



**LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING**

MINUTES

Meeting of the Local Emergency Management Committee
held at the **St John Ambulance Hall**
5.30pm Tuesday 5 May 2009

Rob Stewart
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES

Present

Eric Howard (Chair)	Shire of Plantagenet
Ewen Hill	St John Ambulance
Carrie Linster	St John Ambulance/Mount Barker Volunteer Fire Rescue Service
Ray Parry	Shire of Plantagenet
Nicole Selesnew	Shire of Plantagenet
Rayona Evans	Shire of Plantagenet
Keith Hart	Community Representative
David Burcham	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
Gary Wann	State Emergency Service
Jeff Roach	State Emergency Service
Gill Toone	Red Cross
Sarah Tup Evans	Department for Child Protection (DCP)
Tony Ward	Mount Barker Police
Ed Cooney	Mount Barker Police
Wes Beck	Mount Barker Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service

Apologies

Cr Ken Clements	Shire of Plantagenet
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3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved J Roach, seconded E Hill:

That the minutes of the Local Emergency Management Committee meeting held 3 February 2009 be confirmed.

4 REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

Location / Address: N / A
Name of Applicant: N / A
Author: Nicole Selesnew
Date of Report: 24 April 2009

Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM)

The Council has agreed to incorporate the CESM position on to the staff structure. Funding for the position will be considered in the 2009 / 2010 budget deliberations.

FESA has confirmed they have funding available for a CESM position at the Shire of Plantagenet.

SES Vehicle

The SES has received a new vehicle through the Emergency Services Levy allocation. The new V8 Toyota Landcruiser Troop Carrier will replace the existing truck and will be used in conjunction with a response trailer (already in place).

Mount Barker Fire Debrief

The Mount Barker Fire Debrief was held on 24 March 2009. A range of agencies attended which were involved in the fire response. A copy of the debrief notes are attached.

Further discussion regarding the debrief identified the following:

- Lack of communication between the Hospital and the Control Centre regarding the Hospital evacuation;
- The Shire to liaise with the Hospital (and other key agencies in the district) to ensure that the Council, Police and Shire are to be notified if an evacuation is going to occur.
- Some media reports were incorrect – media releases to only come from one central outlet only; and
- Communication between the Control Point and Control Centre could be improved.

5 GENERAL BUSINESS / MATTERS ARISING

Mock Incident Debrief

Mock Incident held on 21 March 2009 at Lowood Road ran very smoothly. Police co-ordinated the incident and liaised with all of the different agencies.

St John Ambulance has some identified some areas for improvement which they are addressing. SES called on Albany SES to assist with traffic control to ensure they had sufficient volunteers. Albany SES was very impressed by the politeness and understanding of the public regarding the incident.

Debrief notes from the mock incident, as prepared by Keith Hart, are attached.

The next incident will be a 'desktop exercise' which Tony Ward, Mount Barker Police, has offered to prepare. The desktop scenario will occur at the November meeting.

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

It was a relatively quiet bush fire season with a couple of recent fires that required Brigade attendance. The Mount Barker Fire required a lot of resources which co-ordinated well together.

Mount Barker Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service (MBVFRS)

The MBVFRS have attended 29 call outs since 1 June 2008.

The Mock Incident at Lowood Road was good learning opportunity for new members. New recruits have also attended various training courses recently.

Carrie Linster suggested organising an information session at the Mount Barker Community College to promote emergency services and to act as a recruiting drive.

ACTION

Nicole Selesnew to contact the Mount Barker Community College to investigate possibility of an organising information session.

State Emergency Service (SES)

The SES received a new Landcruiser and new radios (on WAERN system -Channel UHF 12).

The SES has recruited 3 new members.

Gary Wann raised the possibility of compiling a register of elderly people that may require assistance in the event of an emergency evacuation. The committee agreed that this would be too difficult to maintain accurately as people often leave the district or move house without notifying the relevant agencies. It is good to encourage residents to have their 'own' evacuation plan in place.

St John Ambulance

St John Ambulance has been busy with a large number of call-outs.

The recent Mount Barker Fire highlighted some communication problems. Ambulance Officers were informed that the Bush Fire response channel is UHF15 at fires, which they can access with their UHF radios.

Red Cross

Gill Toone has resigned as team leader of the Mount Barker Red Cross. There has not been a new appointment at this stage. Gill will continue to attend LEMC meetings until the new team leader commences in their position. The Deputy Team Leader should be contacted in the mean time.

Mount Barker Police

The Mount Barker Police have been busy, attending a fatal accident near Frankland, some other serious and minor crashes, civil unrest and a house and car fire.

Radios have been installed at the station with John Tonkin from FESA to carry out some basic training. Police will not be participating in the daily morning bushfire scheds.

Early Warning Systems

The Police raised the possibility of installing an Early Warning System in Mount Barker, to alert the public of an impending evacuation. The Committee felt that there are a number of systems available and community education would be more effective.

ACTION

Nicole Selesnew to provide details of Early Warning Detection Systems for the next meeting.

Department for Child Protection (DCP)

Sarah Tup Evans has been progressing with Emergency Management Welfare Plan and will be forming a Local Emergency Welfare Management Committee for the area.

Joe Addie, previous LEMC member, has been seconded to the Department of Juvenile Justice and is no longer a contact.

Generator Wiring – Recreation Centre and Town Hall

The Mount Barker Recreation Centre and the Town Hall are the designated evacuation centres for Mount Barker in the event of an emergency. At present neither of these buildings are wired for connection to a generator. The LEMC Committee believes this is a priority and that quotes should be sourced and the possibility of the funds being included in the 2009/2010 budget.

Moved D Burcham, seconded T Ward.

That the Council consider funding an external power outlet at the Recreation Centre in the 2009/2010 Budget deliberations.

CARRIED

Presentation of the ‘Leavers Alive’ DVD

The FESA produced DVD of the ‘Leavers Alive’ project, was shown to the Committee.

Attachments:

- (1) – Mount Barker Fire Debrief Notes
- (2) – Mock Incident Debrief Notes – Keith Hart

6 NEXT MEETING

5.30pm Tuesday 4 August 2009 at the Mount Barker Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service Station.

7 MEETING CLOSURE

Meeting closed 7.05pm.

CONFIRMED:

CHAIRPERSON _____ **DATE:** ____/____/____