

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

**CHAIRPERSON, FHVRRA: Allen Rose-Innes, P.O. Box 22125 Fish Hoek 7974
Tel: 021 782 4279 Cell: 073 559 6097 Email: aroseinn@mweb.co.za**

Newsletter for November 2015

NOTICE OF QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING

**Venue: FISH HOEK CIVIC CENTRE.
Date: THURSDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2015. Time: 19h30**

MEETING AGENDA

- 1. WELCOME, Introductions and Apologies.**
- 2. GUEST SPEAKER: GREGG OELOFSE (MANAGER: ENVIRONMENTAL CORPORATE GOVERNANCE)**

TOPIC: COASTAL CHALLENGES : OUR COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBIITY

- 3. MINUTES of the Quarterly General Meeting held on 27 August 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.

FHVRRA SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual Subscriptions (R70 per household) for 2015 and 2016

**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: FHVRRA. 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.
Add R25 for cheque and cash deposits at the bank to cover bank fees.

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.

This Newsletter has been kindly sponsored by your FAVOURITE LOCAL SUPERMARKET



**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 November 2015

Our Guest Speaker

Our guest speaker is **GREGG OELOFSE**, Manager of Environmental Corporate Governance at the City of Cape Town.

Gregg holds a Masters Degree in Conservation Biology and has some 22 years experience in environmental management and conservation. Gregg is an interesting and entertaining speaker who is exceptionally well informed on all aspects of coastal management. We on the FHVRRA Exco have had various positive dealings with him over the years.

Gregg will address the topic **COASTAL CHALLENGES: OUR COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY**. He will animate his talk with the aid of a projector.

In view of the Guest Speaker's talk we have included various aspects relating to the Fish Hoek and Clovelly beaches and the run-off water situation along the Fish Hoek coastline. The FHVRRA has taken a very strong stand in trying to make the Fish Hoek beach experience safe, clean and enjoyable.

Blue Flag Beaches

The following seven City beaches have been awarded full Blue Flag status for the 2015/16 summer season which runs from 1 December 2015 to 31 March 2016:

Bikini, Camps Bay, Clifton 4th Beach, Llandudno (December to January), Mnandi, Silwerstroomstrand (December to January) and Strandfontein.

Fish Hoek, Seaforth, Muizenberg and Melkbosstrand Beaches have been awarded pilot Blue Flag status for the 2015/2016 summer season. Pilot Blue Flag beaches, for which accreditation is awarded for one season at a time, are beaches which will be considered for full Blue Flag status if certain criteria are met within a specified period of time.

The greatest challenge to attaining Blue Flag status is the high level of water quality required. Being a coastal city which is growing in population and size, attaining the pristine water quality levels demanded by the Blue Flag programme is a formidable challenge. Bringing these beaches to a Blue Flag standard will entail rigorous monitoring of water quality and ongoing investigation of potential sources of pollution.

Fish Hoek's ability to continue warranting/holding the Blue Flag status is conditional on reducing the pollution in the storm water run-off which crosses the beach in two places: the first being close to the Galley and the second at the Yellow Light House.

For several years our storm water quality has been non-compliant, being polluted by E-coli and Enterococci - bacteria originating only in warm-blooded creatures' intestines.

Everyone can "do" their bit to stop this pollution by ensuring that no sewerage or waste water can possibly reach the storm water system. Dog, bird and other animal faeces belong in rubbish bins. All soiled waste water belongs in the sewerage/waste water system, which, at residential sites can be accessed through the drains adjacent to kitchens or bathrooms. Dustbins should be washed in an area where that water can only join the sewerage system, not the storm water system. Waste water from washing of dustbins should not be allowed to flow into street gutters. Dustbins should be cleaned on lawns, or in areas linked by drainage to the waste water system.

Hopefully, if everybody co-operates, we will be able to accomplish permanent Blue Flag status.

