



MEDIA RELEASE

Embargo: Immediate
DATE: 10 December 2018

Mayor hands over title deeds to Karatara families

There was sheer delight and excitement when Knysna Executive Mayor, Mark Willemse and Ward 2 Councillor, Cathy Weideman handed over title deeds to a number of residents of Karatara today, 6 December at the Protea Community Hall.

Willemse welcomed the new homeowners citing the late Nelson Mandela; *“A man is not a man until he has a house of his own.* I am pleased that on the centenary year of Tata Madiba we have started this project of handing over title deeds.

“This is not just a piece of paper, it is an asset which now belongs to you and your family. Title deeds are important as it provides homeowners with an important economic asset to leverage.”

Willemse urged homeowners to look after their new assets. “Home ownership is an inspiring experience, as it restores pride and respect. It also carries certain responsibilities and obligations that you must fulfil, e.g. paying your municipal account diligently. Additionally, maintain your property as it contributes to its value and above all do not to sell your house just to become a back yard dweller again. Also remember to record it in your final will and testament to avoid disputes amongst your inheritors”

One of the beneficiaries, 71 year old Fredrika May who was beaming with joy said she had waited for many years for this day. She thanked the municipality for providing her and her family with ownership of their home.

Sandalena Afrikaans, Karatara Housing Committee member, works closely with the municipality’s housing officials on this title deeds project. She said, “I am happy for the community members that received their title deeds today. I have worked well with Mr Theo Wali on this matter and our hard work has paid off. I will continue to work with the municipality to ensure that title deeds are handed over to more people in the future.”

The municipality’s Integrated Human Settlements and Legal Services Departments are working together to speed up the process of transferring title deeds. Future handovers are expected to take place in 2019.

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Knysna Municipality Communications Department
P O Box 21, Knysna. 6570. Western Cape. South Africa
Tel +27 (0)44 302 6300 (switchboard) or 302 6471 (direct)
Fax +27 (0)86 215 4818 e-mail communications@knysna.gov.za