

Minutes of Green Point Ratepayers' and Residents' Association **Annual General Meeting**

Date: 20 July 2022 at 18:00

Venue: Hamilton Rugby Club, Green Point

Opening and welcome

Committee member James Look (JL) welcomed everyone to the AGM and the 15th anniversary of the formation of Green Point Resident' and Ratepayers' Association (GPRRA). JL welcomed in particular keynote speaker Mayor Geordin Hill-Lewis (GHL) as well as speakers Ward Cllr Ian McMahon (IM), and Marc Truss (MT), CEO of Green Point City Improvement District (GPCID). He also acknowledged presence of those who serve the community, namely Cllr Nicola Jowell who shares our ward with Cllr McMahon and Gershwin Fouldien (Manager, Sub Council 16). He commended the community for their attendance and for being active in their ratepayers' association.

Thanked the following for making the meeting possible:

- Caitlin Baker, Manager of Hamilton Rugby Club for allowing us to use their venue.
- Saadiq Effendi of LionLead Real Estate who funding the event, as well as our new website.
- Sandak Lewin Trust, another loyal supporter also funded the event.

Using a quote by anthropologist Margaret Mead, JL said that involvement is key in the world we are entering now:

'Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world'

Brief history of GPRRA:

Green Point (GP) used to be a minor part of SFMB ratepayers (Sea Point, Fresnaye, Mouille Point and Bantry Bay).

The threat in 1990 of a seven-storey development in Braemar Estate among houses motivated residents Ian and Jenny McQueen (JMc) to discover critical title deed conditions which prevented the development and saved the suburb.

Pressure on development increased with the 1990s Waterfront project, so Ian McQueen and JL formed Braemar Civic Assoc. World Cup 2010 would bring huge pressure on GP and specifically its Common and 'green lung'. The GPRRA was then started by founding members JL, JMc, Jenny Mills, and Claudia Scheltema. Ratified in 2007 with three committees: Management Committee (MC), Built Environment Committee (BEC) and Human Environment Committee (HEC). Other community minded people singled out were Nissa Vosloo and Antonia Malan. Various chairpersons later it is now headed by Jenny McQueen and Liz Knight (LK) jointly.

A recent article in the *Peoples Post* marked our 15th anniversary:

<https://www.news24.com/news24/southafrica/local/peoples-post/association-marks-15-winning-years-20220711>

GPRRA achievements over the years:

- Preservation of public open space of GP Common and area around stadium, fighting for trees, protecting our 'green lung', as intended when given to the City by the King in 1923.
- Antonia Malan and JMc successfully lobbied to declare the Common a Provincial Heritage site. Formalisation is yet to occur, but is being recognised by City and Province which is a huge achievement.

We focus our work on:

- Appropriate and sensitive urban development and renewal.

- Containing noise, parking and traffic problems when events take place.
- We are also involved with Neighbourhood Watch (NW) to keep our area safe.

JL lauded the work; especially of current co-chair LK – in his opinion the most remarkable we’ve had. Some of her successful projects:

- formed Friends of Green Point Lanes (FOGPL) recognising the potential of lanes and steps and revitalising them.
- rehabilitation of street people.
- working with Marc Truss on the GPCID extension.

CoCT recognised her contribution and Good Hope SubCouncil awarded her their Civic Award in Nov 2020. A small gift was handed to LK by longtime resident Charles Scheltema, to standing applause. He thanked LK for being a catalyst in working with relevant parties.

JL introduced the keynote speaker, Mayor Geordin Hill-Lewis.

Keynote Address

Mayor Geordin Hill-Lewis (GHL) expressed thanks for being invited, and commended LK for recognition on hard work. He commented on the good turnout, which speaks of an involved, aware and active community.

He agreed with earlier quote - to never underestimate thoughtful committed citizens - and also quoted the recent Mandela day 2022 theme: *‘Start where you are; Do what you can with what you have’*. That is the ethos which inspired him to stand for office: expressing his love for this city, wanting it to be safer, offering more opportunity and optimism about the future, and addressing residents’ anxiety about SA’s future.

