

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 23 MAY 2002 AT 7.30pm.

AGENDA

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES
2. GUEST SPEAKERS

Mr Keith Smith, Manager City Development, will speak on the Integrated Development Plan for the Unicity. He will be accompanied by Ms Sarah Moloto, Director IDP and Dr Martin van der Merwe, Director Strategic Support.

Inspector Barbara Breedt will address the meeting on the current crime situation in the valley.

3. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on 28 February 2002 will be available prior to the meeting
4. MATTERS ARISING
5. COUNCILLORS' REPORT
6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
7. TREASURER'S REPORT
8. GENERAL

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Please note that subscriptions (R15 per household) 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 Busy Bees, Vallyland; or at the meeting. Cheques must be made out to Fish Hoek & Clovelly Residents' Association. If, after this meeting, your subs are overdue since 2000 your name will unfortunately be removed from the membership list.

NEWSLETTER MAY 2002

More on the liquor licence sagas

The Association has once again been involved in liquor licence hearings. Following submissions from the prosecutor and the police at a recent Liquor Board hearing, Walter's Pub and Grill withdrew its application for a liquor licence. Although we do not object to restaurants serving alcohol in the normal running of a restaurant business, in keeping with the original title deeds of Fish Hoek, we will continue to do our best to ensure that residents are protected from activities that disturb our neighbourhoods.

Boosting our beach

The image of Fish Hoek is closely tied to the beach and its surrounding area. The beach is also the pride of Fish Hoek residents. This is why we are involved in and support the Fish Hoek Beach Support Group spearheaded by Gillian Brooke and Alan Lindner. The group is trying to get the beach classified as a Blue Flag beach, an international standard of high quality. The group is working towards, among other things, an improvement of Jager's walk, improved litter control, ablution facilities and security, as well as initiating and/or co-ordinating fun events and fund-raising. They will continue to liaise with the council and will endeavour to involve Metrorail.

Check your property valuations

The final property valuation roll will be completed by mid-May and letters will be posted to all property owners on 15 May. Property owners will have 6 weeks to object to their valuation. The final valuation roll will be available on the website [<http://www.capetown.gov.za/valuation>] and for viewing from 21 May to 15 June at various venues to be advised and from 21 to 28 June at the SPA offices in Plumstead. The council will decide on the rate in the Rand by the end of May and the new rates will be applied from 1 July. As some properties on the interim valuation roll had questionable valuations, we encourage all property owners to check their property values.

Valley suffers under unicity

The Integrated Development Plan that is linked to the budget for 2002/2003 gave insights into the problems facing the unicity. The Association is concerned that the centralisation inherent in the unicity is not workable. The Association has pointed out to the council that we need strong local management for on-the-ground service delivery. While we recognise that there is a dire need for distribution of resources, we are concerned that the budget allocation for the sub-council of our region is proportionately low with a resultant continuing deterioration of services.

Burning issue of Trappieskop

The "controlled" burn carried out by the Cape Province National Park (CPNP) raised a number of issues. The Association has followed up the concerns of residents, principally the lack of communication. Although some residents did get a letter, the fire took the greater community, including the municipal fire-fighting services, by surprise. The CPNP has agreed that communication should have been more comprehensive and have taken steps to improve this. The CPNP has been invited to address the Association's quarterly general meeting in August or November to explain its approach to alien vegetation eradication, conservation, prescribed burns and budget allocation. The strip of municipal land at the foot of the mountain, including that surrounding the vital electrical sub-station, is still dangerously flammable and we believe the CPNP will be clearing it at some stage. The municipality, in

turn, has applied for funding from the Ukuvuka campaign for measures to prevent mud-slides above Marmion and Mountain Roads. The Association, via Councillor Felicity Purchase, initiated a cursory inspection by SPA engineers who found no boulders likely to roll onto houses.

Illegal building continues unabated

There has been a number of illegal building developments in residential area primarily because of 'opportunism' by developers/property owners and inadequate municipal control and monitoring. The Association, supported by our councillors, has been helping residents on an ongoing basis to understand the planning process and has had successes in ensuring that the correct process is followed.

Development and the Environment

The Association is concerned that, as reported in the press, the new provincial minister of Planning and Environment has put all decision-making in his hands instead of the trained departmental officials who normally consider development appeals and waivers. The implication is that ratepayers' rights and protection under existing town planning regulations may be subject to overriding political or influential interests.

Threats to the urban fringe

As prescribed in the local structure plan, extensively workshopped with residents, the urban edge needs to be of a low-density. Supported by the council, we have been involved with opposing double-storey, high-density development proposals along the Silvermine River flood bypass scheme. Phase 2B of the Silvermine flood bypass scheme, costing R3 million, is under construction and should be completed in July.

Obliterate graffiti

Graffiti continues to be a problem and the Association is appalled by its proliferation. We appeal to residents who observe people spraying paint on walls, road signs, etc. to contact the police so that the offenders can be prosecuted. We have been advised it is best to paint over the graffiti immediately but recognise that this is costly.

Speeding, congestion and road safety

The Association continues to highlight resident's concerns about speeding and congestion on our main roads. If the roads cannot carry the traffic, there will be increased use by heavy and commercial vehicles of residential roads in order to skirt around traffic congestion, especially at peak hours. The municipal planning department has projected a 30% growth in development in the far south over the next 15 years and it is difficult to see how the limited capacity of our underfunded services, in particular transport, will cope with this.

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Chapman's Peak plans no cause for celebration

During the public workshops discussing the future of Chapman's Peak Drive, we were given to believe there would be a special dispensation for local residents and every effort would be made to ensure the possible toll would be nominal. The probable toll fees have been announced and work out to around R340/month for persons using the drive 20 or more times a month and R40 for a single return trip. Pedestrians will not be allowed on the drive and cyclists will only be allowed outside rush hour. There are only three routes to the South Peninsula. When the drive was still open, traffic consultants found that these routes operated at 97% capacity out of season. We must ensure that those responsible realise that Chapman's Peak Drive is an essential route, not an optional one, or a source of profit from locals.

Where to for the Fish Hoek traders' market?

The traders' market on the old parking area opposite the railway station has not been a success as many stalls are empty. We need to consider how this can be rectified, alternatively, whether this area should revert to parking, which is sorely needed in the CBD?

Crime and Burglaries

Crime and burglaries have been on the increase in the area especially on the mountainside. We strongly recommend that residents form themselves into active neighbourhood watches or join up with groups like the Mountain Men who have had success in apprehending criminals in the Clovelly and Sunny Cove area (including Jager's walk).

Our new executive committee

At the AGM held in February, Allen Rose-Innes was elected chairman, Steve Perrett vice-chairman, Bill Greenwood treasurer and Penny Boaden secretary. Other executive committee members elected are Brenda Falconer, Tony Ive, Peter Johnson, Vic Kabalin, Clive Sieglar, Marcel Spinoy and Wallace van Zyl. Various portfolios have been assigned among exco members, as follows: Interaction Business/Authorities, Interaction other associations, Membership/Promotion of the Association, Newsletter, Police Forum, Public Works/Service Provision, Recreation/Tourism, Town Planning/Environment, Transport/Traffic and Welfare.

Calling new members

We need more members to make our voice heard more effectively in the vast unicity. We shall engage in ongoing membership drives but appeal to members to ask friends, neighbours and acquaintances to join our Association.

A big thankyou

We extend special thanks to Penny Boaden (secretarial/admin), Michelle Saffer (newsletter) and Gordon Woodbridge (public address system) for their considerable contribution to the activities of the Association.

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Name:

Street Address:

Telephone: E-mail: