

Call 0800 21 47 64 to root out corruption and fraud



Taking a firm stance against corruption and fraud in the municipal environment, Council recently approved a recommendation to enter into a partnership with the Eden District Municipality to establish an anti-fraud and corruption hotline.

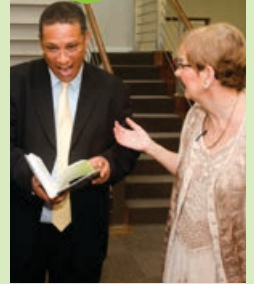
Executive Mayor Cllr Georlene Wolmarans says the establishment of the hotline gives the general public the opportunity to report their suspicions of fraud, theft and corruption anonymously. "They will be able to communicate openly and without

fear of intimidation or victimisation as all cases will be treated confidentially."

She said the hotline is externally accredited to the forensic audit and investigation firm, KPMG and will be called the KPMG ethics line. Calls to the hotline are free from any Telkom line. "It will be manned by KPMG personnel 24 hours a day, seven days a week and calls are fielded by experienced call centre agents versed in all 11 official languages. All reported information will immediately be captured onto a call sheet and transmitted directly to a designated person appointed by KPMG."

Wolmarans said that callers should provide as much information as possible for the effective investigation of allegations. "They will be provided with a reference number and will be able to track the progress. We have various measures in place already, including an email address to report suspicious activities, whistle-blower@knysna.gov.za. Adding this independently run hotline once again reiterates our zero tolerance stance in this regard." **CALL 0800 21 47 64**

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GREEN TREASURE IN THE MIDST OF TOWN'S HUSTLE AND BUSTLE



The Pledge Nature Reserve, coined as the "green heart of Knysna" for its proximity to the CBD, is undoubtedly one of Knysna's biggest eco treasures.

The Reserve is administered by the Pledge Nature Reserve Trust and covers approximately 10ha and is home to some exquisite bird life and a wide variety of plant species.

Municipal Manager Lauren Waring says the reserve is a real asset to Knysna, conservation, education and tourism. "What was once a brickfield and dumping ground is today a world renowned environmental asset dedicated to protecting our forest, fynbos and fauna. A non-profit organisation, the Reserve operates on a very limited budget derived mainly from grants and donations."

She said that the municipality annually makes a contribution to the Reserve through its own very limited Grant-in-Aid fund, but that more funds are needed. "Internationally, parks in the midst of city life are treasured by residents - this is our very own Central Park and we should all work together to ensure its existence."

To learn more about the Reserve visit them at Pledge Square or read more on their official website www.pledgenaturereserve.org

Knysna Library Re-opened



three floor levels with a total square metre of 1100.”

Executive Mayor, Cllr Georlene Wolmarans called on all communities to make the most of the new library. “Our library has been a place of learning for the people of Knysna for decades. It is a unique and valuable resource to be enjoyed and used by generations to come. We also made sure it is accessible to all – the elderly and disabled persons have easy access to all levels with the newly installed hydraulic lift.”

“A colourful neon information sign indicate the different levels. Orange for level two, where you will find the adult fiction, green for the first level for non-fiction and reference books and on the ground floor the children’s section is sunny yellow. With 15 schools served by the library, the children’s section has also been improved and offers a wealth of multi-media and books for our community to take advantage of,” said Wolmarans.

The library is open from Monday to Friday from 09h00 – 17h30, Wednesday’s from 10h00 – 17h30 and on Saturdays from 09h00 – 13h00.

Knysna’s “brand new” town library was officially opened on the 22nd of April by the Provincial Minister for Cultural Affairs & Sport, Dr Ivan Meyer.

He said in his keynote address that he was pleased to see that it is possible to transform a building of heritage value into a public asset of contemporary value. “Funded mostly by a R4, 4-million national Municipal Infrastructure Grant, the town now boasts a library on

Ward Project Programme



Refurbished Karatara swimming pool



Tourism facilities at Cola & Myoli Beach

Council introduced the Ward Project Programme during the 2011/2012 financial year and with the support of the Ward Councillors and Ward Committees, the programme has achieved great success to date. To celebrate the successes, we will feature some of the projects in the various Wards, starting with Ward 1 and 2.

(Smutsville, The Island, Myoli Beach, Sizamile, Rondevlei, Central Sedgfield, Karatara)

- Started with the upgrade of the Sizamile/ Smutsville Multi-Purpose Centre;
- Labour intensive sidewalk paving projects in Sizamile/Smutsville and the CBD area;
- Upgraded of tourism facilities at Cola & Myoli Beach;
- Built braai facilities at the old jetty;
- Completed the Karatara weir;
- Refurbished the Karatara swimming pool; and
- Built toilets at Village Green.

For the 2013/14 financial year, the capital projects in wards remained at R200 000 per ward and the programme has been fully integrated with the ward-based development programme and the IDP.

In terms of a National Treasury directive all the ward projects must be identified and specified in the budget if they are of a capital nature. Performance against the budget is reviewed quarterly. Projects are funded by own municipal funding and Municipal Infrastructure Grants (MIG).