Instead of continuing in Parliament for the Opposition, he decided to leverage the position of CT, making a difference and demonstrating that a better, more prosperous society is possible. This meant ambitiously and assertively addressing some of the biggest anxieties, offering a sense of protection, hope and optimism. These anxieties include:

Energy insecurity, crime, safety, unavailability of reliable public transport and unsustainability of economic opportunity.

The basic cornerstones of City government have to be honed to underpin ambitions such as:

- getting infrastructure right so that service delivery can be experienced by everyone in the same way.
- own up to failures and shortcomings, aiming to do better.
- make real improvements in lives of its poorest residents – offering dignity, chances, services, and better conditions especially for children.

In the past, local government took the view that these basic things more or less work. However, changes over the past ten years caused many services to become unstable - legal disputes / debates / grey areas. Yet nothing stops CT as a competent well run financially sustainable local government, from doing more things for ourselves, answering our basic constitutional responsibility to secure these services.

We have achieved the following:

- Public transport- we have agreement to devolve the management of public railways from national government (PRASA and Metrorail) to City government
- Energy - first place in the country with a vision to end loadshedding locally. There’s no

technological reason why SA should have loadshedding; it's political and bureaucratic. It's a journey though, and we've just closed our first round of bids for independent power producers, and have other exciting additions to that programme. We cannot move forward without reliable energy.

- Policing - JP Smith has done incredible work steadily expanding our policy space in policing, rebuilding what was there and adding greatly to it, creating a professional corruption free Law Enforcement (LE) agency trusted by residents. That takes nothing away from some excellent SAPS officers, however SAPS is in serious difficulty on national leadership level and we are steadily and deliberately building out scope of our own LE capabilities. Ideal would be a decentralised police system run by major cities or provincial governments. An institution of 300,000 staff members and with an enormous budget cannot be run from 1,500kms away.

Over time we aim to resolve loadshedding, improve public transport, and make people feel safer. Economic growth will make meaningful difference, creating a sense of opportunity. GHJ expressed excitement about the future of SA, but stressed that we have to make it work.

Our homegrown problems -

Inadequate investment in essential basic infrastructure over 2-3 decades. Annual budgets grew steadily, but not fast enough to keep up with population growth here, causing us to fall steadily behind. That decline is evident on roads, electricity system, sewers. CoCT is determined to overhaul infrastructure spending. Much of what has gone wrong can be attributed to a failure to build things and invest constantly to support growth.

From securing water supply to underground sewerage capacity and sewerage works; improving electricity infrastructure even further; roads and highways - should see a mini boom of investment spending led by CoCT. We don't have unlimited funds for infrastructure spending but these become self-perpetuating cycles, and we must be virtuous in CT. Must avoid vicious cycle which grips some other cities in SA, where infrastructure is not repairable but must be rebuilt, however no money available to do as tax paying base has left, or businesses closed.

Burgeoning homelessness is another tricky public policy problem. The past few years were extraordinarily difficult with explosion of poverty created by lockdown - an unforgivable policy choice. Added to that is legal wrangle of who is responsible for consequences of homelessness. From coming into office Nov we felt we could continue that debate (ie lack of psychiatric care beds / not enough addiction treatment facilities / lockdown / domestic violence / broken homes / early parolees etc). All of those accumulated failures manifest in burgeoning homelessness. If we simply continue the debate, large parts of city will become lost to public use. We took a different approach, of taking bull by horns and providing alternative accommodation, it being the fundamental requirement by courts. Land and money have been identified for alternative accommodation. In addition to one SafeSpace expansion at Culemborg, another about to start, and three others in development around the city - Muizenberg, Belville, and Parklands - and there may be more as necessary. R122m has been budgeted for them over three years. It's led by our care interventions, where each person receives personal visit from a social development staff member; personal assessments are done; referrals made for medical treatment; psychiatric care; addiction treatments; linking with job placement programmes and getting ID books which unlock social grants. Where all care interventions are rebuffed, which often is the case, courts can be asked for permission to compel person to move to alternative accommodation. That is the process now. Many emails from concerned citizens have been received and we assure the public that City is moving on the issue. Let CT be an example of what is possible. He asked for forbearance in inevitable mistakes during these processes, but will continually aim for excellence as opposed to mediocrity. In closing the Mayor complimented Ian McMahon and Nicola Jowell as excellent ward councillors, saying we are blessed to have them. He also commended good work done by CID which gives City

some space to focus on enormous social needs in other parts.

