Council Council


27 August (TODAY) Council Meeting
22 September Governance & Economic Development Committee Meeting
23 September Finance Committee Meeting
29 September Community Services Committee Meeting
30 September Planning, Development & Infrastructure Committee Meeting

Krynose residents were shocked by a spate of murders that recently took place in the area. We are a small close-knit community and have experienced some crime in the past, but it seems that violent crime is on the increase. What often happens is that fear steps in and follows us wherever it goes, it becomes part of our shadow as we move around.

Often people’s response is to pack up and leave the country, lock stock and barrel. They all say we have a fantastic country, but that the crime and corruption is just getting too much. I agree with them. It is getting too much, but rather than leave, I believe we have to take the future in our hands and stand together to face these fears head on. I love South Africa and want to grow old here, with my children and their children.

I think as a community we should rally together and not accept this. Community members often have information that can help the police to catch these criminals. Even if some of us are not directly affected at this stage, this trend continues it may only be a question of time before we are.

To make a real difference we will have to take responsibility. We know our Police service is under tremendous pressure, so we need to work out how we can help them. Look at the success the various Neighbourhood Watch groups are having. Pay attention to our surroundings, look around, take notice and if you see something suspicious, report it. It is our only chance to make a difference, and to ensure a safe future for all of us. And it will not stop at crime in Knysna – let us take it further and demand good governance as the residents of this country.

Let us demand good education for our children which will open up possibilities other than crime for them. In the history of this country, it was when we stood together that we’ve brought about the biggest changes. We’ve made miracles happen before, we can do it again.

Georhele Wolmarans Executive Mayor

Krynose Timber Festival offers more than entertainment

The Knysna Timber Festival, taking place from 8 to 10 October this year, was officially launched on Thursday 13 August.

Krynose has committed to supporting the Southern Cape Business Partnership (SCBP). “We support the SCBP as a local structure that drives and successfully collaborates and accumulates within the economic space,” said Krynose Executive Mayor Georhele Wolmarans.

Provincial Cabinet established an Economic Development Partnership (EDP) for the region in August 2013, based in Cape Town. “Initial findings of the EDP showed that, given its resources, assets and people, the Western Cape region should be performing better,” said Wolmarans.

“Although strong economic growth of 4.5% over ten years was recorded, with only 16% increase in employment,”

“Some of the reasons for this performance included that the region did not share an economic vision or a common agenda, the existence of a disjointed regional economic delivery system, an inability to translate plans into action and a rather weak regional business brand,” she said. The EDP addresses these matters as a partnership-based organisation that leads, coordinates and drives regional economic growth, development and inclusion.

“It has however become clear that, through no fault of its own, the EDP cannot afford sufficient direct support to all areas in the region,” she continued. “It is a simple reality that locally based champions are better connected locally, and more driven to perform. As such, we have committed to supporting a recommendation that dedicated, external capacity be secured for this partnership effort in the Southern Cape, funded by the local municipalities within the Eden district, as well as the Eden District Municipality itself.”

This collaboration between local government, regional government and the private sector could lead to welcome, significant growth of the regional economy, as well as our local economy,” Wolmarans concluded. “Economic development is a function of government that we take very seriously, and this commitment is proof of our efforts in creating a town where people and nature prosper.”

Krynose Municipality joins forces with the Western Cape Economic Development Partnership

Knysna Municipality joins forces with the Western Cape Economic Development Partnership (EDP) for the region in August 2013, based in Cape Town. “Initial findings of the EDP showed that, given its resources, assets and people, the Western Cape region should be performing better,” said Wolmarans.

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Krynose Municipality has launched a Community Market Day initiative. “The market days will serve as a platform for small, medium and micro enterprises (SMME’s) to showcase and market their products directly to the community,” explained Krynose Executive Mayor Georhele Wolmarans.

“Pop-up sales and events will aim to increase exposure and sales for our SMME’s and have the potential to lead to skills development relating to participants’ specific businesses,” she continued. “Any SMME within the greater Knysna municipal area is welcome to apply. Spaces are limited, so I urge all interested parties to apply as soon as possible.”

Five Community Market Days are scheduled to take place over the next 12 months, with the first happening at the Sascoc Mall in Nettleton on 3 October 2015. “The registration deadline for this first market is 10 September,” Wolmarans said. “Other markets will take place in Rheenendal in November, Jeo-se-kamp in December, Hermanus in February and Grootbrug in March.”

Wolmarans said that the market days will create temporary employment opportunities. “We will be appointing two individuals to act as market day coordinators from each of the communities where market days will take place. With our assistance, these individuals will be responsible for arrangements ensuring that their market days run smoothly.”

Information about the markets have been advertised and interested parties should contact Ms Sibali at ssibali@krynose.gov.za or 044 302 6439 for more information.