



## ZEEKOEVLEI PENINSULA SRA “ZVPSRA” NEWSBRIEF SEPTEMBER 2021

### From the Chair (Graeme Cann)

Firstly, a special mention of and congratulations to one of our own: Davey James, skipper of the Royal Natal Yacht Club team, recently won what was hailed to be the toughest and most closely contested Lipton Cup ever. Well done Davey!

Security matters have been high on the SRA Committee's agenda in light of the recent events in Kwa-Zulu Natal and Gauteng. In conjunction with ProSec, Nature Conservation Rangers, law enforcement, SAPS and our neighbouring community security groups, we are developing a strategy to protect the Peninsula and surrounds from lawlessness and invasive behaviour. The key to protecting the most vulnerable access point (the vicinity of the weir) is early warning and intelligence. Two different scenarios were identified as potential threats: 1) the mugging of residents and others at the weir and 2) the threat of organised mob looting and pillaging.

To address these scenarios we are evaluating the cost and viability of establishing security cameras linked to a control and command centre at strategic points, but this obviously comes at a cost. We are approaching the City for assistance for the installation of the camera system, but the ongoing monitoring thereof will have to be borne by the residents. We are looking at ways to cover these monthly payments.

If anyone is willing to be part of this security initiative, please contact me as I would like to get as many residents as possible to be available to jump into action if needs be. Organised large group walks with ample security are also being considered so that we can all still enjoy our beautiful nature area and build some community camaraderie.

Please note that, as a result of the recent attack by a ProSec guard at the weir, ProSec is no longer offering this service. There is therefore **NO GUARD ON DUTY AT THE WEIR** for the foreseeable future and walks down the weir road are at your own risk.

There will be a Peninsula Street Fees on Saturday 16 October 2021 as well as the FoZR market on Sunday 3 October 2021. Please support these community-driven efforts and share the enthusiasm and fun!

Finally, come and hear what is being done about the state of Zeekoevlei from representatives from False Bay Nature Reserve (FBNR), Friends of Zeekoevlei & Rondevlei (FoZR) and FBNR Protected Areas Advisory Committee (PAAC). The event is being hosted by Zeekoe Vlei Yacht Club on Saturday 18 Sept 2021. Please click here to RSVP: <https://www.revolutionise.com.au/zeekoevleiyyc/events/112415/>

If you have any concerns about security and ProSec, please contact me on 082-338-2839. I can also be contacted by e-mail at [graeme@betsport.co.za](mailto:graeme@betsport.co.za)

Remember to smile and wave!

## **A brief update on the sewage saga – Jenny Day, Chair of the False Bay Nature Reserve Protected Areas Advisory Committee (FBNR PAAC)**

Abdulla Parker from Catchment Management sent me a message about the following on 1 September 2021.

1. Latest water quality results: while the *E. coli* counts (an indicator of sewage) are way down relative to the counts a couple of weeks ago, there is still clear evidence of sewage coming into the Vlei from the Big Lotus River. Water quality results from other sampling points are still above the level at which the vlei can safely be opened, but I hope that they will soon (how soon, I don't know) be low enough that the Vlei can be opened for recreational purposes.
2. Mr Parker's colleagues in the Sewer Reticulation branch have commenced dredging sludge and highly polluted sediment at and around the mouth of the Big Lotus River, using a high-suction VacJet truck.
3. Mr Parker says, "I am in regular engagement with my colleagues in Sewer Retic & Sewer Pump Stations, Water Pollution Control, and City Health and City Environment wrt ongoing investigations and mitigations measures to bring the e-coli levels down, and focusing on the Big Lotus River sub-catchment."

There is no doubt that sewage spills will continue to occur (old and unreliable infrastructure will take years and money to fix or replace), so the important thing is to identify spills as soon as possible after they happen, allowing City officials to take immediate action. One part of the solution may be to identify members of local communities who can act as monitors, rapidly providing information to clearly identified City officials as soon as a spill is identified. In the longer term, we hope that suitably located monitoring points on the Big Lotus River will allow officials to identify sources of sewage pollution more accurately, thus allowing followup and efficient repairs.