JL thanked the Mayor and said that it's good to have someone idealistic and inspired to lead, giving hope for the future.

Ward 115 Update

Cllr Ian McMahon (IM) was welcomed, and stated that he would focus his presentation on numbers and stats.

Events

The first full stadium event went off without a hitch: a very successful rugby match with 53,000 spectators, 245 City uniformed officials, 100 uniformed SAPS officials, and only three complaints. All departments are working well together. A number of events coming up will test our patience:

- Sevens Rugby World Cup 9 September for 3 days
- Justin Bieber end of September
- Cape Town Marathon 15 October, which is on trial to form part of the 'world marathons' (Boston, London etc). Some controversial road closures will require patience from residents.
- Various running events
- Rugby Sevens 9 December
- Concert with Imagine Dragons in February 2023
- Rugby 10's in February 2023 (5 days)
- Formula E in February 2023 (reason for roadworks around the area)
- Cape Town Cycle Tour

SubCouncil

IM explained how SubCouncil works. We are SC 16 with 5 wards including:

- Ward 54 - Sea Point to Camps Bay and beyond - Cllr Nicola Jowell
- Ward 77 - BoKaap, Oranjezicht - Cllr Francine Higham
- Ward 55 – Acacia Park to Ysterplaat - Cllr Fabian Ah-Sing
- Ward 57 – Salt River, Maitland - Cllr Yusuf Mohammed
- Ward 115 - Salt River, Woodstock, Gardens, CBD, V&A Waterfront, Three Anchor Bay, De Waterkant, Green Point - Cllr McMahon

SC 16 is the busiest SC, with 429 reports served to SC during the past 12 months for Cllrs to note and review and make recommendations. The second SC (Wynberg and Constantia) only had 246 reports. Ward 115 works closely with 56 registered community based organisations, and have chosen 10 of them to sit on Ward Committee across various geographical areas - representative from this area is Liz Knight. There are five ratepayer associations: Green Point, De Waterkant, City Bowl, Woodstock, District 6. Also four Neighbourhood Watches: Green Point, Gardens, Woodstock, District Six. Furthermore, there are four CID's: Green Point, Oranjekloof, CCID in town, and Woodstock.

Electrical issues

Problems are, for example, four instances when power didn't come back after loadshedding. Interim plan was to share load of Springbok substation to other substations. Long term plan lies with Area North which we form part of, where R108m is budgeted towards electrical system equipment replacement, medium voltage infrastructure, and system infrastructure and substation security. R125m for next fiscal year, year after R110m. So R344m in next 3 years on electrical infrastructure.

Area cleansing

- Ward 115 has 107 tented camps, with associated negative environmental impacts. We employed 10 homeless people from SafeSpace with supervisor, bakkie and trailer, and in 2 months leading up

to end of June we created 16 areas where they were paid to clean. Collected 9,813 rubbish bags (228 per day). Continuing under guidance of SubCouncil manager, and increasing team to 30.

- City Collection has purchased 10 new refuse collection trucks, though none for our area. However, trucks are shared between areas, and collection has been much more regular in past months.
- Solid waste scrub under GP circle on Fridays and will continue working in this area.
- Service delivery: asking residents to log C3's – in past four months Ward 115 has logged 3,600 C3's with 873 from GP and Three Anchor Bay (24% of total), and a 93% completion rate on C3's (this needs to improve as SC rate is 97%).

Finances

R61bn is budgeted by City - 87% for operating, 12% for the capital. Money has also come down to SubCouncil for use, but investment in Area North electricity is essential to prevent problems down the road.

