


Fish Hoek & Clovelly Residents Association



P.O Box 22125 , Fish Hoek , 7974

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING OF THIS ASSOCIATION WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, FISH HOEK ON THURSDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2002 AT 7.30pm.

AGENDA

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES
2. GUEST SPEAKERS
Mr Dave Greton - Economic Development of the South Peninsula Administration - will address the meeting on the Redevelopment of the Fish Hoek CBD
Inspector Barbara Breedt will address the meeting on the current crime situation in the valley.
3. MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING held on 22 August 2002 - these will be available prior to the meeting.
4. MATTERS ARISING
5. COUNCILLORS' REPORT
6. TREASURER'S REPORT
7. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
8. GENERAL

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Please note that subscriptions (R15 per household for 2002) are due and payable at the beginning of each year. If your address label does not indicate that you have paid for 2002, please let us have your subs forthwith. They can be paid to the postal address; at the following shops: Regal Cycles, Kommetjie Rd, Wakefords and Weavers, Main Rd, and Silverglades Pharmacy, Vallyland; or at the meeting. Cheques must be made out to Fish Hoek & Clovelly Residents' Association.

The subscription for 2003 will be set at the meeting and will be due in January 2003.

Some members paid their subs but we have no record of their addresses or phone numbers. Could anyone give the secretary (tel 782 7203) the addresses of the following members:
Bob Scott, Mrs Strand, K A Bothma, Clovelly Estates.

NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 2002

Change in city administration will have a local impact

We are concerned about the further change in the political scene of the City of Cape Town in terms of its impact on management and administration. This upheaval follows the various disruptions that have occurred with the dissolution of the Fish Hoek Municipality, followed by that of the South Peninsula Municipality and the advent of the unwieldy Unicity. Undoubtedly the new powers will review many of the processes initiated by the previous governing party. As an example, the Integrated Development Plan (IDP), which was presented at our May Quarterly meeting and which was due to have a round of public participation meetings in October, has been placed on hold. We have previously stressed the need for strong local management and, with our councillors no longer part of the governing group, we can only hope that we do not see a further deterioration of services in Fish Hoek/Clovelly.

Fish Hoek driver's licence test centre closed down

After the Simon's Town driver's licence centre closed down, Fish Hoek was chosen to be the sole depot for the Far South. The Fish Hoek centre has suddenly been closed and valley residents will have to go to the traffic department in Ottery. One of the reasons stated for the closure was that it would cost too much to bring the centre up to the standards required. This exemplifies the problem of assets not being adequately maintained on an ongoing basis. This centre along with the valley's road-worthy centre and all its equipment was paid for with local funds by our previous local municipality. Bear in mind that the SPA also tried to close the Fish Hoek fire station shortly before the great fire of 2000, only to recant on the plan with a decision to adopt a policy of decentralization.

The onus is on the SPA to ensure proper maintenance budgeting for our assets. As identified in our August newsletter no provision has been made by the SPA to fund any maintenance for the Silvermine River Flood control scheme.

Unresolved rates and tariffs issues

There are still queries about the new rating system and sectional title properties. Local councillors have indicated that where an objection has been registered, whether for a single residential or sectional title property, ratepayers paying the previous year's rates plus 8% will have no action taken against them.

Our appeal to rescind the sewerage charge based on water consumption, as being inequitable between properties with and without gardens, has fallen on deaf ears.

RETURN SLIP FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS		Tick block	2002	2003
Name:			
Street Address:			
Postal Address:			
(if different)			
Telephone:	Fax:	E-mail:	
Main concerns and Proposals for Action by the FHCRA:				
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Unwanted development of our valley

The Cape High Court in October overturned the former provincial planning minister's approval for a housing development at Dassenberg (between Sun Valley and Ou Kaapse Weg). This association was resolute in its rejection of the development proposals.

This association has also worked, within the Silvermine Valley Coalition (SVC), against the development of Zone C, the area behind Peers Hill on the sand dunes and which is part of the Cape Peninsula Protected Environment. In addition to a legal ruling in 1998 refusing development in terms of the Environmental Conservation Act, the SVC successfully appealed in 2000 against the rezoning of the land to 'subdivisional area' to permit development.

Following a damages claim against the state by the developer and a court finding that he was entitled to compensation, the matter was recently settled out of court by way of a payment of R2 million as an "all-in" amount i.e. for capital and costs.

Despite above and an offer by the National Parks Board to purchase the land, it seems that there are new moves to explore the development option again. This association will continue to monitor this situation closely.

Draft policy for childcare centres

A draft policy has been issued by the City of Cape Town which provides for the classification of childcare centres, not registered as educational centres, into three categories, namely "as of right" - up to six children, small-scale - 7 to 20 children, and large scale - more than 20 children. It defines requirements in respect of residence by the operator, erf size, space per child, health and sanitation, access and parking, noise, and signage.