Fish Hoek Beach, Jager Walk and Metrorail house-keeping

Lorraine Lemmon-Warde keeps a watchful eye on house-keeping on behalf of the FHVRRA. It is a never-ending task which requires continuous prompting to City and Metrorail officials.

Some matters that have been pursued over the last quarter, merely as an illustration, are:

- Promotion of a more active Law Enforcement presence;
- Inadequacy of the “Public Bathroom” block in view of the increased popularity of the beach as a result of the shark nets.
- Improved signage with contact numbers at the storm water outflows and Silvermine River mouth;
- Repair of signboards which have been deteriorating for years;
- Removal of the unused fibreglass towers which house vagrants;
- Bulging and seepage of embankment walls;
- Vandalisation of the steps down to Skelly Pool which are now unsafe;
- Unruly behaviour including drinking, smoking and defacing of the cloakrooms by school children after a term closure and unruly behaviour of young boys throwing rocks at the geese and their abuse at members of the public who tried to stop them;
- Repair of the water fountain for which the connection had been vandalised;
- Removal of alien vegetation along Jager Walk and the policy re benches along Jager Walk;
- Problems relating to the subway under the rail track closest to the main beach;
- Abandonment of Sunnycove Station – overflowing drains, no Sunnycove sign, graffiti, many lights not working at night and some lights burning all day;

Funds collected for the Fish Hoek beach parking go into the City coffers. With the support of our Councillors we need to lobby again (and more forcibly) that the Fish Hoek CID be given the lease for the beach parking to ensure management and maintenance. This is the case with Jubilee Square in Simons Town so the precedent exists.

Construction of an electrical depot next to the Road Transport Depot in Silverglade

The City proposes to build an electrical depot next to the Road Transport Depot in Silverglade. A hard copy of the draft final Basic Assessment Report is available for viewing at the Fish Hoek Public Library. Additionally all relevant information regarding the proposed development is available on the website www.gnec.co.za of Guillaume Nel Environmental Consultants (GNEC). Following the many comments/concerns directed to GNEC, GNEC has now granted an extension to the Third Round Public Participation process until **24 November 2015**.

The first proposal provided for access from Poplar Road. The FHVRRA and many residents objected to this. The FHVRRA proposed the following:

- select a more amenable light industrial location eg west of Sun Valley Centre, off Hoemoed Avenue;
- if this is not acceptable, rather use the gravel road leading off Kommetjie Road for access;
- respect the peace and quiet of Silverglade owners who bought and live there in good faith.

The latest proposal is to build an access road on the watercourse which exists on “19th Avenue”. This is cause for outrage and serious concern.

Firstly, it must be against all town planning principles to build an “industrial service road” between a residential area and sports facilities. This area is used extensively by residents, children, walkers with dogs and sportsmen. The impact of heavy traffic running between a residential area and sportsfields will be immense and most undesirable and the current recreational ambience of the area will be destroyed.

Secondly, a major concern that we have is regarding the hydrology of the valley. The run off from the mountain slopes has been adversely interfered with by development and it is our belief that the road proposed in that specific position will cause serious drainage problems. The existing drainage ditch was built specifically to protect the Silverglade houses from flooding and in fact some houses have been supplied by the municipality with sandbags as flooding.

The Fish Hoek Valley Local Structure Plan of 1999, which unfortunately has been superseded by the City of Cape Town’s Integrated Zoning Scheme, shows an off-ramp on the Fish Hoek bypass road between Main Road/Addo Road and Kommetjie Road on to the sports fields. We are identifying this as a potential access on to the gravel road to the electrical depot.

Decision making at City of Cape Town Council level

The Spatial Planning, Environment and Land Use Management Committee (SPELUM) has been disbanded and replaced by the City's Planning Tribunal. External independent consultants with expertise in environmental planning, urban design, etc. serve on this Tribunal together with many senior City of Cape Town officials.

Whereas the creation of this Tribunal may be laudable, it should be noted that the Mayor is the ultimate appeal authority, which means in effect that the City becomes both judge & jury in respect of land use planning appeals. The Greater City of Cape Town Civic Alliance (GCTCA), the overarching body of Civic Associations in Cape Town, has highlighted the danger of conflicts of interest.