Ward allocation: get R1m annually to spend on communities. Coming year R200,000 to this area eg upgrade Thornhill Park, De Waterkant Park; R100,000 to traffic speed monitoring and other technical equipment to help with speeding issues at the moment.

GP Main Road safety: report has been completed including citing accidents on small roads feeding onto Main. Bollards installed to prevent parking, red lines to improve visibility.

Traffic enforcement: period up to end of May, 10 yellow cameras temporarily placed, on success of which the Public Prosecutor will be approached, requesting permanent placements. 20,000 fines were issued in short term.

Continued weekend ghost squad and traffic department operations making 83 arrests, 201 vehicles suspended and impounded, etc.

Safety and security: recently implemented a CBD mayoral project, putting 100 more LE officers in CBD and surrounds, our area being part of that so we benefit. It adds 25 LE officers per shift so 30 in total. Annual cost R42m in capital, R49m in operating cost.

Liquor licenses: applications via five police stations - Sea Point, Central, Woodstock, Maitland, Table Bay Harbour. Most licenses in any ward - 1,000. Only in past year, 208 new applications. Positive - hopeful new business, but must also prevent overkill: some were supported conditionally based on business licenses and sound proofing, and some were not supported.

Public participation: two notices out for public to look at on City website - one is draft mobile business policy which ends in 10 days (mostly about food trucks), and spatial development framework which determines overall spatial vision for City.

Other news:

- new third party channel created for paying speeding and traffic fines.
- coastal water quality - report just released, does affect us.
- 300 composting bins being given away for free in next two months.

IM newsletter is sent at month end for those who have signed up for it. Feel free to also follow him on Facebook (IanMcMahon115) it being the medium which he uses for giving info.

GPCID Proposed Extension

Marc Truss (MT) is CEO of GP and Oranjekloof City Improvement Districts.

He deals with all the Cllrs and they share and pool resources. CID turned 21 recently.

We are looking forward to the GPCID extension from Highfield to Varneys road (Ultra Liquors) – map shown. A video was shown of CID activities. MT summarised:

CID provides top-up: taking care of street sweeping; crime prevention and spaces between buildings; planting trees; putting down pavers; cleaning gardens. Eight to nine tonnes of street refuse are collected every month by our service provider and City solid waste team. We have our own law enforcement who enforce bylaws, illegal dumping, and transgression of non-moving traffic violations. Communication (security and cleansing) is via digital radios and hands free kits in vehicles, with the technology centre monitoring LPRs and movement in area. A component of about 100 people work at it 24/7. This is how people like to live, and our motto is *Live Work Play*.

They are hoping to carry these activities across to the extended area, and LK has been facilitating behind the scenes. There is strong commitment from businesses so far. Awaiting official budget approval by City before going public. We need 60 +1% majority to proceed with forming the CID. If it goes according to plan, it will go ahead on 1st July 2023.

Q & A for guest speakers

Q: Congratulations given on positivity of Mayor. Electricity - is it not feasible, with City as provider, to rapidly roll out solar programme for ratepayers helping them to install? Eskom wants to raise tax on solar installations, and this would lessen burden of electricity generation and speed up the process.

A: Mayor: at the moment we do this by paying an incentive tariff at the same price at which City buys energy from Eskom, plus 25c more per unit. That brings down the payoff period for capital expenditure from 8-9 yrs to 5-6 yrs. Previously we renewed that tariff only once a year, but now renewed it for the next four years, with possible extension after that.

On Monday 25th another change: previously any payment was run up as credit against municipal bill until bill is zero but not beyond. Reason is that if City sent cash to ratepayers, it would have to be a tender process. Legal way around that is for City to EFT the money for power bought from residents. Businesses with big roofs will benefit here but even small ones across City will be paid. Feedback from community is that it's difficult because City requires electrical engineer to sign off, and meter is expensive. Reason is that wrong meter will feed power back into grid without it being recorded, then cables on grid are live which may cause maintenance problems. System must technically be installed safely. Process takes approximately five to eight weeks, but attempting to bring down to three weeks. Charging R2,500 registration fee for solar is incorrect, as it's free and can be done online. However, installers are offering to register for a fee, even though it's not necessary.