This association supports the proposals but has stressed the right of neighbouring residents to comment on applications for all classifications especially in respect of noise; more space per child than defined; the absolute requirement for childproof gates; specific restrictions in respect of signage; and the need for effective enforcement of the proposed legislation. We also stressed the need for existing childcare centres, operating in conflict with the provisions, to comply within a limited period of time.

Positive about Fish Hoek

We welcome the initiatives to improve the Fish Hoek CBD. Main Road boasts various new businesses and there is some refurbishment going on. The Business Improvement District has launched the Main Road Challenge for which trophies and certificates of merit will be awarded to those who make the effort to turn the CBD into a something attractive.

We also welcome the initiative to promote Fish Hoek as a tourist venue. This association will be part of the strategy planning group.

Relaunch of Fish Hoek traders' market

The Fish Hoek Traders' and Crafters' Market is under new management and is being revamped and relaunched in November. It will be called the Bayside Bazaar and will incorporate more lifestyle, craft and holistically-oriented kiosks, as well as a courtyard garden space for visitors to enjoy refreshments whilst listening to music. Besides a variety of new stalls, there will be indigenous plants for sale, fresh cut flowers, and also regular talks and demonstrations on gardening, craft and food, amongst other topics.

The saga of the ailing changing booth

The changing booth on Jager Walk may be altered again. Some years ago this booth was controversially changed into a male and female changing booth by adding internal walls. It then became unsafe to use as law enforcement officers couldn't monitor it, became used as a toilet and worse, and is now covered in graffiti. The SPA has now recommended that this "misguided" attempt at improvement be reversed and the internal walls be demolished. This time public input will be requested before their recommendation goes to council for a vote.

Keep a sharp lookout for confidence tricksters

At the last Police Forum meeting, several scams were reported. The first was at Shoprite during the renovations. Some well-dressed men set up a portable table, saying that while Shoprite was installing a computerised system, no cellphones could be taken into the shop as they would play havoc with the process. The men requested customers to hand over their cellphones for safekeeping. Police report that the men got away with 45 to 50 cellphones! A second scam was near the police station where a bag with money protruding from it was left on the road. People stopping to have a closer look were told by men posing as police that they had tampered with evidence. They were told they had to go to the police station while leaving their ID's and bags with the fake police. Three people were taken in by this scam. Association members report tricksters pretending to know you, either glancing at the name on your credit card or getting you to divulge information. These tricksters are certainly inventive. Do not be gullible, never give out any information and, if in doubt about their bona fides, ask for formal identification.

December is Mardi Gras time

The Fish Hoek Mardi Gras and Beach Festival takes place over 4 days from Thursday 19 December to Sunday 22 December.

In the beach area, day activities include a fun fair, quad bikes, water slides, survivor competition, volley ball, treasure hunt and tombola and evening entertainment in the marquee comprises Miss Mardi Gras, a fashion show, Pub Idols and music.

On the evening of 19 December a Spanish style street party will be held in Main Road, which will be fenced off between Station Road and Recreation Road. There will be out-door restaurants, food stalls and a band in Town Square and businesses will stay open late.

The Mardi Gras parade commences at 2.00pm on Saturday afternoon, 21 December.

Funds raised will go to the Fish Hoek Home Nursing Services and the False Bay Emergency Medical Services.

Campaign for recreational space for dogs

An informal group of dog owners has come together to lobby the City of Cape Town to amend the by-laws to allow dogs to exercise off the leash in some municipal open spaces in the South Peninsula. The group was initiated by Muizenberg residents after Sunset Beach and Zandvlei became off-limits to off-leash dogs. The group would like to hear ideas from residents in the whole of the Far South about how to ensure there are ways to exercise dogs off the leash. Please send comments and contact details to Marian Shinn, 15 The Row, Muizenberg 7945 or e-mail shinn@mweb.co.za.

As regards the Silvermine River flood control area, the project's environmental committee has ruled that dogs should be leashed on the footpaths flanking the main excavations but may run unleashed on the open areas around the new section B. No interference with bird/wildlife is permitted and owners must pick up any fouling on footpaths.

Hokisa

A privately funded care centre for children and babies affected by HIV/Aids in Masiphumelele will be opening early in December. The building is now complete and the facility desperately needs donations of clothing, beds, cots, bedding, pots, crockery, toys and everything imaginable that a large house full of kids requires.

They are happy to collect or items may be delivered to 39 Clovelly Road, Clovelly. Contact Dr. Lutz van Dijk or Mr. Perry Tsang on 782-7858.