Dear Readers,

With the coming Municipal Elections around the corner, this is my last contribution to this newsletter as your Executive Mayor. I wish to thank all the residents of Knysna for giving me the opportunity to lead the town and contribute to making a town where people and nature prosper. I also wish to thank all the members of Council and the staff of the Municipality for not only making the last five year successful, but enjoyable as well.

In July we celebrated Mandela Day, an initiative of the Nelson Mandela Foundation, in honour of the fundamental change and incalculable contribution the father of our nation made, to improve the future of all South Africans. I trust that many, if not all, of our residents contributed their 67 minutes to make 18 July a day of giving, where every Mandela Day action – no matter how big or small – focused on the realisation or restoration of dignity and empowerment of our people.

It is through these contributions by ordinary citizens that we build a nation where equality, genuine opportunity for a prosperous future and the delivery of services abound. At Knysna Municipality we aim to embody the fulfilment of these principles in the following areas: education & literacy, food security, shelter & infrastructure, and the environment.

We should all remember that Madiba envisioned a nation where we all work together, free from the shackles of the past. Although we often read about corruption, crime and scandal, which seem like an insurmountable challenge to overcome, we should find comfort in these wise words of Nelson Mandela:

“It always seems impossible until it’s done.”

As leader of the Municipality, I urge all residents, regardless of their party affiliations, to go to the polls on 3 August and draw their crosses to decide who will lead Knysna for the next five years. This is your chance to exercise your political power and determine your future – voting in any election is your democratic right and obligation, to ensure you get the leadership you deserve.

Georlene Wolmarans
Executive Mayor
New Planning By-Law

The new Municipal Land Use Planning By-Law for the Knysna Municipality came into effect as from 1 June 2016, as per the Western Cape Land Use Planning Act (Act 3 of 2014) and all land use, development, rezoning and other town planning applications are now a function of the local municipality.

According to the municipality’s By-Law on Land Use Planning, all new applications will either be considered by the Authorised Official or the Municipal Planning Tribunal. Even projects and developments of national or provincial interest and supported by national organs of state need to be approved by the local municipality in order to proceed.

Central Supplier Database

Knysna Municipality will no longer be managing the supplier database and registrations of new businesses wanting to register as a service provider. All municipalities will now use the Central Supplier Database which maintains a database of organisations, institutions and individuals who can provide goods and services to government. The CSD will serve as the single source of key supplier information for organs of state, providing consolidated, accurate, up-to-date, complete and verified supplier information to procuring organs of state.

Prospective suppliers interested in pursuing opportunities within the South African government are encouraged to self-register on the Central Supplier Database. This self-registration application represents an expression of interest from the supplier to conduct business with the South African government. Once submitted, your details will be assessed for inclusion on the Central Supplier Database.

All suppliers will be required to complete required information on the CSD website (https://secure.csd.gov.za/) and must ensure it is complete, accurate and comprehensive.

A valid email address, identity number, cell phone number and bank account details are mandatory in order to register on the CSD. Apart from the above, it is foreseen that B-BBEE information will be included in the CSD.

Any queries can be directed to csd@treasury.gov.za or 012 406 9222.
The 2016 Municipal elections are only a few days away. Here are some facts you need to know:

The date for the election has been set for 3 August 2016 by the Minister of Cooperative Governance & Traditional Affairs. The voting stations open at 7am and close at 7pm.

In municipal elections you must vote in the voting district where you live and where you are registered. These elections involve voting for a Ward candidate and a party to represent a voter in the local and district councils.

During the local and district council elections, voters will receive three ballot papers:

- A yellow ballot for the Local Council, where votes are cast for a political party.
- A light grey and white ballot for Ward Elections, where votes are cast for a representative.
- A green ballot for the District Council, where you vote for a political party.

In order to be eligible to vote, you must be older than 18 years of age on voting day, be a South African citizen with official identification (green ID book, Temporary Identification Certificate or smartcard identification) and be registered to vote. (Registration has already concluded after the proclamation of the election date).

Our Performance Scorecard:

**Creating Human Settlement**
- We have spent R68.8 Million on housing in 2015/2016
- Installed 65 toilets in homes in Hornlee
- Provided 750 plumbing connections in informal areas
- Delivered 1 433 housing units
- Created 1 138 – Breaking new ground serviced housing sites

**Employment Opportunities**
- We have created 2 301 work opportunities under The Expanded Public Works Programme
- Created 21 new businesses in our Incubator Programme
- Created 350 job opportunities in our Community Work Programme
- Trained 367 participants in our SMME Training Programme

**Roads**
- We are committed to eliminating the road maintenance backlog
- Spent over R28 Million on roads in the past 3 years
- Allocated R35 Million for roads in the next year

How Knysna Municipality Changes Lives

**Our Performance Scorecard:**

**Assistance Will Be Provided at the Voting Stations by Staff from the Independent Electoral Commission of South Africa.**

1. **In the queue:** An election official will check your ID to make sure you are registered.
2. **At the door:** An election official will scan your ID with the zip-zip machine.
3. **At the voters’ roll table:** You will give your slip of paper to the voters’ roll officer.
4. **At the inking table:** An election official will make a small mark on the nail of your left thumb with ink.
5. **At the ballot paper table:** You will be given up to three ballots.
6. **At the voting compartments:** Mark your ballot in secret.
7. **At the ballot boxes:** Place your marked ballot in the ballot box.
Knysna Municipality takes pride in its status as a place where people and nature co-exist in harmony for mutual advancement through continued green initiatives. Through the responsible use of our limited resources – water, electricity and land – we create the ideal conditions for prosperity and sustainability.

Although we suffered a recent setback in this regard due to a fire at the Old Place garden waste disposal site, Knysna Municipality is happy to report that the site is back in operation.

The Old Place garden waste disposal site re-opened on Monday 4 July 2016 with the following specifications:

- The site will operate Mondays to Fridays from 7:30 to 16:30, and from 7:30 to 13:00 on Saturdays.
- All garden waste will be chipped on site and removed on a daily basis.
- Developers clearing large properties are required to chip all material before bringing it to the Old Place garden waste disposal site.

Apart from the Old Place garden refuse site, the Sedgefield garden waste disposal site will operate as usual, with the same specifications as for the Old Place site.

Please note that neither of these sites will accept building waste and building waste must be taken to the private landfill site at Harkerville. Knysna Municipality will not remove or dispose of any building waste.

It should further be noted that the dumping site in Brenton-on-Sea will not accept any refuse under any circumstances as the Department of Environmental Affairs closed the site in 2015 and it has been earmarked for rehabilitation.

**Water Restriction Measures**

Although Knysna Municipality has made headway with regard to the town’s water reserves, through augmenting our water supplies and sources, all residents are urged to continue to use water sparingly, as it is a precious resource and care should be taken to avoid wastage.

Knysna Municipality would like to point out the following important changes to our water supply tariffs:

- The free allocation of water has been decreased from 6 000 litres per month to 3 000 litres (except for our indigent residents).
- The water tariff rates have been adjusted drastically in the recent budget, with the rate for the first 10 000 litres remaining affordable at R11,92 per kilolitre.
- Consumers not making an effort to curb consumption will pay heavily for water usage above 10 000 litres, with the rate rising drastically to R19,14 per kilolitre for consumption up to 20 kilolitres, climbing to over R40 per kilolitre when consumption reaches 40 000 litres or more per month.

We remind our residents that the following water restrictions are still in effect: Water your garden only at dusk (17:00 to 18:00) on designated days – Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays for houses with even numbers, and Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays for houses with odd numbers. Please adhere to the tips as communicated through our Water Awareness Campaign.