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 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

VENUE: CIVIC CENTRE FISH HOEK.

DATE: THURSDAY 25th FEBRUARY 2010. TIME: 19h30.

MEETING AGENDA

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

Mr. GARTH KING

Garth is the well known Senior Reporter on the False Bay Echo. He is closer than most to the local action as it happens and is usually on-the-spot for first-hand reports to meet the deadlines for publication. Garth is also well-known for the book he authored on the Hansie Cronje cricket affair.

- 3. MINUTES of Quarterly General Meeting held on 26th November 2009.
- 4. MATTERS arising from previous Minutes.
- 5. COUNCILLOR'S Report.
- 6. TREASURER'S Report.
- 7. CHAIRPERSON'S Report.
- 8. ELECTION OF EXCO MEMBERS FOR 2010 and GENERAL.

PLEASE NOTE: SUBSCRIPTIONS

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

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

We appeal to members in arrears for 2009 (R50) to pay these outstandings together with their 2010 subs.

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 your NEWEST LOCAL SUPERMARKET

Pick n Pay

Inspired by you

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

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

NEWSLETTER FOR FEBRUARY 2010.

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Postal Address:

Telephone: Cell: E-mail:

(if different to street)

WARD 64: FRAGMENTING THE DEMARCATION

The Municipal Demarcation Board (MDB) is busy with the "ward delimitation process" in preparation for the 2011 municipal elections. This announcement was made on 27 August 2009 in the local press.

Recent press coverage on the proposals of the MDB delivers the message that the FHVRRA is not impressed with some of the stated intentions.

Presently the Far South Peninsula is delimited into two Wards 61 and 69. The MDB now proposes that Ward 64 should group Clovelly and parts of Fish Hoek with Muizenberg/Capricorn. This does not make sense as there is little or no synergy between these areas which at the extremities are 12 km distant from each other! This will result in the fragmentation of both the Fish Hoek Valley and the Muizenberg communities and a dysfunctional ward, connected only via the narrow Kalk Bay/St. James corridor.

The criteria of trying to balance the number of voters in each ward must surely also take into account the practical real facts of life and a hefty helping of applied common sense. The grouping of Clovelly and all of Fish Hoek within the Far South Peninsula makes eminently more sense in terms of distinct geographic areas, sense of community, civic association groupings and local governance.

The FHVRRA has therefore, in a letter sent to the MDB on 17 December 2009, objected to MDB's proposals and proposed that the Far South Peninsula be either divided into two wards or three wards (including Kalk Bay). These proposals result in a marginal deviation from the maximum / minimum number of voters per ward as per MDB's directives.

There has been no evidence of the promised "consultations and participation", to take place between August and December 2009, as originally announced by the MDB in August 2009.

NEW COMMUNITY WEBSITE FOR THE CAPE SOUTH PENINSULA.

A brand new, all-embracing community local Website has recently been launched online.

www.scenicsouth.co.za

has recently gone "live", with the dedicated mission of promoting a sustainable, safe, informed, involved and united community.

Created by Viv von der Heyden (well known publisher of "Fish Hoek Valley in Focus", our local Community Booklet which was first launched in the year 2006) and Kim Kruyshaar (a local environmental consultant), the new Website seeks to provide a platform for a positive, vibrant, united, green living and caring community, with priorities being positive news and "feel-good" stuff.

The site plans to be real and relevant. Fullest possible interaction with our community is top priority, so critical articles and comments are welcome as long as they are constructive.

By listing all the local organizations and their activities of which they are aware, the Website provides the community with a powerful and responsive means of communicating with each other about issues, activities and events.

Your NGO / NPO can be listed and you can submit updates for the Events Calendar and articles for various sections on the Website.

The "Have your Say" section on the Home page provides the opportunity to raise issues and to tell them about positive activities and pro-active people, as does the Blog, which provides for more in-depth debate. The business section encourages readers to support local enterprises and is the ideal platform for creating awareness of all that local business has to offer. Viv and Kim, motivated by their passion for the Scenic South, have created and funded the website, but will need income from advertising to maintain and improve the site in the long run.

<u>www.scenicsouth.co.za</u> looks forward to receiving contributions of **original** photographs, articles and comments, but reserves the right not to publish any that might be considered inappropriate or offensive. Although contributors may remain anonymous, it is preferred to publish articles with names attached. The site takes no responsibility for any copyright contraventions. Contact numbers are:

Kim Kruyshaar: 076 454 8467. Email: kim@scenicsouth.co.za
Viv von der Heyden: 084 685 2641. Email: viv@scenicsouth.co.za

RATES VALUATIONS & OBJECTIONS: THE INSIDE STORY.

