



With kind permission: Elizabeth Youngblood

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS 2022

Subscriptions were waived for 2021 due to Covid and have been retained at R80 for 2022. We wish to avoid cash payment queues at General Meetings, so please make payment by one of the methods described.

EFT payments:

Account Name: FHVRRRA Standard Bank

Account Number: 374203091

Bank code for EFT payments: 051001

Reference: your initials-your surname

Cash:

At any time at AP Jones and Busy Bees (Vallyland)

NOTICE OF 2022 GENERAL MEETING

CIVIC CENTRE FISH HOEK

THURSDAY 30 JUNE 2022 AT 19H00

AGENDA

1. WELCOME: INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

2. GUEST SPEAKER TOPIC: Is Koeberg Safe?

PRECIS OF THE PRESENTATION:

When dealing with nuclear energy, several questions need to be answered. What are the typical issues in ageing nuclear plants? What are the steam generators and why do they need replacement When is Koeberg's end of life? What is the role of the National Nuclear Regulator? What are the regulatory processes that would be needed to extend that? Is nuclear the solution to our electricity crisis? If not, what is the solution?

ABOUT THE SPEAKER:

Peter Becker has been involved in the debate around nuclear power in South Africa since 2010. He is a spokesperson for the Koeberg Alert Alliance (KAA) which is an alliance of organisations and individuals concerned about safety at the Koeberg Nuclear site. The KAA frequently makes submissions to government on regulations, policy issues and environmental assessments. Becker has presented at a post-Fukushima conference in Japan in 2012, toured the area and seen the consequences of the 2011 nuclear disaster first hand. He has met civil society organisations as well as the Swedish nuclear regulator and visited the Forsmark Nuclear plant and the Swedish final repository for nuclear waste.



3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE AGM OF 3 MARCH 2022

4. GENERAL QUESTIONS

FISH HOEK VALLEY RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

2022 Executive Committee (EXCO)

Brian Youngblood - Chair	Dennis Lihou
Fanie Kloppers - Vice-Chair	Helen O'Regan
Judy Bean – Treasurer	Terry Page
Peter Scott - Secretary	James Ricketts
Matthew Gray	John Shaw

Fish Hoek Main Road Post Office

We noted that the Muizenberg Post Office had closed and saw how the queues outside our Main Road Post Office had increased. We started receiving complaints that the state grant and normal post office business queues were sometimes ill-defined. We took a survey from our members, supported by our Facebook page, and noted that 87 % were NOT in favour of closing our Main Road Post Office. We liked our Sub-Council's recommendation that state grants should be paid to mobile phones. As our Post Office was once “a jewel” on Main Road, we asked them to tidy their appearance and pointed out the hanging or fallen rain gutters. To our pleasant surprise, they replaced the gutters and downpipe on 27 April. Thank you Post Office.

Trek Fisherman's Mural

Lyn Scott and her friend Annaline Strydom commissioned Christine Andrews, a local artist, to paint a mural on the ablution block wall near the “lighthouse” on Fish Hoek beach. The proposed theme was the trek fishermen and their boats. Christine's fees are to be funded by a Back a Buddy campaign. The project is an informal Private/Public Participation :-

- Pressure washing of the ablution block walls sponsored by Coastal Hire
- Support for the project and for a permit by Clr Aimee Kuhl
- Paint sponsored by FHVRRA
- Preparation, painting and refurbishing of the building by City's beach team led by Malinge Dalasile
- Christine Andrews painting the mural.
- Crowd funding of Christine's fees by the community. So far more than 600 “likes” for the work Christine has done to date but not enough contributions to reach the goal of R20 000

Funding is still needed for the artist. Please donate to <https://www.backabuddy.co.za/christine-andrews>

FISH HOEK VALLEY RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Members Recommended Real Estate Agents in the Fish Hoek Valley (in their priority order), in response to an email survey that we conducted.

Agents	Agencies
Kim Fraser, Rochelle and Jimmy Smith	Propertycoza
Sue Barnes and Natalie Tait	Asher Properties
Lorraine Webb and Nicola Vlug-Garrish Lane	Fine & Country
Christine de Abreu	Remax
Dave Wilson	Keller Williams
Brenda Coomer	Property Peninsula
Denise Dingley	Properties & Homes
Inge Kaul	(unknown)

Main Road Resurfaced

Thanks to our City our Main Road was resurfaced from 29 March to 19 April 2022. As our sewage pipes were relined in May 2015 with a manufacturer's guarantee of 50 years, there was no need for an infrastructure upgrade to be done beforehand. Bursting water mains are still a concern and we note that Fish Hoek, along with 28 other suburbs will be getting water pipe replacements.

