Dear Reader,

The month of April will forever carry exceptional meaning to our nation. This is the month that saw the first democratic elections during 1994. The month that gave birth to freedom and constitutional democracy within South Africa.

The 1994 elections marked the turning point which saw the previously disadvantaged become part of the South African political processes, turning South Africa into a country that belongs to all who live within its boundaries.

The principles, values and ideals of our freedom are integrated into our wonderful constitution, and should influence our behaviour, conduct and attitude. I would suggest that you revisit our Bill of Rights which reaffirms that everyone has inherent dignity and the right to have this dignity respected and protected.

During this month we should remember that we must continue to strengthen the freedoms and protections we enjoy under our own celebrated constitution.

Before I sign off may I remind you of the words that George Bizos, in his autobiography, An Odyssey to Freedom, accredited to our great Madiba: “The Constitution speaks of both the past and the future. It permits us to build a nation based on the democratic values of human dignity, equality and freedom, through constitutionalism and the rule of law. It describes the mechanism and institutions which we have created to ensure that we achieve this. There are no shortcuts on the road to freedom. The constitution describes the path which we must and shall follow.”

Remember those wise words, and do not allow any person or body to have an impact on your freedom, ever.

Regards,

Eleanore Bouw-Spies, Executive Mayor

Thousands of Greater Knysna residents showed their solidarity in the dissatisfaction with South Africa’s president when they joined the national call for protest marches on Friday, April 7.
LET’S KEEP OUR GREATER KNYSNA CLEAN

Reducing litter is not only the municipality’s responsibility but everybody’s. Successful litter control is an ongoing effort which involves the entire community. Take action now! Let’s create a litter-free town.

You can make a difference by disposing of waste in the proper containers. One person, one business, one organisation can set a positive example for others to follow.

Play your part in a litter-free society and get involved

Get involved with these easy steps:

• Take responsibility
• Get involved in Community Clean-ups
• Place garbage in containers with lids
• Cover open loads on trucks
• Recycle (bags are available for free at the Municipal Solid Waste Department)
• Reduce and reuse as much as possible
• Donate unwanted items

KNYSNA MUNICIPALITY’S DRAFT BUDGET TABLED

During a Special Council meeting on March 30, Knysna Executive Mayor, Eleanore Bouw-Spies tabled the first draft Medium-Term Revenue and Expenditure Framework (MTREF) for Knysna Municipality under the current political leadership.

Knysna Municipality has embarked on a public participation process in respect of its 2017/2018 tabled draft budget and draft five-year Integrated Development Plan (IDP). The draft Budget and draft IDP documentation is available at the municipal offices, libraries and Knysna Municipality’s website (www.knysna.gov.za), and communities are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the content.

At the meeting the Mayor discussed the capital budget, which flows from the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) process.

“The total funded capital projects for the 2017/2018 financial year amounts to R123.1m with the main focus being the following: Water Infrastructure – R27.7m; Electricity – R23.8m; Sanitation – R10.6m; Refuse Removal – R1.2m; Roads Infrastructure – R9.7m. It is important to note that the capital budget is funded by means of grants from National Government in the amount of R32.6m, Provincial grants in the region of R22.6m, loan funding in the amount of R36.6m and other own funding in the amount of R31.3m.”

The operating budget for the 2017/2018 financial year amounts to a surplus of R51.6m, which represents a decrease of R26.7m or 34.1 per cent under the 2016/2017 adjusted budget.

The mayor encouraged residents and all relevant stakeholders to partake in the public participation process of the budget and Integrated Development Plan (IDP).

“All members of the ward committees and members of the public, as well as all relevant stakeholder are to ensure that they participate fully and make meaningful and valuable contributions in the budgeting process,” she said.

LEVEL 3 WATER RESTRICTIONS STILL APPLY

Level 3 Water Restrictions are set out as follows:

• Municipal potable water for human consumption only
• Absolutely no watering of gardens (not even with a bucket)
• No washing of vehicles and/or boats
• All residents and businesses to restrict their usage to 20 Kl/month
• Residents utilising more than the 20 Kl/month will be identified and notified to install water restrictive devices immediately
• Punitive tariffs of 75% will be added for usage above the 20 Kl/month
• Water recycling systems to be implemented
• Artificial water features must use recycled water only
• All residents are requested to install water efficient devices
• The Top 20 Water users in Greater Knysna will be identified and visited by the Knysna Executive Mayor and the Acting Municipal Manager

PLAY YOUR PART, BE WATER SMART

Use these tips to save water in your homes:

• Turn the tap off while brushing your teeth, shaving or washing your hands.
• Use a glass of water to rinse when brushing your teeth.
• Shower instead of bathing.
• Reduce your shower time by one minute each day.
• Don’t leave taps dripping.

PLAY YOUR PART, BE WATER SMART

Use these tips to save water in your homes:

• Replace broken or old washers which cause leaks.
• Fill your kettle only with the amount you need.
• Wash fruit and vegetables using a bowl instead of under the tap.
• Rinse dishes in the sink, not under running water.
• Place a bucket in the shower to catch excess water.
• Use a low-flow shower head in your shower.

REPORT WATER ABUSE ON WHATSAPP

083 665 3824
Join the ComUnity

The new mobile app is dedicated to improving service and communication in Knysna – by providing all citizens a direct channel of communication with the Knysna Municipality.

DATES TO REMEMBER

MUNICIPAL MEETINGS

- 27 April
  - Mayoral Committee Meeting
- 2 May
  - Ward 5 Budget & IDP Public Participation Meeting
- 3 May
  - Ward 8 Budget & IDP Public Participation Meeting
- 4 May
  - Ward 9 Budget & IDP Public Participation Meeting
- 8 May
  - Ward 11 Budget & IDP Public Participation Meeting
- 9 May
  - Ward 1 Budget & IDP Public Participation Meeting
- 10 May
  - Ward 5 Budget & IDP Public Participation Meeting
- 25 May
  - Council Meeting

COMMEMORATIVE DAYS & EVENTS

- 28-30 April
  - GR300 Enduro
- 30 April
  - Knysna Motor Show
- 26 April - 1 May
  - Pink Loerie Festival
- 4-7 May
  - Jaguar Simola Hillclimb Speed Festival

Join the ComUnity

The new mobile app is streamlined, cost-effective, convenient and accessible by any mobile phone (smart and non-smart) with internet browsing capabilities.

Notifications Feed
Get important news and updates from Knysna Municipality

Click to Call
Phone any municipal division directly from the app

Agent Chat & Feedback
Live Chat with support agents & feedback function

Twitter Feed
In-app feed from the Knysna Municipality’s Twitter account

Fault Logging
Report any faults (roads, electricity, water & sewerage, accounts etc)

GETTING THE APP IS EASY

For direct access visit: http://knysna.ComUnity.me

The app is also available from all device stores:

- 8MB
- 3MB
- 112KB
- 1,7MB

Follow the on-screen installation and registration instructions and complete the in-app My Profile section to ensure an optimal personalised experience.

8MB 3MB 112KB 1,7MB