



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 24 NOVEMBER 2005 AT 7.30pm.

AGENDA

1. **WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES**
2. **MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 25.08.2004**
These are available for scrutiny at the Fish Hoek Library, Pennylane - Vallyland, Regal Cycles, Wakefords and Weavers. Copies will be available at the meeting.
3. **MATTERS ARISING**
4. **GUEST SPEAKERS - WARD COUNCILLORS**

**** NICKI HOLDERNESS & FELICITY PURCHASE ****
5. **TREASURER'S REPORT**
6. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT + PROPOSED CHANGE OF NAME OF THE ASSOCIATION**
7. **GENERAL**

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Please note that at the August Quarterly General Meeting it was agreed to set subscriptions for 2006 at R40. These are due and payable at the beginning of the year.

Your address label indicates the status of your subs. Please pay outstanding subs for 2004 and 2005 by 31 December 2005. If 2004 subs are not paid by this date your membership will regrettfully be terminated.

Subs can be paid to the postal address; at the following shops: Pennylane (Vallyland), Regal Cycles, Wakefords, and Weavers, or at the meeting. Cheques must be made out to Fish Hoek & Clovelly Residents' Association.

RETURN SLIP FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS	Tick blocks	2004 - R25	2005 - R25	2006 - R40
Name:				
Street Address:				
Postal Address: (if different)				
Telephone: Fax: E-mail:				

NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 2005

Executive Committee

We need new Exco members - especially younger residents - to provide for succession and new ideas. We also need a representative(s) from Sun Valley. Please volunteer.

A rose by any other name

As ratepayers and residents of Sun Valley are now included in our Association, it is appropriate that the name of our Association be changed to reflect our membership which stretches from Clovelly, through Fish Hoek and to Sun Valley. We also believe that the name should reflect the fact that members are ratepayers and/or residents, especially in our dealings with Council and other organisations and associations. Often, too, reference is loosely made in the press and by others to the Fish Hoek and Clovelly Ratepayers.

Our proposal is to change the name to **Fish Hoek Valley Ratepayers' and Residents' Association**.

This proposal will be put to the quarterly general meeting and, if endorsed by the meeting, the change of name and appropriate changes to the constitution will be submitted for formal approval at the Annual General Meeting scheduled for 23 February 2006.

Advertising and sponsorship of the newsletter

There has been a suggestion that advertisements or sponsorships be used to defray the costs of the newsletter. We have explored this suggestion with some businesses and have had a positive response. This will enable us to attenuate annual increases in subscriptions.

Website for our Association

We also propose that a website be established for our association, either as a freestanding website or one linked to Fish Hoek Valley. Is there anyone who could help set it up and keep it up to date?

Model aircraft club gets airborne

As reported in our August newsletter, the Fish Hoek Radio Flyers had applied to lease Council land next to the sportsfields for a flying area. Comments were called for by the City Council and our Association gave its qualified support provided regulated noise and time limits were adhered to. However, as the noise level of petrol-driven model aircraft was objectionable to nearby residents, the club agreed, at a meeting of the club and resident representatives convened by this Association, to restrict their aircraft to electric models and free-flight or gliding aircraft. These changes are to be put into the club's constitution and the lease for the ground will specify this as well. Given these changes, the affected residents withdrew their objections and the Association undertook to support the club's application for the lease of the Council land. A problem remains in policing rogue model aircraft flyers, who do not belong to the club, flying their aircraft when club members are not there - but this will need to be monitored by Law Enforcement, whose task it is to ensure adherence to Council prescriptions.

Calders on Bay

Following our objection and that of immediate neighbours to the original proposal for a fourth storey to be erected on top of the existing building, the developers have submitted a new proposal based on demolishing the existing building and erecting a new building for apartments incorporating the following features

- three storey building with a pitched roof, which will house a single loft unit between the apex and eaves of the roof, in accordance with the present Town Planning Regulations for Fish Hoek. This was approved at the Association's QGM held on 25 August;
- appropriate basement parking per apartment and outside visitors' parking, compared to the first proposal which did not adequately cater for parking needs;
- balconies only on the street and rear side of the building to meet the objections of neighbours.

Subject to our viewing and acceptance of the definitive proposal, we welcome this investment which will inject new life into the CBD/beach area.

Next stage reached in proposed development of Dassenberg

The draft scoping report, the first phase of an environmental impact assessment, about the proposed housing development off Ou Kaapse Weg above Sun Valley has been available at the Fish Hoek library for comment. This is the second attempt to develop the farm. The previous development was scuppered amidst much controversy when it was turned down by the High Court. The current proposal for the 79ha property is for 150 to 160 up-market units. The scoping report initiates specialist studies to be commissioned by the developer. Issues which have been identified are traffic problems, the visual impact and the endangered wetland toad which lives in a small but important wetland on the property. This wetland, which would be isolated by the proposed development, is part of the Noordhoek Wetlands.

In our view this renewed application to develop the site as a residential estate is inconsistent with the draft South Peninsula Spatial Development Framework, the South Peninsula Sub-Regional Plan, the Noordhoek Wetlands Management Plan and the Urban Edge Study. These all indicate that the land is outside the urban edge and should be conserved as a nature area. This is also the viewpoint of others such as WESSA and SANPARKS. The developers, on the other hand, claim that a 1998 Metropolitan Guide Plan gives the property development rights.

