FISH HOEK VALLEY RATEPAYERS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (FHVRRA)

CHAIRPERSON: Janet Holwill, P.O. Box 22125 Fish Hoek 7974 Tel: 021 785 1328 Cell: 082 920 7306 Email:jholwill@iafrica.com

NOTICE OF QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING

VENUE: CIVIC CENTRE FISH HOEK.

DATE: THURSDAY 26th NOVEMBER 2009. TIME: 19h30.

MEETING AGENDA

- 1. WELCOME, Introductions and Apologies.
- 2. OUR GUEST SPEAKER:

Dr. LUTZ van DIJK

"BUILDING BRIDGES in OUR VALLEY: COMMUNITY SUPPORT in MASIPHUMELELE"

Lutz is a Co-founder of HOKISA (Homes for Kids in South Africa), caring for children living with HIV/Aids. He is also involved in the AMAKHAHA NGOKU housing project.

- 3. MINUTES of Quarterly General Meeting held in August 2009.
- 4. MATTERS arising from previous Minutes.
- 5. COUNCILLOR'S Report.
- 6. TREASURER'S Report.
- 7. CHAIRPERSON'S Report.
- 8. GENERAL.

PLEASE NOTE: SUBSCRIPTIONS

Your address label / Email letter indicates the current status of your subs.

Annual Subscriptions (R50 per household for 2010) become due in January 2010.

We appeal to members in arrears for 2008 (R40) and 2009 (R50) to pay these outstanding subs together with their 2010 subs. Membership in arrears for 2008 will regretfully be cancelled on 31 Dec. 2009. Members unable to afford the subscription fees are advised to contact the Association's Chairperson (Tel: 021-785-1328), in full confidence and no obligation, to discuss a reduced fee.

Details of our bank account and convenient points of payment for Subs.

Bank deposits or EFT payments: Indicate: "subs-your initials-your surname" in the payment reference)

A/C Name: FHVRRA. Bank: Standard. Branch: Fish Hoek. Branch Code: 036009 A/C No: 374203091

Subs can also be posted to P.O. Box 22125 Fish Hoek 7974, or paid at the following establishments:

Regal Cycles, Wakefords, Weavers, Pennylane (Valyland) and Thundercloud Music (Sun Valley Mall)

Please make out cheques to: "Fish Hoek Valley Ratepayers & Residents Association".

This Newsletter has been kindly sponsored by

Papillon Insurance Brokers

(A Division of Lyall Morgan & Associates (Pty) Ltd. Authorised Financial Service Provider) 23 1st Avenue, Fish Hoek

Tel: (021) 782 0112 Fax: (021) 782 1488 E-mail: <u>info@papillonib.co.za</u>

Contact Papillon Insurance Brokers for all your insurance requirements - domestic, motor, travel, business & commercial. Their expert staff can advise you on the best cover and prices.

NEWSLETTER FOR NOVEMBER 2009.

OUR SPEAKER FOR MEETING ON THURSDAY 26 NOVEMBER, 2009: Dr. LUTZ van DIJK.

Presentation:

*** Building Bridges in Our Valley: Community Support in Masiphumelele ***

Dr. Lutz van Dijk was born in 1955 in Berlin, Germany.

He was a teacher for children with special needs in Germany and later a historian at the "Anne Frank Foundation" in Holland.

For many years he has been a professional writer of note. His recent novel "Themba" has been made into an international movie and will be released in South Africa in March 2010. Since 2001, local resident Lutz has worked as a co-founder of HOKISA in Masiphumelele.

HOKISA (Homes for Kids in South Africa) cares for children living with HIV/Aids and has been recognized as a role model for disadvantaged communities, both nationally and internationally. In 2006 Lutz joined the housing project "Amakhaya Ngoku" after he had repeatedly witnessed the most terrible shack fires in Masi.

Lutz, a resident of Clovelly, will share his vision that it is possible to build bridges of support which will – in the long term - benefit all by creating hope and more safety for everybody.

GET IT OFF YOUR CHEST: COUNCIL WILL FIX IT.