Water Pipe Replacement Programme

Excess water pipe bursts due either to age or water pressure regulation have been acknowledged by our Sub-Council and have a plan to replace the worst offenders over the next two years.

Fish Hoek (nearest roads):

Portion of Frigate Crescent and Corvette Road from Frigate Crescent to Corsair Way

Portion of Kommetjie Road opposite Silverglade

Portion of Kommetjie Road from 14th Avenue to Ranger Road

Portion of Ranger Road and Highway Road opposite 9th Avenue to near Hillside Road

Portion of Hillside Road from Highway Road to opposite 2nd Avenue

Contour Way

Clovelly (nearest roads):

Bethel Road

Peri Road

Cockle Crescent

Winkle Way from Montrose Avenue to Hilton Road

FISH HOEK VALLEY RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Optical Bird Deterrent Devices

From a research request on the irritation (discomfort, nuisance) factor from these wind rotated, sun reflecting devices, UCT Masters Student Eunice Tshilengu presented her paper to a local Zoom audience on 30 March explaining that the frequency of flashes could trigger Photosensitive Epilepsy. She discovered that there is no national, provincial or local legislation prohibiting these devices. Her paper lists over 50 other bird deterrents. At 20m, these optical devices are about 20 times brighter than a car's headlights. However, they only reduced the pigeon population by 40% in a cited two-year study vs anti-bird roosting spikes efficacy of 70%. From the results of our survey, we petition our Ward Councillor Aimee Kuhl to submit a device banning motion to Council from our Sub-Council, which she chairs.

What Could Go Wrong?

Our Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA) wants to store your biometric data, such as your voiced password, fingerprints, facial features and retinal scan on your cellphone's SIM card. With cellphones being used more for payments and fund transfers, a lost or stolen cellphone becomes an even greater security risk for individuals. With stored biometric data, identity theft will become easier. ICASA hopes to curb criminal activity, but will require us to trust cellphone shops with our data. Roughly only 8% of all countries globally do this.

Broken Trust, but greener promises ahead

The committee of Sun Valley Eco Watch (SVEW), Waste Reduction Far South and other environmentalists have previously met with the organisers of events such as the Two Oceans Ultra Marathon and despite promises otherwise, many plastic sachets were found along their path, wind-blown to adjacent streets and ultimately washed down our stormwater system to the beach and ocean. We find this totally unacceptable, which is why we asked our Sub-Council for a complete ban. If there had to be water stations, then we suggested that the organisers make use of self-watering stations for those runners who "carry their own" water containers throughout their journey and the use of paper cups for the rest. Our Sub-Council has responded:

- Cape Town Cycle Tour: their Race Director has advised as follows:
They can confirm that the Cycle Tour has not used plastic sachets at water points for the last 20 years. They have used paper cups and for the last two years they have introduced a "carry your own utensil" policy.

- Two Oceans Marathon: The City said that after several positive engagements with their hydration partners, Coca-Cola Peninsula Beverages, the Two Oceans Marathon will host a completely plastic sachet free event on 16 and 17 April 2022. The race management made a commitment in 2020 that we would pursue every avenue to mitigate the impact of our event on the environment. We are exceptionally fortunate to be able to work with partners such as Peninsula Beverages, who share our vision and commitment to protecting our natural environment and who heeded our call to find an alternative hydration solution. Therefore, for 2022 events, water will be dispensed from container trucks into wax-lined cups. They will also encourage runners to "carry their own" via our various media and communications channels. The City's Events Permitting Office's perspective, they have advocated for the expansion of the "carry your own" initiative to the organisers of other/similar events and with Western Province Athletics.

FISH HOEK VALLEY RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

24 Carlton Road

This is a proposed gated community of two-storey cluster residences on the wetlands side, setting a precedent in building height in the area. The site will require clearing 0.75ha of indigenous vegetation with four units invading the 15m conservation buffer zone requirement. There are several unanswered questions. Will the Winkle Way parking area remain, who would pay for the needed sidewalk / pavement on the southern side of their property and traffic calming measures for the nearby schools. Fifty-eight (58) parking bays are to be provided on their property and further on-street parking. Although they saw no animals during their survey, the wetland is one of breeding homes of the Western Leopard Toad. Our environmentalists pointed out that the Lower Silvermine Wetland is a Cape Nature Biodiversity Conservation Area and requested special consideration be given by way of suitable holes in their Clear-Vu fencing to allow the toads to leave the suburbs and return to the wetlands, for monitoring of any stranded toadlets (baby toads) that may have fallen in construction holes, angled kerbing to not prevent toadlets from passing through, only indigenous plants be used in landscaping along with natural fertilisers and no herbicides or pesticides and a suitable dry land Source to Sea Trail after construction. We requested solar panels and batteries rather than noisy generators. Due to the 23 sewage spills into the wetlands since 2004, we are concerned when the City says that they have adequate capacity for these 23 new units. Due to the proposed hard surfaces, we are concerned about flooding. This area is so low that sea rise from climate change could permanently flood it. We wish they would include effective security camera coverage. From our experience with large construction projects, we are concerned about the dust, noise and night-time light pollution. We asked for mitigations.