Helen Lockhart, who has been in contact with Safwaan Abrahams of the Western Cape Government's Department of Environment and Deveopment Planning (DEaDP), received the following e-mail message from Mr Abrahams on 9 September 2021.

"Kindly be advised that a follow-up site inspection was carried out on 2 September to assess the rehabilitation proposed by the CoCT in response to the Pre-Directive issued by this Department on 13 August.

From observation, the rehabilitation is currently being carried out by the City. This constituted the following:

- Overflow of sewerage water along Klip Road from sewer manholes has been contained;
- Cleaning of sewer manholes in the immediate vicinity was done;
- The manholes along Klip Road were raised and reconstructed to better handle forced pressure;
- The sewer lines were unblocked with the unblocking taking place in Ottery further up the sewer system;
- The open spaces, (Klip Road walkways and the open land adjacent to Klip Road where pooling of sewer water has transpired) has been bioremediated with excess sludge removed with spades and bagged for disposal offsite.
- The VACJET removed excess sludge from the river at Fishermans Walk;
- Litter pickers was removing litter and general waste accumulated at fisherman's Walk by hand and bagged for off-site disposal.

Please note that the Department still awaits the Action Plan which will address the long-term sewer pollution in the area. The Plan is due to be submitted on 13 September within the stipulated timeframe afforded by this Department. Subsequent to receiving the proposed plan, the Plan reviewed and then considered for implementation. Further inspections may be forthcoming with feedback/ updates provided in this regard. Safwaan Abrahams"

\*DEaDP sent out their Green Scorpions to investigate the major sewage spill of early July, and as a result sent the City a Pre-Directive, which is notice of sanctions to be applied if the specified actions have not been taken by a certain date.

So things are happening. There are many dedicated City officials who are doing their best under difficult circumstances, and I thank them for their efforts.

### **Cleanliness & Maintenance (Helen Higson)**

Residents can report street light outages, green bins that need emptying, bushes and trees that need cutting, potholes, dumping, grass that needs cutting, etc. at [https://eservices1.capetown.gov.za/coct/wapl/zsreq\\_app/index.html](https://eservices1.capetown.gov.za/coct/wapl/zsreq_app/index.html)

### **Peninsula Street Fees**

Laurianne Claase is co-ordinating the first-ever Peninsula Street Fees. She can be contacted on [laurianne@interactnow.co.za](mailto:laurianne@interactnow.co.za) if you have any questions.

## Peninsula Street Fees

*Meet the Vleibours. Share your Gees*

**What:** Zeekoevlei residents are invited to take part in a free, minimal-waste, pedestrian Street Fees on the Zeekoevlei Peninsula.

Take to your pavements, driveways or verges outside your homes and showcase your hobbies and/or your livelihoods. Network, sell, advertise, educate, entertain, attract new members or simply share what makes you tick. Family members can take turns to 'hold the fort' so everyone has an opportunity to enjoy the ramble.

To be pedestrian friendly and not too spread out geographically, Vleibours who do not live on the Peninsula can arrange with a Peninsula resident to share their verge.



**Where:** Peninsula Road, Skippers End, Island Road, Kingfisher, Heron and Flamingo Closes

**When:** Saturday 16 October 2021 from 10:30 – 14:00.

Refreshments will be on sale (including halaal).

**Why:** Let's reconnect, newly connect and celebrate our Vleibourhood.

### **Zeekoevlei Peninsula SRA (ZVPSRA) Directors and Committee members**

Directors: Andy Plew-Chisholm, Stew Penney, John Day, Graeme Cann and Jenny Day.

Chairperson: Graeme Cann  
Security portfolio: Graeme Cann  
Environment portfolio: Dalton Gibbs , Jenny Day  
Maintenance and cleanliness: Helen Higson  
Liaison portfolio: Susanne Karcher  
Management: John Day  
Finance portfolio: Andy Plew-Chisholm  
Communications: Helen Lockhart  
Minutes: Lee Watson