Q: Formula E will be good for tourism and job creation but are there any upskilling programmes for SME's and entrepreneurs to be part of process? Also, will any of the income go back to poorer communities?

A: The conditions of our approval and acceptance of the event were to achieve more than just one day's race. Benefits for locals: E Power international conference taking place at CTICC for a week leading up to race, showcasing everything electronically and battery powered, bringing together renewable energy industry. Also, when cars arrive on Tuesday before the race they will be driven around CT to involve the communities.

There is big organisation around Formula E with many people involved.

Q: What can be done about discarded needles in and around neighbourhood?

A: MT: it's important to know that injections are not only used for heroin but at times for ARV treatment (pink needles) – those people have nowhere to administer it. As with homeless not all being criminals, not all people who use needles are drug addicts. City has been educating people

about where to administer in safe spaces.

Q: Vagrancy problem discourages foreign visitors as so much grime. How to solve?

A: Mayor hoped that their efforts to clean the City would have been noticed. Weekly until beginning June, cleanups were done in different parts of City, with a view to changing the culture of littering, instilling respect for one's environment. This will start again 1 September, and will be permanent campaign for next five years. City has 1,800 fulltime cleaning staff doing excellent work under manager Eugene Hlongwane. Doubling or tripling numbers will cost a lot and won't make a difference until people are more respectful of their community and city. Mayor commented on an improvement in some areas, and expressed willingness to get involved in new areas.

Q: Is R126m for 3 years for SafeSpaces really enough, and how long will it take for the problem to be resolved?

A: it's a big financial increase, and must take into account how much more residents can absorb as they are paying for it. Every R1m increase is a 1,5% increase in everyone's rates bills. If it's successful and gets blessing of Cape High Court, the investment might be expanded.

Social workers are hard pressed and won't enter certain unsafe areas, but have generally made huge progress in individual assessment of every person in this ward. Their written and recorded evidence is essential for the City when making the case to Court for efforts to provide assistance to people who refuse it - can then compel them to move. One of complaints by homeless is that they're not allowed to live as couples in NGO facilities and SafeSpaces, however new expansion will have dedicated space for couples. We still don't allow open drug use in state facilities. Mayor asked SAPS to be stricter about open drug use in the city; it should not be widely tolerated but be enforced as it's a crime.

Q: Environment: The 'virtuous circle' is encouraging but means a huge influx of people of all levels of social development to CT. What is City's plan for water to prevent another Day Zero?

A: 350m litres of new water to be provided daily by 2030, ie 40-50% of our water needs. This by way of proven technology: 1) aquafir drilling, 2) 50m litres per day desalination plant which can be expanded to 150m litres per day, and 3) the biggest water recycling plant in the world.

Q: CT is a geographically beautiful city but parts eg wetlands are being encroached upon by informal settlements. Is there an overall plan to protect sensitive areas? For instance, shacks are encroaching on highways like the N7, which impedes beautification of the city.

A: Mayor expects big boom in population, especially if we sort out loadshedding. It's a key constraint keeping up with demand for affordable housing, leading to proliferation of informality as seen along N7. They are trying to speed up program to release land for affordable housing but not likely to keep up. There is a need for orderly serviced sites with electricity and water but no structure, where informal structures can be erected. Controversial but necessary.

Q: Can City do anything about controlling scrap metal merchants? Cables, water metres etc. which impact on economy. Merchants seem to only require an ID to buy, not checking where it comes from.

A: City has a major issue with copper theft, as global copper price is at 25 year high, having just broken through \$10. Copper theft can be tracked based on global market price. On bad weeks it costs City R10m per week to replace stolen cables. Often when lights are out it's due to cable theft. Searches at scrap metal merchants takes place daily but they don't keep it on site. City is now using canine unit, increasing from 50 officers to 75 with new copper sniffer dog. Twenty worst offender merchants are also being targeted about planning permission, and can be shut down for not having permission to run businesses from their premises.

