FISH HOEK VALLEY RATEPAYERS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (FHVRRA)

Newsletter for February 2011.

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

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Venue: FISH HOEK CIVIC CENTRE.

Date: THURSDAY 24th FEBRUARY 2011. Time: 19h30.

MEETING AGENDA

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

Alderman Nicki Holderness.

Councillor, Ward 61, City of Capetown.

(Simon's Town, Glencairn, Red Hill, Fish Hoek South, Ocean View, Sun Valley, Kommetjie, Scarborough).

TOPIC: "Local Government: how to make it work for you".

- **3. MINUTES of the Quarterly General Meeting held on 25th November 2010.** [The Minutes, which are also available at the Fish Hoek Library, are attached herewith.]
- 4. MATTERS arising from the previous Minutes.
- 5. COUNCILLOR's Report.
- 6. TREASURER's Report.
- 7. CHAIRPERSON's Report.
- 8. GENERAL, and ELECTION OF EXCO COMMITTEE FOR 2011.

Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the meeting.

ALL WELCOME.

PLEASE NOTE: SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual Subscriptions (R50 per household for 2011) became due in January 2011.

Your address label / Email letter indicates the current status of your subs. We appeal to members in arrears to pay their outstanding subscriptions. (Return slip for subscriptions overleaf).

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. **A/C No:** 374203091. **Bank:** Standard – Fish Hoek. **Bank Code:** 036009 for deposits. **Bank Code:** 051001 for EFT payments.

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

Regal Cycles, Weavers, Pennylane (Valyland) and Thundercloud Music (Sun Valley Mall). Please make out cheques to: "Fish Hoek Valley Ratepayers & Residents Association".

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Telephone: Cell: E-mail:

Newsletter for February 2011.

Our speaker for the AGM: MRS. NICKI HOLDERNESS...

"Local Government and how to make it work for you."

Mrs. Nicki Holderness is approaching retirement from her long term of duties to our community after the upcoming May 2011 elections, having well over 20 years of dedicated service to her credit.

She has served the Simonstown and Far South neighbourhood with high distinction as Councillor for the area in which she is resident.

As Councillor for the Ward 61 area and a South Peninsula Subcouncil (19) member, she has also held memberships on many City of Capetown committees, including the Planning and Environment Portfolio, Spatial Planning and Environment & Land Use Management.

This presentation will be the last address to the FHVRRA by Mrs. Holderness in her current capacity; with the benefit of her unrivalled knowledge of how local government works we can doubtless look forward to some sage pointers into the future, highlighting alert areas for our citizens.

Security: protecting your house, the "Onion" principle.

We need to be looking at countering "opportunistic" criminals, such as our local binpickers and drifters, not only organised gangs. For this, your house could be looked at as an "onion", with skins which peel to reveal the next level of defence.

From the outside to the heart of your home are 4 generally recognised layers:

The neighbourhood: This is where external agents such as Neighbourhood Watches (NHW's), SAPS (Police), Law-enforcement, Private Security presence and *even your own neighbours* act as a deterrent for the opportunistic criminals.

Help *them* help *you* by joining your local Neighbourhood Watch (there are 21 NHW's in the Fish Hoek Valley).

Get to know your neighbours!!!

Boundaries: This layer is a critical one. Should you not have a boundary/perimeter fence/wall, you are actually inviting opportunistic thieves to step in and help themselves. They will always have an excuse handy about their trespassing on your property (looking for water, food, work, etc.). There must be a physical obstacle to make a trespassing charge stick.

Outside security: This layer is very often neglected for cost reasons. Electric fencing on top of your wall or razor-wire is as unsightly as it is expensive, but it has been proven to work. The same applies with outdoor beams/passive detectors in your garden and burglar-bars on all opening windows and doors. A dog or two also works very well.

Inside security: A working alarm system is, unfortunately, a necessity today, even if only for insurance purposes. It <u>must</u> be linked to a PSIRA-registered Control-Room and Armed Response service provider. The onus rests on the clients to check if their provider is registered and up-to-date (as per the PSIRA Act No56 of 2001). You must test your alarm on a monthly basis by following the testing procedures as set out by your provider. These systems need not be outrageously expensive, as the component prices have come down considerably in recent years.

Do not hesitate to contact your local security service provider to find out how to improve your personal home security. They should be keen to assist you.

Spatial Development Framework.

The City of Cape Town issued the final draft of the Spatial Development Framework (SDF) in November 2010 for comment. The SDF is a long term (\pm 20 year) plan to manage growth of the City, with the population expected to grow from the current 3.7 million to over 5 million by 2030. The Far South Peninsula Community Forum (FSPCF), supported by the FHVRRA, has submitted comprehensive comments. Some of the principal points made are:

- The perpetuation of the present growth model is not economically, socially and environmentally sustainable;
- The SDF correctly emphasizes the need for densification but it fails to provide solutions in respect of the enormous scarcity of environmental resources;
- Policies that seek to grow both the City and the economy at the expense of the global and local environment are not supported. In particular, the proposed development node along Kommetjie Road is inappropriate. Attention should rather be given to enhancing the scenic and environmental attraction of the Far South Peninsula as a major tourism area;
 - In order to reduce urban sprawl, very strict control of the urban edge is needed.

TOWN and AROUND....A brief round-up of what's going on in our Valley.

The Beach and Holiday Season: Generally the 2010/2011 holiday season was considered to be a success, with only minor complaints to Councillors. Unfortunately a swimmer, who was swimming outside the designated swimming area, drowned. There were some complaints about the beach change rooms, particularly those adjacent to the restaurant. It is reported that the basics to improve these facilities were undertaken in preparation for the season and further improvements will now be undertaken. Off season, there is still room for improvement in cleaning frequency and this matter is being pursued through council channels.

Road accidents fell dramatically due to increased road blocks and firmer measures in respect of drunk driving.

Municipal elections in May 2011, Voting Stations: There will be voting stations pertaining to our area (Fish Hoek, Clovelly, Sun Valley) at False Bay College, Fish Hoek Civic Centre and Fish Hoek Primary School (Ward 64), False Bay College (Ward 61) and Sun Valley Primary School (Ward 69).

The first weekend for voters to register and check their eligibility details took place at all voting stations on 5th and 6th February. A decision will be made later by the IEC (Independent Electoral Commission) as to whether a further registration weekend should be made available before the election, dependent on results from the first weekend.

Also, to determine your voting station, you can SMS your ID number to 32810 or call IEC toll-free (from a landline) on 0800 11 8000.

The election candidates have yet to be announced.

Informal Trading at Ou Kaapse Weg / Kommetjie Road Intersection: This area still needs to be tidied and improved. However, a toilet has now been installed. Monies for attending to this area have been budgeted for, but work will now be delayed until after the windy season.

Fish Hoek Bayside Bazaar: At the January 2011 South Peninsula Subcouncil (19) meeting, it was reported that all work outstanding at the beleaguered Bayside Bazaar site is now about to be completed.

Ou Kaapse Weg, improvements to road safety: Updated information on progress will be submitted to the Subcouncil meeting scheduled for 18 February 2011, this following a review of accident statistics on this road over the last 12 months.

Early morning Wheelie Bins.

The City of Capetown *Integrated Waste Management By-Law* was published in March 2009. This is a very comprehensive document which covers the collection and disposal of waste and all associated matters related thereto.

The "Littering and Dumping" provisions of this By-Law are now being addressed by Law Enforcement, who are currently doing the rounds issuing "written warning notices" pertaining to "putting out of domestic waste **only on the day of collection**".

We are advised **not** put out our bins overnight anymore, because it contravenes the provisions of the Littering and Dumping By-Law. Failure to comply with this requirement will attract a penalty fine of R250.00 if the warning is not heeded within an approximate 2-week period from the issue date of the warning.

Inconvenient for some, certainly, but the worthy motivation for this action does include addressing the familiar overnight "bin picker" problem. This action by Law Enforcement can only be seen as a positive step towards the obliteration of this activity and the increase in crime that goes with it. Also, the wind often overturns bins and garbage is spread around the streets, creating untidiness, unnecessary work and a health hazard.

Mr. Clive Wakeford:

The Fish Hoek Ratepayers and Residents Association wish to offer their sincere condolences to the Wakeford Family, following Clive's untimely passing on 28 January 2011. He will be missed by many and will be remembered for his long and unstinting service to a wide spectrum of our local community, over many years.

** Calling all residents **

HERE'S A DATE FOR YOUR 2011 DIARY:

OUR 2nd QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING FOR 2011 IS ON

THURSDAY MAY 12th, 19h30 at the

FISH HOEK CIVIC CENTRE