Director of Municipal Valuations, Mr. Christopher Gavor, will be visiting Fish Hoek on **April 15 2010**, to address a dedicated meeting to clarify issues which ratepayers may have to help them to assess their valuations and to decide whether to object or not. The **deadline for objections is 30**th **April 2010**. Late objections will not be allowed, as there is no mechanism in current legislation which allows for that. The Venue will be the Minor Hall at the Civic Centre and the meeting will commence at **19h30**. Watch the press for further details.

SOUTH AFRICAN ROADS: A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH.

Traffic issues affect everybody, whether you drive or not.

The current issue of the AA (Automobile Association) Mobility Magazine carries some startling road accident statistics which need to be understood by all who use the roads.

The statistics below provide a feel of what all South African motorists are up against.

- *Approximately 14,500 people died in road accidents in the year 2008.
- *The estimated cost of all vehicle crashes to the South African economy was R56billion. This represents approximately 3.5% of GDP.
- By comparison, the cost of crashes in developed countries is much lower, at only about 1%.
- *We are all at fault. Almost 85% of crashes are as a result of human error (or more accurately, by the road user breaking the traffic law). Examples: a pedestrian crossing a busy motorway, a driver overtaking on the solid white line, excessive speeding, driving under the influence of alcohol, ignoring red traffic lights and reckless driving in general.
- *10% of crashes can be attributed to poor road conditions. This is because many of the provincial roads in South Africa have seriously deteriorated over the past few years. The maintenance backlog on our roads has been conservatively estimated at R100 billion.
- In developed countries less than 5% of crashes are attributed to poor road conditions.
- *It is believed that a minimum of about 5% of all crashes are because of unroadworthy vehicles and mechanical failure. The average age of cars on our roads is about 11 years, while the average age of trucks and buses is about 20 years!
- *The absence of periodic vehicle testing makes older vehicles more likely to be unroadworthy and more susceptible to critical safety component failure in the event of a crash.
- *The lack of competency of drivers. There are almost 8 million licensed drivers, many of whom have had very little training. Inexperience certainly plays a major role in the number of crashes recorded each year.

The AA states that it is very actively involved in numerous road safety initiatives.

Some of the many legislative amendments being lobbied include the seat belt laws regarding children, compulsory daytime running lights and reducing the alcohol limits to zero.

(Information source: AA Mobility Magazine).

FLAGGING THE SHARKS.

With the flurry of publicity following the tragic shark attack on Fish Hoek beach, it remains to be seen how effective the safety measures now in place will be in the longer term. This will heavily depend on the public recognition of the notices to be erected, a healthy general awareness by beach users of the potential dangers, PLUS advices given by locals to visitors, who may not be aware of local circumstances. Recognition of the on-beach **FLAG WARNING SYSTEM** (near the life-savers' club) must be seen as one of the key parts of the shark attack awareness and prevention system.

To all beach users: DO YOU KNOW THE MEANING OF THE FLAGS?

GREEN FLAG: a SHARK Spotter is on duty and visibility is good. There are NO SHARKS-around.

RED FLAG: A shark HAS BEEN SPOTTED in the area in the last 2 hours.

BLACK FLAG: A shark spotter is on duty but visibility is poor.

WHITE FLAG WITH BLACK SHARK: THERE IS A SHARK IN THE AREA. A siren is simultaneously sounded to clear the beach. SWIMMERS MUST STAY OUT OF THE WATER until the flag is lowered.

Numbers to phone in emergency: Fish Hoek Emergency Centre: 021 782 0333, or 107 from a landline, or 021 480 7700 from a cellphone.

STREET NAMES AND HOUSE NUMBERS.

Is the street where you live without a name?

That is, it would normally have one but it doesn't any more, perhaps because the sign has disappeared, been demolished or is now illegible, the kerbstone has been replaced or stolen, or for some or other bizarre reason you just don't have a street name on display.

City Council addresses this need about once per year and they do them in batches. Thus, if there is a list on record with Council for our area, we are likely to get as many as possible fixed when the time comes.

Contact Janet Holwill on Tel. No. 021 785 1328 or Email jholwill@iafrica.com.