Q: GP sporting facilities are excellent, why not become a development academy which would be good for tourism and job creation since they are not being used all the time?

A: Mayor is happy to discuss options, but mentioned that Stormers, being anchor tenants at DHL stadium, are keen to move their High Performance Centre from Belville to stadium. Perhaps that can be built on.

Q: Open fires have an adverse effect, how can these be controlled?

A: Mayor agreed, asking that open fires be reported to LE as they are illegal in CT, causing major fires, including the massive electricity failure in December caused by homeless fire in Paardeneiland which burned a main incoming cable, costing R10m to repair. Please report fires.

The Mayor was thanked for his time and for answering questions.

Attendance Register; Approval of 2019 Minutes; Membership Fees

- Everyone was asked to sign the attendance register. (For the full attendance list, please contact Glynis Johnson at info@gprra.co.za)
- 2019 AGM Minutes - approved by Charles Scheltema, accepted by Herman.
- Membership fee June 2022-May 2023 suggested at R200 pa per household, approved.

GPRRA committee reports are on GPRRA's website (<https://www.gprra.co.za/>). Below are summaries of their activities:

Management Committee (MC) James Loock and Liz Knight

The MC of volunteers meet monthly, spending enormous time and energy working through a wide range of things. They fight for the rights of residents, making GP a better place to live.

Some achievements are:

- the award winning GP Urban Park and Common are central to GP. Antonia Malan has done sterling research in getting it recognised as Provincial Heritage site.

- Another exciting development is the very special stone which has been installed in the Park: African Stone is part of the Global Stone Peace Project by artist Wolfgang van Schwartzenfeld comprising ten stones installed in various continents. Sculptured, polished, inscribed and positioned so that annually on 21 June the sun reflects on their surfaces to connect all the stones. Archbishop Tutu was present when the African Hope Stone was installed in Berlin and he received a pledge from the artist to donate it to CT.

- A colour coded map was shown to resolve confusion over the boundary split of Green Point between Wards 54 (blue - Cllr Nichol Jowell) and 115 (green - Cllr IM).

- We are also celebrating the launch of our new website so please visit on a regular basis to get updates on our activities - <https://www.gprra.co.za/>

As mentioned, our members are constantly attending meetings to help lobby for improvements.

Examples are:

- CPE (headed by Heather Tager)

- GPCID - GPRRA is part of the steering committee on GPCID, actively engaging with property owners to ensure the approval of the levy under the Special Ratings Area (SRA) for additional top-up services. Stats reveal reduction in crime by minimum of 50% since the establishment of the existing CID in July 2001, creating an environment for property investment (example De Waterkant

development). Commercial and residential property owners have seen notable increases in values.

- Ward Committee Forum which LK attends on behalf of Ward 115 to engage with Council.
- GPNW (Neighbourhood Watch) which Steve Massey serves on. GPRRA has a close alignment with GPNW, however we remind the community that security and policing is not our mandate.

JL called for involvement with committees, as we need help and renewal. He's been involved with it full 15 years and it has been inspirational, met wonderful people, made friends, had fun. Please consider, it's a very worthwhile activity. Proud of vision which has been achieved: beautifying GP lanes, helping homeless, taking care of Urban Park etc. Small pebble which was dropped in pond has spread with help of all the people involved.

Charles Scheltema gave vote of thanks to excellent committee and work they've done.

More information on the other committees to follow.

Management Committee election (James Loock)

The MC has six members, but there should be at least eight. The existing members have all agreed to stand again. A show of hands was requested to indicate for and against: all for, none against. The existing members were accepted.

Human Environment Committee (HEC) (Liz Knight)

Thanks to Cllr McMahon for his support of our programs and looking forward to the future. Also looking forward to working with Marc Truss in the run up to approval of the GPCID extension.

