


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 27 NOVEMBER 2003 AT 7.30pm.

AGENDA

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES
2. GUEST SPEAKERS
Dr Kathryn Grammer, Medical Superintendent of False Bay Hospital, will address the meeting on healthcare at False Bay Hospital.
Detective Captain Abe Enus, Fish Hoek SAPS, will address the meeting on the current crime situation in the valley and the role of the detective force.
3. MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING held on 28 August 2003 - these are available at the Library and the pay centres and will also be available prior to the meeting.
4. MATTERS ARISING
5. COUNCILLORS' REPORT
6. TREASURER'S REPORT
7. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
8. GENERAL

SUBSCRIPTIONS (E-MAIL EDITION)

Please check that you have paid your subscriptions for 2003. If subs for 2002 (R15) and 2003 (R20) are not paid by 31 December 2003, your name will unfortunately be removed from the membership list. Subscriptions (R25 per household for 2004) are due and payable at the beginning of 2004.

Subscriptions 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.

We do not have addresses or phone numbers for the following members: MJ Adams, KA Bothma, M Stedman, P Struthers, Please phone the secretary at 782 5822 if you can help.

NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 2003

Unicity is all good intentions but no action

The results of the mayor's "Listening Campaign" were that high crime, job creation and the provision of housing, were the most pressing concerns of Cape Town's residents. While these aims are eminently laudable, standards which do exist should not be relinquished.

Far too much money and time is wasted by the Unicity on studies, which are not translated into anything concrete.

The Unicity is also in a continual state of restructuring, driven principally by political expediency. This impacts negatively on the morale of its senior officials and as there is a dearth of good middle management, service delivery is impaired. Too often also, a 'convenient' reply is that there are no funds available.

The South Peninsula Administration was financially stable, but the Unicity is not. In a recent revision of its budget for this financial year, it highlighted the problem of arrears. Since the Unicity was established in 2000, arrears have increased, with collections presently at a level of only 92% compared to 97% in 2000. The administration is effectively reneging on its obligation of recovering that which is due to them. Big arrears defaulters include the national and provincial governments. It is unacceptable that ratepayers and residents should be penalised when the government, to whom we pay taxes, and the Unicity, to whom we pay rates, are not fulfilling their obligations.

City Police, Traffic and Law Enforcement a myth in the Far South Peninsula

The South Peninsula Sub-Council (which includes wards 69 and 70 - south of Noordhoek and St James to Cape Point) held a public meeting on 4 November to explain the deployment strategy of City Police in the sub-council area during the holiday season. It is very evident that the Far South Peninsula is not high on the priority list. Whereas law enforcement was traditionally strengthened by the employment of casual staff during the holiday season this will not be the case this year. Only a limited number of City Police officers and traffic officers will be assigned to the area on certain critical days and for certain festive events.

The City Police has three missions, namely crime prevention, by-law enforcement and traffic services. At present, however, these three entities have not yet been integrated under a single umbrella. This means that good communication and cooperation among the various entities and with the SA Police Services is required for optimal utilisation of resources and any joint operations. This may be problematic in the event of emergencies and a differing perception of priorities.

In our submission to the mayor's "Listening Campaign", we requested the establishment of a satellite City Police station in the Far South Peninsula. The Joint Community Police Forum, which has representation from the whole of the Far South Peninsula, has submitted a request to the Head of the City Police for 15 officers to be appointed in the Far South Peninsula.

Whereas our letter was at least acknowledged, the JCPF have not even enjoyed this courtesy!

RETURN SLIP FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS	Tick block(s)	2002 - R15	2003 - R20	2004 - R25
Name:				
Street Address:				
Postal Address: (if different)				
Telephone: Fax: E-mail:				

Complacency about home safety a thing of the past

The tragic murder of Nick and Maria Goutos (who were well known to longstanding Fish Hoek/Clovelly residents) in their Noordhoek home, has once again raised the issue of safety in our homes. We should all be more safety conscious. The police have stressed that when you are in your home you ensure at all times that outside doors are locked and unsecured windows are not left open. They have also requested that all houses should have visible large numbers and that street names be legible to help them in their response in the event of a call-out. Also if you see anything suspicious, please do not hesitate to advise the police. These and other pertinent issues will be highlighted by Detective Captain Abe Enus, who will be one of the guest speakers at the quarterly general meeting.