Smutsville Multi-Purpose Centre

Expanded Public Works Programmes (EPWP) creating jobs for Knysna



The Expanded Public Works Programmes (EPWP) is a nation-wide drive that involves all spheres of government with the aim to alleviate poverty by creating jobs.

Knysna Executive Mayor, Georlene Wolmarans, said the success of these projects and the many other initiatives currently in progress contributed positively to the immediate needs of the workers as well as offering them a good learning experience.

“These projects are mainly short-term labour intensive programmes and in some instances improved the quality of services which are without a doubt to the benefit of all residents. The programme also contains a training component which will equip participants with the skills to become self-employed.”

The municipality’s EPWP projects have contributed significantly towards increased service delivery in areas such as Housing, Environmental affairs, Youth Development, Waste Management and Public Works:



EPWP PROJECTS APRIL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES					
	U35	ADULT	M	F	T
Economic Development Unit					
Data Capturer (Salaries)	2			2	2
Town Planning					
Intern (Town Planning)	1		1		1
Intern (Building Control)		1	1		1
Environmental Dept.					
Knysna River Health Proj.		not defined			29
Libraries, Arts, Culture and Heritage					
Libraries and Heritage	8	3		11	11
Social Services Department					
Sport Desk	1		1		1
Youth Advisors	4			4	4
Chrysalis Youth Placement	22		8	14	22
Law Enforcement (contr.)	5		4	1	5
Solid Waste Department					
T 43/2013 EPWP Project Solid Waste	42	44	62	31	93
Technical Services					
Pavements & Road patch	14	8	18	4	22
Part Time, Interns & Payroll					
Part Time employees (payroll)		not defined			47
Interns	5		1	4	5
Totals	104	56	96	71	243

Elections in Knysna Peaceful



On the 7th of May people across the country went to the polls in South Africa’s fifth national and provincial elections. A significant milestone in the country’s democratic history, South Africans celebrate 20 years since the historic first democratic elections in 1994.

Municipal Manager Lauren Waring said that voting in Knysna were peaceful. “Voting stations within the Knysna municipal area opened promptly at 07h00 and closed at 21h00, and there were no reports of violence or any other incidents.

Knysna Executive Mayor, Georlene Wolmarans, said she was happy by how smoothly elections went in Knysna and in the Province. “It is the first elections since the death of Madiba and it was a comforting experience to see how the people of our town embraced the power and purpose of his vision”.

Knysna has 37 672 registered voters and 26 913 votes were cast of which 300 were spoilt ballots.

In Memoriam: Magda Williams



Councillor Madgalena Williams died suddenly on 27 April 2014. Aged 59, she was a Democratic Alliance (DA) councillor representing ward 5 in the Knysna Municipal Council.

Executive Mayor, Georlene Wolmarans describe Councillor Williams as a true friend and confidant. "She was a genuine, hardworking colleague who worked tirelessly for bettering the lives of the people of ward 5. We have lost a pillar of strength, a good friend and a valued colleague who was loved by all members of the Council across political lines."

Councillor Williams was elected to Council in May 2011 and served on the Mayoral Committee as the Chairperson of the Community Services Portfolio.

Municipal Manager Lauren Waring said that passion and commitment to improving the lives of ordinary people best describe Magda's drive. "She was well known and hugely popular in her home area Rheenendal for her community service and fight to improve conditions in poorer communities. Magda brought that enthusiasm to her ward areas of Brenton, Belvidere, Buffalo Bay and Rheenendal and she will be sorely missed."

Since Councillor Williams was a ward councillor a bi-election will be held in July to fill the vacancy left by her passing.

Green Mamba Back

The boxed green radar speed camera has been reinstated on the western side of Knysna after its use was suspended for a few months.

Municipal Manager Lauren Waring announced that the Western Cape Director of Public Prosecutions (WC DPP) and South African National Roads Agency (SANRAL) approved the municipality's application to use the boxed camera for speed law enforcement on the N2 near the Buffalo Bay turnoff (80km/h), the Brenton-on-Sea turnoff (60km/h), and near Groenvlei (100km/h). The fourth point on the N2 east of Knysna near the George Rex Drive turnoff remained operational during this time.

As to legal questions raised in the past the municipality wish to reiterate the Director of Public Prosecutions is satisfied that the box, which is secured, cannot be tampered with and confirmed that its use is not illegal.

Ms Waring said that speed remains one of the biggest factors for fatalities on South African roads. "The Knysna Municipality will continue to enforce those laws that make our roads safe for all road users".



Upcoming Events:

- Youth Day will be celebrated on 16 June 2014
- The 4th annual RECM Knysna 200 from 6 – 8 June 2014
- The 31st annual Pick 'n Pay Knysna Oyster Festival from 4 - 13 July 2014.

Contact us:

ALL SECTIONS OFFICE HOURS:

Telephone: +27 (0)44 302 6300 | Facsimile: +27 (0)44 302 6333

EMERGENCIES ALL HOURS:

Telephone: +27 (0)44 302 8911

CUSTOMER SERVICES:

SMS: 44453 | Email: customercare@knysna.gov.za

Email: knysna@knysna.gov.za