Friends of Green Point Lanes: Before and after slides are evidence of the dedication over five years by the Friends to upgrade our lanes. And our parks. Since 2017 we have invested time and funds to transform the once derelict historic network of lanes/steps. They serve as crucial pedestrian routes for those who live, play and work in the neighbourhood as well as for tourists. MyCity bus stops are spatially placed at the beginning (or end) of each lane on High Level. We benefit from a team of four gardeners/cleaners assigned by Peter Cookson (City's Social Development) based on our support for his programs, primarily to fund IDs and bus fares for repatriation. The team is part of the Expanded Public Works Program (EPWP) which provides income and poverty relief for the unemployed. They are learning a new a skill and we also witness their personal development through gardening.

The lanes are also crucial to our hiking group's fitness program. We encourage you to join.

In early January a hard-fought five-year campaign by Jenny McQueen culminated in the court's decision to 'tear down' the gates blocking Mossat Lane. The garden is now flourishing.

GPRRA SafeStreet Collective: In January Cllr McMahon suggested that we partner with Khulisa Streetscapes (and 12 other NGOs) to receive funding from City for our GPRRA SafeStreets Collective program on Main Road. (The City had applied for and received R160 million from National Treasury's Public Employment Program [PEP], a stimulus plan in response to Covid-19.) Our goal was to transform the lives of 16 street-based individuals by offering a more stable environment and regular income. Crucial also are personal development programs comprising health/psychosocial support, counselling and substance abuse reduction. Training is also part of the longterm vision for future employment and permanent housing. They are managed by Riedoewaan Galant and one supervisor and consult with a social workers on a daily basis. Despite the challenges, the program has had a positive impact. All are either living in shelters or at home; connecting with and supporting families and saving from stipends. Most go to Matrix regularly and others are preparing to enter the work place through courses such as first aid, security, and attending computer sessions at Sea Point Library – thanks to Katherine Moon for arranging. Their

IDs were funded by generous community members. City officials who 'inspected' our program on 31 May were impressed. We emphasized the need for an extension of funding beyond the initial six months in order to adequately prepare for stable futures. Extension of the program is currently under negotiation and we anticipate support for the next year.

Social Development: We are encouraged by the Mayor's commitment to solving social issues and look forward to seeing the programs relating to the homeless having a positive impact. We work closely with Peter Cookson and his field workers who are constantly engaging with our homeless community. The emphasis is on assisting them to move off the street and offering strategic longterm rehabilitation solutions. Success of interventions by the fieldworkers can be judged by the 111 IDs we have funded (value over R15,000) this year. Funding of R3500 plus for bus fares is also crucial for those wishing to return home to families.

And we constantly reminder the community to recycle, manage black bins, pick up litter, posts service requests and report all crime.

Events (Steve Massey)

What we do:

- Read all applications (very few during past year due to Covid regulations)
- Assess impact on residents - duration; noise disturbance; traffic/road closures; litter/antisocial behavior
- Respond to enquiries, send guidelines, raise concerns, seek detail on stage, speakers etc
- Either support or decline
- Report back on problems/issues to organiser and CoCT

2021 had few events of note:

The Cape Town Cycle Tour, Cape Town Marathon, British & Irish Lions Tour, Cape Town Sevens Rugby and various soccer and WP rugby games - all with limited spectators.

2022 has seen over 30 events take place so far, some of which were the following:

Cape Town 10's, various School Athletics and ASA Athletics, Cape Town Pride Festival, Cape Town Marathon, Cape Town Cycle Tour, Rugby Finals and the SA vs Wales International, various lifestyle events and running events.

Upcoming event applications for 2022:

August - Blisters for Bread

September - Rugby 7's World Cup

- Justin Bieber Concert

October - Cape Town Triathlon and Marathon

- Cycling Festival

- Cape Town Marathon

- Spar Grand Prix series

December - Summer Music Festival

Upcoming event applications for 2023:

February - Cape Town Rugby 10's

- Formula E racing

March - Cape Town Pride Festival

- Cape Town Carnival
April – Silversea Rugby Festival

Areas of concern going forwards:

- The Athletics Stadium sound system
- Events with amplified sound that do not have Noise Exemption Permits
- Street Parking and Congestion above Main Road during large events\
- Revisit the Parking Permit system?