Informal trading framework under the spotlight

The Association has commented on the City's proposed Informal Trading Policy and Management Framework. While acknowledging that the draft policy is a good and necessary one, there are several aspects with which we did not agree, for example, that "all city-owned buildings and property should be used for maximum economic development" and that "informal trading contributes to the value of public places". We believe that not all places are suitable for trading and, in some cases, informal trading can spoil public space, particularly where those spaces draw their 'value' from being free of commercial exploitation. The Association welcomes the proposal that "trading must occur in uniform structures, whose design will be determined by the City and whose cost will be incorporated into the rental cost for the trader". We made an appeal for an aesthetically pleasing design, which should reflect the beauty of Cape Town. We also stressed the need for various other controls and that BID's and Civic Associations should be consulted on the allocation of trading areas. Beach trading is not covered by this policy and we have separately submitted comments on the number of trading licenses to be allocated on the beach.

Where to, Main Road?

As old shops close and new shops open on Fish Hoek Main Road, so the character of the commercial section of this area changes. It will never be another Simon's Town or Kalk Bay, but it is in danger of becoming another Salt River. Who will take the ball and run? Will the business people and landowners be able to make enough of an effort? Should the Council be lobbied to allow rebates on commercial rates for improvements? The Association has supported all CBD initiatives thus far but actions appear to flounder because of the cost.

The sands of time at Clovelly corner

Since Intersite removed the sleepers which were stabilising the dune above Clovelly beach, the intersection of Main and Clovelly Roads has frequently been inundated with sand, as have the nearby properties. Temporary road signs warning of hazardous driving conditions go up every time the wind blows. We raised this issue with the City and Intersite in February and again in May and requested a solution before the onset of the new south-easter. Following our reminders for action, a council official recently advised that Metrorail and the City had reached agreement on a "sand trap barrier", which would be put in place "very soon". The cost is to be shared between the City and Metrorail. We trust that the south-easter will hold off long enough so as to limit the further wastage of ratepayer monies for sand clearing.

Beach Facelift

In anticipation of the summer season volunteers have again repainted some of the benches and obliterated the graffiti on Jaeger's walk and the subways. The Association sponsored the paint for latter operation. Our hearty thanks go to Ian Taylor for his time and efforts. Amenities Department have also repaired and repainted the colourful wooden booths and given an assurance that it is all systems go for the holiday season.

The bell tolls on Chapman's Peak Drive

Although the rehabilitation works are on schedule for a December 2003 opening, the toll fee structure, the definitive location of the toll plaza(s) and whether access to picnic sites and hiking trails will be subject to the toll or not, have not yet been decided.

The location of the toll plaza(s) is the focus of an environmental impact assessment (EIA) being conducted by consultants. The final environmental impact report and the motivation by PAWC and the concessionaire of their preferred option (which includes technical and financial considerations) will be submitted to the relevant environmental authorities in November/December for their review and decision.

As the provincial Minister of Transport is expected to promulgate the toll tariffs before the EIA process has been completed, PAWC and the concessionaire are requesting permission to erect a temporary toll near East Fort on the Hout Bay side to coincide with the opening of the road. This temporary toll will have four booths and two containers as offices.

The original proposal to realign the road above Monkey Valley has been dropped.

Route for new electricity cable decided

The Association participated in the public meetings for the routing of the upgraded electricity cable to be installed from Muizenberg to the Clovelly sub-station. The recommended route is along Boyes Drive and over the Trappieskop saddle down to Clovelly Road. As a section of this road has no pavement, the cable trench will need to be dug alongside the roadway and a pavement constructed over it. We have requested that there be no trenching or construction work on Boyes Drive and Clovelly Road over the peak summer holiday season.

Saga of the Peers Hill informal settlement

A report submitted to the October meeting of the South Peninsula Sub-Council highlights the fact that raids, fines, arrests and breaking down of structures have had no effect of moving the informal settlers off the land occupied by them. The report identifies the situation as being primarily a social problem and yet Social Services have played no role in dealing with it. The recommendation adopted by the Sub-Council is that Informal Housing Services should supply the Sub-council with more detailed information and that the Department of Social Services should play a supportive role in dealing with this social problem.

December heralds the Mardi Gras

The programme for this year's Mardi Gras celebrations is as follows:

Sat 6	14h00	Long Beach Mall	Little Miss Mardi Gras and Junior Miss Mardi Gras
Thu 18	18h00	F/H Middle School	Miss Mardi Gras Face of the Valley
Fri 19	19h30	F/H Main Road	Street party
Sat 20	14h00	F/H Main Road	Mardi Gras parade, followed by 60's party at F/H Middle School

Monies raised will go to charities in the Valley.

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Secretariat

We welcome Barry Lennox as the new secretary of the Association. Thanks for volunteering, Barry!

Unfortunately our recently appointed minutes secretary is leaving Fish Hoek. We are therefore again appealing for assistance. This position carries a nominal honorarium.

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We wish all residents of Fish Hoek and Clovelly a peaceful and happy festive season.