The Far South Peninsula Community Forum has been strongly lobbying for a moratorium on development in the Far South Peninsula, given the gridlocked commuter routes, the insufficient school space and the shortage of clinics and social services. This stance was endorsed by the Mayor at a meeting in May 2013.

But over the last few years various developments have been approved by the City (amounting to some 3700 houses) and now in October 2015 the Mayoral Committee approved a development of 100+ new houses in Riverside Extension in Kommetjie, overturning SPELUM's previous rejection of this development.

We need to continue the fight to let the Mayor and her Committee understand that, until there is sufficient infrastructure in the Far South, more developments cannot be allowed.

Street People / Homeless people

According to Cllr. Simon Liell-Cock, who convened a meeting on 2 November, of representatives of various interested local organizations, to introduce them to Mrs. Ruth Nugent of the City's Social Welfare Department, the City has approximately 7,000 to 10,000 people presently living on the streets!

It seems that by supporting the begging mentality in giving hand-outs to individuals, we are not helping those recipients. We are encouraging them to remain on the streets because they can make easy money there and we are, in fact, condemning and imprisoning them in their present existence. By contrast, in channelling donations to registered organisations, who can give them on-going help, we would be encouraging them to access much longer-lasting, further reaching improvements to their future prospects.

Mrs. Nugent is orchestrating a campaign to encourage people to "Give Responsibly". Pamphlets are to be widely distributed on 27 and 28 November at Malls and at some major road junctions locally.

Attached is a tentative list of some worthy recipients of your donations. The FHVRRA wishes to draw up a more comprehensive list of deserving organisations, so we invite FHVRRA members and their friends to advise Helen O'Regan (see contact details below) of any other officially recognised local charities (with contact details) which should be included.

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

RETURN SLIP FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS	Tick box	2015 – R70	2016 – R70
Full Name:			
Street Address:			
Postal Address (if different to street):			
Telephone: Cell: E-mail:			

Appendix to Newsletter

Tentative list of some local charities

(compiled by Helen O'Regan of the Fish Hoek Valley Ratepayers and Residents Association from various sources).

Please contact Helen (Phone: 021 782 4268 or E-mail: hnoREGAN@axxess.co.za) to add other deserving local charities.

In alphabetical order:

Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation - Youth Centre at Masiphumelele PBO 18/11/12/51
Phone: 021 650 6966

Evangeline Ministries (Women's Life Skills Programme), part of Masiphumelele Corporation & Trust,
www.masicorp.org Phone: 021 786 2467

Fish Hoek Eldercare (Nerina Gardens and Carlisle Lodge) www.fishhoekeldercare.com
e-mail: agedaid@mweb.co.za Phone: 021 782 6123

Fish Hoek/Kommetjie/Noordhoek Welfare Association, NPO 002-889 PBO 930-001-804 www.sinethemba.info
e-mail: fhknw@telkomsa.net Phone: 021 785 5389

Happy Valley Home (shelter for the homeless), Simon's Town: NPO 005-388 Fundraising no: 08 801 189 001
Phone: 021 786 5087

Justice Alliance of South Africa: 069-600-NPO, SARS PBO 930 034 981 www.justicealliance.co.za
e-mail: office@justicealliance.co.za Phone: 021 713 3259

Living Hope (Bringing Hope, Breaking Despair), NPO 012-587 www.livinghope.co.za
e-mail: office@livinghope.co.za Phone: 021 784 2800

St. Francis Outreach Trust: (foster homes in Masiphumelele) NPO 080-387 www.stfrancistrust.org
e-mail: uweh@realtime.co.za Phone: 021 786 5487

St. Luke's Hospice, False Bay: NPO 007-350/9399
e-mail: falsebay@stlukes.co.za Phone: 021 782 7696

St. Margaret's Church, Fish Hoek: part of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa PBO 930002729
e-mail: stmargaretsfh@gmail.com