



KEMPSEY
Shire Council

MAYORAL REPORT

3rd February 2009

MM11	PUBLIC MEETING - BELLBROOK
	FILE: 69 MAYOR (NRN) {Folio No. *}

SUMMARY:

Reporting on attendance at a public meeting held on Saturday 17th January 2009.

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DESCRIPTION:

The meeting, attended by approximately 110 residents of the Upper Macleay, was called to discuss concerns with ongoing offences which could be related to a person who has been wanted by the Police for the past four years.

The particular person remains the most wanted criminal in New South Wales.

I have spoken with Inspector Michael Heap, Crime Manager Hastings / Macleay Local Area Command, who stated that Police had formulated strategies which are continually being updated based on reports provided by the community.

There have been considerable additional resources both in manpower and equipment, but given the locality, it is like finding the proverbial needle in the haystack.

The person suspected is described as a recluse, with expert bush survival skills, which account for the items stolen from premises throughout the area – food, alcohol, tent equipment, binoculars etc.

It is understandable that the residents have genuine concerns, however credit must be given, as well as ongoing support, to the Police in their efforts to apprehend the prisoner as soon as possible.

The community must, irrespective of how minor an offence may seem, report matters to the Police.

RECOMMENDATION IMPLICATIONS:

- *Environmental*

Nil

- *Social*

Nil

- *Economic (Financial)*

Nil

- *Policy or Statutory*

Nil

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be noted.

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J H Bowell
MAYOR