Thank you to all firefighters, volunteers and municipal officials for their help during the recent fires. It is reassuring to know that the efforts of others ahead of their own will lead to a safer community.

The holiday season is nearly upon us. We are working hard at preparing our beautiful area before our visitors arrive. Thank you to our Directors, especially Community Services Gary Boshoff, for ensuring that our visitors will once again find Knysna to be a clean, working town that will remain that way throughout the season. To all our members of staff who will be spending the festive season ensuring that others enjoy theirs: thank you. I am incredibly proud of all our municipal officials for their hard work.

At the end of this month, we will be officially opening our Blue Flag beaches. This will be a great opportunity to showcase the progress we have made in one of those projects. The new clubhouse can host visiting teams and private functions and has two offices – just £600 000 of a huge improvement. The Solid Waste Department is in the process of training its staff in its highly specialist work. The new truck is a great investment. It will serve the greater Knysna area by transporting waste material from Knysna to PetroSA in Mossel Bay. The new hydraulic hook lift hoist system needs to be checked from time to time.

Many projects nearing completion will ensure a happier holiday season for all. The brand new, 237m², R2 million Clubhouse at the Hornlee sports grounds is now complete. It will offer the same great facilities as before. A clubhouse was sorely missed, and Council decided to construct a new building.

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Over 600 children were recently educated about how to care for domestic animals and the importance of working together to safeguard our environment - which is reliant on biodiversity. The Dog Show was thoroughly appreciated at Hornlee Primary, and the Great Eden to Addo Adventure was well received by the learners at Concordia High. Council decided to construct a new building.

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Mark Willemse, Executive Mayor

Knysna municipality has expanded its fleet by acquiring a R2 million refuse truck. The new vehicle will service both the municipal area by transporting waste material from Knysna to PetroSA in Mossel Bay. The new hydraulic hook lift hoist system needs to be checked from time to time.

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Water restrictions are still in place within the greater Knysna municipal area, despite recent rainfall. Residents and businesses are encouraged to conserve water continuously. Water saving tips in and around the house/business: Turn the tap off while brushing your teeth or shaving. Take a two-minute shower a day instead of a bath will save of 400 litres a week. Use low-flow showerheads, dual-flush toilet mechanisms and water-efficient washing machines. Don’t flush the toilet unnecessarily. Dispose of human waste, urine, etc in the trash. Use grey water to water and sand plants. Fill a 2-litre cold drink bottle with water and sand (weights), and put into the cistern. Use grey water (used water from baths, washing machines and other safe sources) to flush your toilet. Over 600 children were recently educated about how to care for domestic animals and the importance of working together to safeguard our environment - which is reliant on biodiversity. The Dog Show was thoroughly appreciated at Hornlee Primary, and the Great Eden to Addo Adventure was well received by the learners at Concordia High. Council decided to construct a new building. This children’s programme was part of the Environmental Department’s World Animal and World Habitat Day educational initiatives. Water restrictions are still in place within the greater Knysna municipal area, despite recent rainfall. Residents and businesses are encouraged to conserve water continuously. Water saving tips in and around the house/business: Turn the tap off while brushing your teeth or shaving. Take a two-minute shower a day instead of a bath will save of 400 litres a week. Use low-flow showerheads, dual-flush toilet mechanisms and water-efficient washing machines. Don’t flush the toilet unnecessarily. Dispose of human waste, urine, etc in the trash. Use grey water to water and sand plants. Fill a 2-litre cold drink bottle with water and sand (weights), and put into the cistern. 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