

**FISH HOEK VALLEY
RATEPAYERS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
(FHVRRRA)**

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Newsletter for November 2016

NOTICE OF QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING

Venue: FISH HOEK CIVIC CENTRE.
Date: THURSDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2016. Time: 19h30

MEETING AGENDA

1. WELCOME, Introductions and Apologies.
2. GUEST SPEAKER: **RAYMOND MASEKO**
TOPIC: **MODERNISATION OF THE WESTERN CAPE RAILWAY
INFRASTRUCTURE**
3. MINUTES of the Quarterly General Meeting held on 25 August 2016 & matters arising
4. KIM KRUYSHAAR: WATER RETRICTIONS
4. COUNCILLOR's Report.
5. CHAIRPERSON's Report (including Treasury)
7. GENERAL

Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the meeting.

FHVRRRA SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual Subscriptions (R70 per household) for 2016 and 2017

Your address label / e-mail letter indicates the current status of your subs.
Members are invited to make voluntary additional donations.

Members unable to afford the subscription fees are advised to contact the Association's Chairperson (Tel: 021-782-4279), in full confidence and no obligation, to discuss a reduced fee.

Details of our bank account for Bank deposits or EFT payments:
A/C Name: FHVRRRA. **A/C No:** 374203091. **Bank:** Standard – Fish Hoek.
Bank Code for deposits: 036009. **Bank Code for EFT payments:** 051001.
Indicate: "subs-your initials-your surname" in the payment reference.

Subs can also be posted to P.O. Box 22125, Fish Hoek 7974, or paid at the following establishments:
A.P.Jones (Bedding Dept. 1st floor), Regal Cycles (34 Main Road) and ReproClinic (Valyland).
Please note: CASH ONLY at pay points. Add R20 for cheque and cash deposits at the bank to cover bank fees.

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The Arcade, Fish Hoek
Phone: 021 782 0361/4

WE ARE OPEN FROM 8AM to 8PM SEVEN DAYS A WEEK

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Our Guest Speaker

Our guest speaker is **RAYMOND MASEKO**.

Mr Maseko is the Engineering Services Manager responsible for the Metrorail Infrastructure Portfolio. He completed his engineering degree at the University of Cape Town and has been with Metrorail since 2001, first as a Railway Signals Engineer in the Metrorail Region in Gauteng. As part of the Railway modernisation drive in 2005, he was tasked with the responsibility of investigating possible ways by which the Metrorail Signalling System could be upgraded. Following this study, the modernisation of the signalling systems within the different Metrorail regions started in 2008. In his current portfolio as an Engineering Manager, he is responsible for the delivery of the Western Cape Re-Signalling Program, the modernisation of Metrorail's telecommunications system and the improvement of the infrastructure.

Mr Maseko was the guest speaker at the General Meeting of the STCA in October. His address was warmly received as reported in The Echo and we look forward to his talk at our meeting.

Water Restrictions (compiled by Kim Kruyshaar who will address the meeting)

Collectively residential properties use the bulk of Cape Town's potable (drinking) water approx. 70%. This is why saving water at home is critical to ensuring that the water in our dams gets us through the long dry summer. The new Level 3 water savings aim at a 30% reduction in water consumption.

Level 3 water restrictions for residential properties include:

- No watering with municipal water using sprinklers or hose pipes. (This does not seem to apply to borehole or well point water which should nevertheless be used conservatively. Groundwater is our ecological reserve.)
- Water your garden with a bucket in the morning and evening.
- No watering allowed within 24 hours of rainfall that provides adequate saturation. (This also applies to the use of borehole, treated effluent water, spring water or well points.)
- All well points and boreholes must be registered with the City and used efficiently to avoid wastage and evaporation.
- Display a clearly visible sign, if using borehole, well point, rain or grey water.
- No hosing down of hard-surfaced or paved areas with municipal (drinking) water.
- Ornamental water features may only be operated with re-circulated water.
- The maximum shower head flow rate may not exceed 10 litres per minute.
- Toilet cisterns may not exceed 9,5 litres in capacity.
- Use buckets to wash your vehicle or boat.
- Manual top-up of swimming pools is only allowed if the pool is fitted with a pool cover to slow down the evaporation of surface water. No automatic top-up systems are allowed.
- The use of portable play pools is not allowed.

To find out what the increased new tariffs are as from 1 December go to:
<http://greenaudits.co.za/high-water-restriction-prices-for-cape-town-dec-2016/>.

For queries on water restrictions please send an email to Water.Restrictions@capetown.gov.za.

