

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

**CHAIRPERSON FHVRRA: Allen Rose-Innes, P.O. Box 22125, Fish Hoek 7974
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NOTICE OF QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING

Venue: FISH HOEK CIVIC CENTRE.

Date: THURSDAY 27 AUGUST 2015. Time: 18h30

PLEASE NOTE EARLIER TIME THAN USUAL : 18h30

MEETING AGENDA

- 1. WELCOME, Introductions and Apologies.**
 - 2. GUEST SPEAKER: CHARL VILJOEN – COMMUNITY SAFETY LIAISON OFFICER
TOPIC: CRIME: AVOID BEING A VICTIM (The Broken Windows Theory)**
 - 3. MINUTES of the Quarterly General Meeting held on 21 May 2015 & matters arising**
 - 4. COUNCILLOR's Report**
 - 5. TREASURER's Report**
 - 6. CHAIRPERSON's Report**
 - 7. GENERAL**
- REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING.**

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Newsletter for August 2015

Our Guest Speaker:

Our guest speaker is **CHARL VIJOEN**, who is the Community Safety Liaison Officer in the Strategic and Operational Support Department of the City of Cape Town.

Whilst being employed by Metro Police in Mitchell's Plain, he started liaising closely with Neighbourhood Watches and since 2008 he has been working with Neighbourhood Watches on a full time basis.

Assigned to an international volunteer group he has presented training on community safety in various places in South Africa as well as Israel, Honolulu, Denver, San Francisco and New York. While working abroad he wrote a manual for the overseas groups and this manual has been used in Cape Town ever since.

His talks focus on the link between grime and crime and how environmental features create certain behaviours, which can be positive or negative. Charl's future plans are to provide training to the City's Neighbourhood Safety Officers in order for them to do his "Broken Windows" presentations to communities.

Main Road rehabilitation update

Weather permitting the Main Road at Muizenberg will be open to two way traffic by the end of August. Once this work is completed, work will begin on the southern section between Kalk Bay Harbour and Woolley's Pool. The narrow road necessitates a stop/go system during this phase. The work includes the rehabilitation of all underground services and road resurfacing and is estimated to take 8 months to complete. Currently they are working on new underground water pipes.

Thereafter the section from Woolley's Pool to Clovelly is expected to take 14 months to complete.

The full length of Main Road will be open to two way traffic during the 6 weeks' Christmas holidays.

The effect of the stop/go on the Kalk Bay Harbour section was discussed at length by various civic associations, the contractors and City officials. Recent traffic counts indicate that Main Road is currently coping with 20,000 vehicles per day. The project team expects it will take about two weeks for drivers to adjust to the change and amend their travel time and route. They will review the queue lengths after this and, if necessary, make changes to the stop/go system. The Kalk Bay Harbour to Woolley's Pool section will be the worst part for congestion. The section above Clovelly station will be wider and will probably accommodate two-way traffic.

Beach Report

Recently, as reported in the local press, our councillors and designated officials did an inspection walk along the beach and Jager Walk. Many issues need to be addressed such as the deteriorating benches, sign boards, uneven paving, rubble from the demolished change room, neglected gardens, etc. It is hoped that some action will take place before our next summer season.

The cleansing department continues to do a good job of keeping the main area of the beach clean and free from kelp and other debris which washes up almost daily, especially in the stormy winter weather. Cloakroom cleaning is also efficient during winter when the facilities are not over crowded.

Unfortunately by-laws are not enforced with the result that there are frequently skateboards, bicycles and dog-walkers in the restricted areas. Theft of bags and belongings is also a constant problem. More regular and visible security patrolling is required.

Sewerage and Urban Run Off

Urban run-off water quality fluctuates up and down – but remains almost constantly in the “non-compliant” category.

At a meeting with Municipal officials held on 23 July, representatives of FHVRRA EXCO were told of developments made with a view to stopping E-coli and Enterococci pollution of our storm water. Officials presented a detailed summary of their findings and advised that there are no stand-by inverters or generators in Fish Hoek to cope with pumping during load shedding. It appears that the sewage plant behind Compass Bakery is itself not operating during Escom’s power outages and unless that is operating, it cannot accept incoming sewage.

Early this year, Municipal officials’ usage of a smoke-generating machine revealed certain irregular connections and pipe leakages in both storm water and sewage systems. Subsequently, they have cleaned sections of our sewage system piping and are in the process of re-lining defective pipes. The Central Business District and in the near future, the First to Fourth Avenues will all have their pipes (first laid in 1939) re-lined where necessary. We trust that those of you living in these streets will not mind this inconvenience.

Far South Peninsula Community Forum (FSPCF)

The FSPCF, with the participation of the FHVRRA, has been active on the following matters:

- Review of the Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Far South Peninsula completed by the CSIR. The FSPCF is of the opinion that it is deficient in a number of aspects. Also meetings requested with MECs of Planning and Transport have not yet taken place.
- Review of proposed improvements to the disused Clovelly Railway Station.
- Application by the City for permits for existing marine outfall sewers. The FSPCF has strongly supported the Hout Bay Ratepayers Association’s objection in respect of Hout Bay.
- Municipal Planning Tribunal which has insufficient representation by Civic Associations.
- New communication masts for Metrorail at stations from Muizenberg to Simon’s Town.

Kids’ projects

Exco member Chantal Breytenbach is organizing projects in the Valley to help with entertaining the kids/teenagers who live here. Earlier in the year, the focus was on building a skateboard park so that the children had a safe spot where they could “hang out” with their friends and the skaters could skate off the streets. This has been approved by Council and the City will be moving forward with this project within the next few months.

Chantal has also been trying to organise an Under 18 Disco Party for the teenagers at the Civic Centre. This should be starting up from spring and we are looking at having one of these events every second month.

Chantal has a few other ideas up her sleeve and will keep the community informed as to what is going on. The teenagers are a huge concern in the Valley as there is not much for them to do on a recreational basis. FHVRRA want to change that and be able to offer them safe and secure fun which should also help to keep them out of mischief. With summer on the way, more fun things will be available, so watch this space!

Tourism

The number of overseas arrivals into South Africa dropped by just under 24% year on year for the month of April, according to the latest arrival statistics published by Statistics South Africa.

Of South Africa's largest source markets, Germany fell the most, with arrivals down 34% to 14 640 from 22 830; arrivals from the UK dropped 21% to 29 825 from 37 749; and arrivals from the USA dropped 13% to 18 776 from 21 687. Arrivals from France and the Netherlands were down 13% and 21% respectively. China was down 18% to 6 694 from 8 123 and India was down 22% to 5 808 from 7 494.

Minister of Tourism, Derek Hanekom, has conceded that the drop in arrivals is linked to South Africa's new immigration regulations.

A report by Grant Thornton, commissioned by the Tourism Business Council of South Africa, suggests that the new visa requirements cost the country R2.6 billion last year and will cost a further R4.1 billion this year.

This will obviously impact negatively on tourism in the Far South Peninsula and businesses in Fish Hoek that also cater for tourists.

E-mail addresses

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SUBSCRIPTIONS: Membership: Helen O'Regan - Tel: 021 782 4268 E-mail: hnoREGAN@axxess.co.za
Postal Address - PO Box 22125, Fish Hoek, 7974

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