.g. theft from cars

Theft from cars is the biggest crime problem in the City of Whittlesea. Numberplate theft occurs to enable the stealing of petrol (due to gambling, financial burden etc.). There is theft from inside cars that have valuables displayed e.g. GPS, phones, laptops, purses, wallets, sunglasses, loose change. Residential streets are now more of a problem than car parks or railway stations in this area. No real hot spots, so hard to deal with. One-way screws are available for gold coin donation from police stations to stop numberplates from being stolen.

House burglaries are common in new estates. Houses close to train lines are still common for burglaries, now mostly in newer areas. People in newer areas are not telling police about suspicious behaviour. We need to do this so police can keep an eye out for those doing the wrong thing and also so that police can compile portfolios/ data on offenders. On an iPhone you can get the Stop Crime app. Take photos, video, upload, dob in people; crime communications go to crime stoppers. Portfolios are compiled on people doing wrong thing through this app.

Property related e.g. break in, loud party = ring local police station 9409 8100 for Epping Police Station
Fire, car crash, emergency etc. = ring 000

Family violence and psychiatric patients take up a lot of time, so police can't often get to problems like house burglaries quickly. Family violence a huge issue in this area. Family violence unit based in Mill Park.

Even though police still busy, please still ring and report non-emergency issues to local police station. Police will try to respond but will give precedence to emergency jobs. Try to work with local council on issues like hoon behaviour, rubbish dumping, antisocial behaviour etc.

Graffiti should be removed within 24 hours. Rough dark surfaces are better for deterring graffiti. Trees and plants against walls can also help as well as murals and aboriginal art. Council will remove graffiti in public places but not from private property.

Whittlesea City Neighbourhood Watch was in a bad state last year and the committee folded. A new stronger committee has since been formed and Neighbourhood Watch is in the process of rebuilding/ launching. Sandy encouraged us to get involved so we have representation from our area. Most of the committee are from Mernda /Doreen and Lalor/ Thomastown. It would be good to have some people from this area on the committee.

A property marking session will be conducted on 30th March at CFLLC.

Dumping of rubbish. Get details if possible and dob into council as they have higher penalties. It is harder to report if it happens at night and can't be seen.



Fireworks are Illegal. Ring up Epping station to report. Try to get details of who culprits are, where live or where they are buying from. Video or photos will help.

Phone 9409 8100 for Epping Police Station. Choose option of uniformed police enquiry.

Toni-Marie and attendees thanked Sandy for attending the meeting.

3. Transport Working Group update (Tony/ Toni-Marie) in the Whittlesea Leader newspaper this week. Video on transport issues is just being finalised and a big campaign leading up to the state election is just being finalised too.
4. Emergency Planning 13 march (Toni-Marie). A group has been formed who are trying to improve the emergency preparedness of the local community- all emergencies not just fire.
5. Trivia Night March 29 (Cara). Trivia night planning is happening at the moment. Need to find an MC/ quizmaster for the event. A performer would also be good. Helpers to assist with organising the event would also be welcomed.
6. Cultural Event- May 18 (Toni-Marie). We will be holding a cultural event on the afternoon of Sunday May 18th or 25th at CFLLC If you are interested in being part of this event please let us know- could be organising a dance, making food for people to try, being part of cultural fashion parade etc.
7. Any Other Business.
 - a. (Toni-Marie) Places Victoria supposed to have decided on sale of land in estate to new developers but still no decision. Town centre and community centre have been started now. Kindergarden will open at the start of 2015, shops mid to late 2015.
8. Closure (8.55pm)

Date of next meeting- Trivia Night 29 March, General Meeting May 1.