This site, with its dominant position on a steep slope, forms a natural gateway to the Silvermine area of the Table Mountain National Park and should ideally be incorporated into the Park.

Silvermine River trail for the blind

The Riverine Rovers have initiated a project to make a trail for blind people alongside the Silvermine River where the wetlands have been created. A member of the Blind Society walked the trail and has given them advice about an easy-to-follow but challenging walk. The trail will have treated poles along which the walker will guide him or herself. Signs in Braille and raised ordinary lettering, sited at places of interest, will be among the aids introduced. The Lions Club of Fish Hoek has adopted this as a project. The project, of course, requires money and will be developed in stages as funds become available. If you would like to make a donation, give suggestions, or obtain more information, please phone Lions member Lorraine on 785 1962 (home) or cell 082 703 9658.

Trying to find out about sharks

A shark is to be tagged in the waters off Fish Hoek beach in early November as part of a pilot study to understand shark behaviour and their movement in False Bay. The Shark Working Group, an umbrella body co-chaired by the City of Cape Town and Marine and Coastal Management, met members of various interest groups to discuss the possibility of tagging and were given the go-ahead. Tagging is completely different to chumming - instead of using bait to attract a shark, the researchers will be using information from the shark spotters to tell them where the shark is. They will go in a boat to the shark and tag its fin, which all going well, takes about five minutes. The tag will act as a direction finder allowing the researchers to monitor the shark constantly. They would like to do more tagging, in Kommetjie and Muizenberg, so that the information they learn can lead to safer bathing.

Fish Hoek beach ready for the holiday season?

Following the very high levels of *E-coli* recorded off Fish Hoek beach during mid-April, and although as a result of these and previously recorded high levels, the water quality on a past 365-day basis is non-compliant with the guideline, the water quality during the winter months and for September and October has been well within the guideline. Whether the diversion system installed on the stormwater outflow for diverting contaminated stormwater to the sewage system during times of low flow has contributed to this improvement is difficult to determine.

In our view the diversion system treats the symptom rather than addressing the basic problem of potential contamination of the stormwater reticulation system from other sources. We propose that regular testing should be done at strategic locations on the stormwater system to identify such sources and rectify the cause.

It was recently reported that the new sub-council manager, Andre Jacobs, said that the bathing boxes were to be removed. Our reaction to this has been that a solution should be found to preserving the boxes which are part of the beach heritage.

The benches are being painted by council staff with paint and varnish supplied by the Adopt-a-Bench fund and by this Association. We thank Coral Surtees for coordinating the paint supply. The funds of Adopt-a-Bench are now depleted and an administrator is needed to collect the pledges and keep the books. This should not be too time-consuming - volunteers should please contact Allen Rose-Innes on 782 4279.

A green welcome to Fish Hoek

We continue to receive complaints about the South and North Shore development at the entrance to Fish Hoek and more recently there was a considerable outcry about the scalping of the dunes, which required our intervention. We thank Terry and Evanne Rothwell for their vigilance on behalf of the Association of environmental issues associated with the development.

We commend the developers for the landscaping and greening that is now being put in place between Main Road and the apartments. This will certainly enhance the visual impact on entering Fish Hoek.

Comings and goings of Council staff

The building department, which operated so efficiently from the Fish Hoek Civic Centre before being moved to Plumstead and then partially moving back to Fish Hoek with staff member Tracey Norton, has closed as Ms Norton is leaving. The Plumstead Planning Department has seen staff changes as well with senior staff members Chris Sullivan and Mader Visagie taking packages and leaving. Mark Callaghan has been transferred to Cape Town. There is no longer a legal department in Plumstead and the Kendal Road water department has been moved to Bellville.

Our ward councillors will report more fully on various issues relating to organisational structures in the City Council.

Hospital carnival will provide entertainment for all

A carnival to celebrate the 40th birthday of the False Bay Hospital will be held in the Hospital grounds on Saturday 19 November.

The programme is as follows:

- 09h00 Fun run through Peers Hill
- 09h30 Parade from Middle School to the Hospital
- 11h00 Navy dog display
- 11h30 Navy band concert
- 13h00 Roots Rhythms drumming show in the marquee
- 13h45 Roots Rhythms drumming workshop (marquee)
- 14h30 Masiphumelele Ubuntu Dancers (marquee)
- 15h00 High Tea in the Hospital hall (tickets on sale at AP Jones)
- 15h30 Star Search for younger folk (marquee)
- 17h00 Sundowner cocktails with a barman's show (marquee)

There will be many food stalls to suit all tastes, craft stalls and various interesting displays. We encourage members to support this worthy cause.

Join the party at the Mardi Gras

The Mardi Gras parade will be held on 17 December at 14h00 and the street party in Main Road will start at approximately 18h00. As in years yonder the Mardi Gras has again become an annual event and helps to put Fish Hoek on the proverbial tourist map. The Executive Committee of your Association has this year decided to enter a float so as to confirm our support of this initiative and to publicise the Association. The Association's float entry will be co-ordinated by our treasurer, Lorna Sunderland, and we appeal to members who are interested in assisting with this effort and in joining in the Mardi Gras fun, to please contact Lorna on 782 4457.

Festive Greetings

We wish members a very happy festive season with family and friends.

It has been a pleasure to be of service to you our members during the year, but as per our previous appeals, we urgently need new and more members on the Executive Committee. Make this your New Year resolution!