Tips to save water and money at home:

- Take shorter showers.
- If you bath, save the water to water the garden or to flush the toilet.
- Wash dishes and clothing with a full load.
- Save water by placing a 2 litre plastic bottle full of water or brick in the water tank (cistern).
- When washing dishes rinse dishes in a basin and use the rinse water to water the garden or flush the toilet. The same applies when washing fruit and vegetables.
- Install a system to pump grey water (from the washing machine, basins, shower and bath) to the garden.
- Fix all leaks and dripping taps.
- Plant water wise indigenous plants which can tolerate extreme heat and require little watering.
- Mulch trees and plants with bark and leaves. A covering keeps the soil cool and damp for longer.
- Water your garden early or late in the day - watering between 9am and 4pm is not allowed as too much water evaporates.

Fish Hoek Bay and Beach (compiled by Rob Downey and Lorraine Lemmon-Warde)

A Blue Flag is an international award given to beaches that meet excellence in the areas of safety, amenities, cleanliness and environmental standards. As South Africa enters its 10th year of running the Blue Flag programme, the City of Cape Town proudly says that “we are sustaining excellence in beach management and that our beaches rate among the best in the world”.

South Africa is the first country outside Europe to win Blue Flag accreditation for its beaches. Cape Town presently has the most Blue Flag beaches, with a total of 10 beaches awarded the full Blue Flag status, and one beach awarded pilot status. All Blue Flag beaches have their water tested every two weeks to ensure that the quality meets international standards.

The Blue Flag beaches for the 2016/2017 summer season are:

- Bikini Beach (Gordon’s Bay)
- Camps Bay Beach, Clifton 4th Beach and Llandudno Beach
- Mnandi Beach and Strandfontein Beach
- Silwerstroomstrand and Melkbosstrand
- **Fish Hoek Beach** and Muizenberg Beach
- Seaforth Beach (pilot status)

The Blue Flag is awarded to beaches that comply with the following Blue Flag criteria:

- Water quality, Environmental education and information, Environmental management, and Safety and services.

Cape Town’s Blue Flag season is from 1 December to 31 March each year. For more information on the Blue Flag Programme, visit www.blueflag.org.

Although Fish Hoek Beach has been given Blue Flag status for the coming season, many issues have been continually raised with the authorities by the FHVRRA:

- Lack of maintenance and general deterioration of the facilities;
- Painting of benches and repair and replacement of broken benches;
- The Jager Walk needs levelling;
- The demolition site of the old men's bathing booth needs upgrading;
- The Skelly steps have been broken for some time;
- The gardens are neglected;
- The change-room and toilet facilities are inadequate on busy days and often not clean in the mornings.

It is hoped that the new status will bring about many long-overdue improvements.

Land Use Management and Building Departures (compiled by Matthew Gray)

As a registered civic association, the FHVRRA is registered as an interested and affected party respondent to all land use management and building departures that are submitted to the municipality for the Fish Hoek, Clovelly and Sun Valley area. In this capacity the FHVRRA is sent notices of all such applications to which the FHVRRA is required to submit a response, either by way of confirming having no objection, or to raise concerns and issues there may be with the proposals, and if need be to issue formal objection.

Instead of always taking the so called NIMBYism ("Not In My Back Yard") approach of objecting to any change to the status quo, the FHVRRA tries rather to be as constructive and facilitating as possible, seeking to find ways in which things could be done better and work better for all parties concerned.

The FHVRRA is therefore happy to support applications for departures from the provisions of the City of Cape Town Municipal Planning By-Law **when this can be justified on the basis of merit.**

Situations that apply are when:

- Firstly, the result would be a far better designed building for the users of the property than would otherwise be the case if, in fact, the building were to be forced to be designed in accordance with the prevailing regulations; and
- Secondly, the result would be a clearly demonstrated enhancement to the built environment as a whole, experienced collectively for its neighbourhood and over and above what would be the case if no departures from the current zoning and other departures from the prevailing regulations were granted.

Proposals that are simply badly designed because the applicant is not prepared to pay for a proper professional to do a decent design are not supported. Proposals that turn their back on the street creating a hostile street interface with high blank walls making the streets unsafe are obviously not supported.

If information is required on how buildings can be designed so as to maximize security for both the occupants of the home as well as for the public realm, please contact Exco member Matthew Gray (Urban Designer / Architect) on 021 782 0074 who will be happy to advise.

Fish Hoek Museum

We are disheartened by the possible closure of the Fish Hoek museum and appeal to members to make donations. We have been appraised of a suggestion to relocate the museum in a building closer to the beach and the town centre. This we believe would make the museum more relevant as a draw card for tourism.

Seasonal Greetings

We extend our best wishes to you. May you have quality time with family and friends.