Back in May 2009, we advised on the availability of the Council Complaints System and at the time provided a sample of the form to fill in for delivery to the Council Office in Fish Hoek. Examples of justifiable complaints could be potholes, water, lighting, roads, signage, drains, dumping, mowing, etc., etc.

This system has been very well received, with reports of satisfaction from a number of our members.

Email contact in this case would now be: desiree.mentor@capetown.gov.za

The City has now **enhanced** this service by introducing a new electronic reporting system for all service delivery complaints and queries.

To log a service delivery problem or complaint, here's what to do:

- You can **Email:** contactus@capetown.gov.za
- Or **SMS** to **31373** (160 characters max.).
- Or **Phone 0860 103 089.**

Your contact will then be logged and a reference number issued to you so that you can track progress.

You need at least the following information to log a complaint:

- Your name and contact details.
- The **nature** of the problem.
- The **exact** location of the problem.
- The date.

In the case of cable theft, there is a 24/7 toll-free Hotline: 0800 222 7711.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Contact for Subs-paid advice to FHVRRA: **Membership:** Allen Rose-Innes: Tel/Fax: 021 782 4279 Email: aroseinn@mweb.co.za **Postal Address:** P.O. Box 22125 Fish Hoek, 7974.

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THE MAST BLAST: FISH HOEK AGHAST.

The Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP) **has approved** the proposed new Vodacom Base Station and Associated Infrastructure on the SAPS site at the Main Road entrance to Fish Hoek.

We at FHVRRA and concerned residents had previously objected to this proposal.

We have now submitted a **very comprehensive appeal** against this monstrosity being foisted upon us.

Appeal submissions have also been made by other interested and affected parties, including the Fish Hoek Community Police Forum and neighbouring residents.

All above submissions are available for inspection in a file made available by the FHVRRA at the Fish Hoek Library and also at the SAPS. There can be found:

- 1. A photo of the existing masts at SAPS
- 2. A photo-montage of the proposed new Vodacom mast at SAPS.
- 3. A photo of the existing tower at the Fish Hoek Fire Station with existing antennae.
- 4. A photo-montage of the tower at the Fish Hoek Fire Station with new antennae.

In our view, 4 above would be a far more realistic approach, compared to the proposed new Vodacom mast at SAPS. **Other sites should also be fully investigated.** Our preference would be an area where there is not an impact on the residential fabric or the environment.

These photos/photo-montages have all been incorporated in our appeal submission.

Petition documents are also on show, to which residents can subscribe.

As stated in our appeal, we strongly oppose the Vodacom mast at SAPS.

It would be a blemish on the Fish Hoek landscape for present and future generations. As regards the sensitive health issue which has been cited by the various appellants and ourselves, we advocate a **precautionary approach**, **and not taking a chance**.

Kommetjie Road/Quarry Road/17th Avenue Traffic Lights.

Judging by the furore which has ensued since we aired this subject in our last newsletter in August, it appears that just about everybody has a story to tell about the terrors of this dreaded junction.

We first particularly thank our members who responded to our request for inputwe received a number of Emails and letters from caring individuals, who made the effort and had their say. You didn't waste your time.

So where has all this taken us? Yes, there **is** some limited visible evidence of action, with a modification of the arrows approaching 17th Avenue. This was after the tragic accident and someone unknown having vandalized the original arrows, disfiguring them to a point where they were not effective as arrows any more.

Sub-Council state that a "full report" from the Traffic Dept. has been produced but, at the time of this writing, there has been no reported evidence of details contained that report.

- -We wait to see if **anybody is listening** to the input from our community to the authorities.
- -We wait to see if those, **whose salaries we pay**, are strong enough to produce the goods.

Blaming the poor local standards of driving is no answer.

Of course the driving standards are unacceptably low, but there is **no quick fix** to that and only proper education over time will provide a true solution.

The system must cater for the needs of the community without more delay.

CITY EXTENDS DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR RATES REBATE.