AARTO Amendment Act unconstitutional

On 13 January, the Pretoria High Court ruled in favour of the Organisation Undoing Tax Abuse (OUTA) and declared the Administrative Adjudication of Road Traffic Offences Act (AARTO) saying AARTO was unconstitutional and invalid. OUTA has to file for the findings to be confirmed by the Constitutional Court, then the minister can challenge the confirmation. OUTA isn't encouraging lawlessness on our streets, but wants the minister to consult widely with all stakeholders to find meaningful initiatives to improve law enforcement and develop a national culture of road safety such as via professional visible policing, properly trained law enforcement law enforcement and the removal of unlicensed drivers and unroadworthy and unlicensed vehicles from our roads. As written, AARTO decriminalises road offences. In countries where demerit systems are successful, they have excellent administrative competencies and vehicle registry systems that are accurate and interconnected to other areas of government administration, which operate at a high degree of efficiency, implying that our national administration traffic information system (Natis) is not quite up to scratch.

From the Zondo Reports to private prosecutions

Only private persons, their spouse, children or next-of-kin, who prove a substantial and particular interest in the issue of a criminal trial arising from an injury that person suffered due to the offence in question can prosecute, that is if the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) first decides not to prosecute and issues a *nolle prosequi* certificate to confirm that it declines to prosecute. We think that the Criminal Procedure Act needs to be amended to allow civil society (private entities) to privately prosecute as the public suffers. When this law was made, they could not have reasonably foreseen the current political climate, state capture or the rampant corruption, lack of capacity or political will within the NPA.

FISH HOEK VALLEY RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Call for End of State of Disaster

Our health minister's government notice may have gone a step too far for Covid positive testing individuals by forcing isolation without a warrant of arrest or taking of medical samples without consent, but then she wanted to change the Health Act regulations allowing her to make the State of Disaster's lockdown restrictions permanent, including curfews. We were thankful for initial lockdown requirements that ensured a sufficient number of ventilators and adequate number of hospital beds. However, each new variant is less lethal than the previous one. Without forced vaccinations (work place, events), those that have already been injected voluntarily, are probably as good as it is going to get. The anti-vaxxers have had their opportunities to get vaccinated. They will now get natural immunity. Thus, extending the lockdown restrictions any longer doesn't make any sense. It has caused enough damage to our economy.

City's Budget

The rehabilitation of our dunes has been delayed another year and limited in scope to up to the Seaside Cottages.

Our Fish Hoek library complains that they are underfunded.

We've requested funding for fencing the front of the City owned property which houses our museum.

We'd like Dolphin Park Viaduct to be opened to the sea as the pump often doesn't work leaving water to stagnate in the viaduct.

We are grateful for puffer fish removals and the infrastructure upgrades, such as the refurbishment of Jager's Walk, the active traffic department in our area, Main Road resurfacing, services that do work, 100 year-old Steenbras lowering load shedding events by one stage, the possible end to load shedding by the City buying directly from independent power producers, the possibility of the City taking over our docks and local trains to get them working properly again, the removal of geosmin from our drinking water, beach clean-ups, etc.

Integrated Human Settlements Sector Plan

Plan - what a misnomer. If a plan has objectives, strategies and actions to achieve those objectives and a budget, then this City plan fell woefully short. The writers were too wrapped up in repeatedly presenting the background and wading through relevant legislation for compliance that it forgot to actually set targets to be accomplished. The City needs to decide if it is in the development of housing units as its history is deplorable. What needs to be done is to build as many housing units every year as the same number it has previously taken them five years to build. If the City is going to incentivise the public sector, it needs to articulate how. Finally, the City needs to properly budget the housing build, but also the accompanying infrastructure.

The Net

The Net is operating from Dunster Avenue now and has partnered with U-turn Homeless Service Centre. There are set days for particular themes with the 18 on average "clients" appreciating routine. The Net is working with the City's Extended Public Works Programme (EPWP) for six of its resources and running a trial with a Neighbourhood Watch. My Father's House is being assisted by The Net with food distributions on Wednesdays. The "step up" accommodation model has some successes. However, 18 still live at 7K. The Net still seeks donations: The NET Western Cape, Mercantile Bank, Code: 450109, Account: 1050819101