The City of Capetown has extended the Rates Rebate application deadline until **30 November 2009,** according to an announcement made on 30 October 2009. The Rebate is offered to registered homeowners who:

- Have a total household monthly income not exceeding R8000.
- Are aged 60 years or more.
- Are recipients of a disability pension or grant.

The original Rebate, which is implemented on a sliding scale of 10% - 100%, was made available during June 2009. Everyone who qualifies and has already registered for the Rebate **must re-register annually** to prove that the original circumstances are still valid to qualify.

Anyone who turns 60 within the City's current financial year (July 2009 to June 2010) qualifies as a beneficiary for the Rebate.

Various Rates Rebates are also available to bona-fide farming operations, non- government organisations and numerous other institutions and organisations, including sporting bodies. For more information call the City call centre on 0860 103 089 or visit our local municipal office at the Civic Centre.

NEW ACCOMMODATION WEBSITE FOR THE SOUTH.

The False Bay Accommodation Network (FBAN) has been serving visitor accommodation providers in our area for nearly 20 years. A labour of love, originally created and still headed by Mrs. Alison Armstrong, has grown over time into a well known source of reliable accommodation for visitors to our area, many of whom return regularly, time and again.

With the galloping development of communications technology it has become imperative that the Network developed its own Website: This has recently been launched as www.falsebayaccommodation.co.za and is already proving to be a fine source of reference for potential visitors seeking accommodation.

Currently, there are approximately 40 establishments listed on the site, most of whom in turn have their own dedicated Websites which can be accessed through the link to the FBAN site.

With such a facility available, it has never been easier to track down local accommodation for your impending visitors, family and friends.

Do visit the site and have a look at what is on offer through this gem of a Network.

Alison Armstrong can be contacted on Tel. 021 782 3647 or Email alisona@xsinet.co.za

TELKOM EMERGENCY NUMBER 107.

This Telkom Emergency number is unique in that, if dialled from a landline, it will automatically display your home address on the operator's screen.

So in the case of a home emergency, at least they know where to find you.

They claim to guarantee to answer the 'phone within 14 seconds and apparently this is checked on a regular basis by the emergency training team.

How do I use 107?

- Dial **107** from any Telkom 'phone.
- The operator will immediately be able to establish your details, such as your address and telephone number.
- Make sure that you have the information and details regarding the emergency ready, i.e. the nature of the emergency, whether anyone is injured, the exact location (including any nearby landmarks), any potential hazards, etc.
- Stay calm and relay your information.
- Don't hang up unless you are told to do so, even if you have dialled **107** by mistake.

Will 107 replace other emergency numbers?

 NO! All other emergency numbers are still applicable, including our own revered local Emergency Call Centre on **021 782 0333**.
 Telkom state that using 107 will connect you to all emergency services direct.

Can I call 107 from my cellphone?

- NO! The equivalent to **107** on your cellphone is **021 480 7700.** Save this number into your cellphone right now, whilst reading this!

What happens if I misuse the number 107?

DON'T! You could get a fine, or at worst go to jail for up to 3 years! Remember, when you 'phone **107** they will know who you are straight away!

YOUR LOCAL EMERGENCY NUMBER.

The Fish Hoek Emergency Control Centre: Tel.: 021 782 0333, 24 Hours a day, 7 days a week.

....is a local emergency response service available to all, based at the Fish Hoek Police Station. They are in touch with everybody and everything that matters in the South and have a magnificent record of helping our local community over the past 10 years, having received around 25,000 calls and made about 60,000 outgoing calls.

They deserve all the support they can get....they are a purely voluntary organisation operated by local citizens who donate their time to the cause for free. They rely entirely on public donations to operate and to pay expenses.

MAYOR'S ROAD SHOW: PUBLIC MEETING AT OCEAN VIEW.

The Mayor of Capetown will be holding a public meeting at Ocean View Civic Centre on **Wednesday 18th November 2009.** The meeting is time is scheduled from **19h00 to 20h30.**

PARTING SHOT

When your friends begin to flatter you on how young you look, it's a sure sign that you are getting older.