Built Environment Committee (BEC) (Stuart Burnett)

The BEC spend time and energy to protect property rights, and prevent insensitive and inappropriate developments which destroy our architectural heritage. SB provided a short update on activities during the past year:

25 Ocean View Drive

This house is in the Braemar Estate. Demolition was approved by Heritage Western Cape in July 2015, but it is still standing and we believe that the demolition permit has now expired in 2018 City Planning approved the removal of the Braemar Estate Title Deed Restrictions. Our appeal against that decision was also refused.

With the support of affected neighbours, the GPRRA took the matter to the high court. Whilst the court case was still pending, we were notified in March 2020 that the City, as one of the defendants, conceded that they were wrong in removing the TDR's and reversed that decision.

Since then we have been trying unsuccessfully to negotiate with the developer to settle the litigation.

169 Main Road

Construction of this 12 storey apartment block at 169 Main Rd was completed in 2020. It is located in the HPOZ but, as this was a vacant lot, there was no input from HWC during the approval process. Excavations for basement parking was carried out right up to the edge of the site where three heritage graded properties are located/

3 Leicester Grove

This is one of the three affected properties alongside 169 Main Road. During or after the excavation, movement and subsidence of the house occurred, resulting in numerous cracks in the floor, walls and stone foundation plinths throughout the house. There was no indication that City Planning gave any thought to the likelihood of subsidence in the adjacent properties. A structural engineer's view is that just repairing the cracks will not be viable as further movement is highly likely. We have now been asked to comment on an application to demolish the house. We understand that the other two heritage properties have similar problems.

38Y Ocean View Drive

Six white cylindrical structures located on the roof of 38Y Ocean View Drive contain mobile base stations for Telkom, Vodacom and MTN. They have been in operation since May 2020 without planning consent.

In March 2021 we objected to these unauthorised base stations which also contravened the scenic drive bylaw. In December 2021 their application was refused. The applicants have now lodged an appeal which has yet to be heard. Meanwhile the base stations continue to operate.

4, 6 & 8 Braemar Road

These three heritage graded houses on lower Braemar Road are to be demolished despite objections from the GPRRA and neighbours opposite. Following an unsuccessful objection and appeal, City Planning has approved this apartment block with 60 units including four 'affordable' apartments

Lower Cavalcade Road

An application was received for the demolition of these four houses at the lower end of Cavalcade Road. Whilst two are heritage graded, the appointed heritage consultant concluded that the demolition of these existing buildings would not be detrimental to the heritage significance of the area. As with the Braemar Road site, too close to the high rises on Main Rd to warrant conservation. This was followed by a rezoning application from General Residential 4 to General Business 4 in order to erect a 153-room hotel with 37 parking bays. We expressed concern about the likely negative impact on traffic flows on the narrow section of Cavalcade Rd, but this was dismissed and the application was approved.

108 Main Road – Ultra Liquors site

In September 2020 we were notified of a proposal to redevelop the Ultra Liquors site. Whilst the existing commercial building has no aesthetic appeal, the open parking attracts a lot of visitors from the local community. Included in the site, on Varneys Road, is one heritage graded house which will be preserved, as will be the collection of trees in the Thorniebrae gardens behind. We believe this is as much protection as can be achieved.

The proposal is to develop a mixed-use building. consisting of retail/commercial uses on the ground floor, 203 residential units on the upper floors and two basement parking levels with 356 parking bays, which will be accessed primarily from Varneys Road which, at the lower end, will be widened with 2-way traffic. After an appeal, this application has now been approved.

What is interesting to note is that, whilst all of these last three redevelopments have been approved, the existing buildings are all still occupied with no indication of when demolition and redevelopment will commence.

Treasurers report (Stuart Burnett)

The Treasurers report for 2018-2022 was shown, and is available for perusal on the GPRRA website (<https://www.gprra.co.za/>)

SB noted that there was no significant activity. In 2021 membership subscription dropped significantly, picking up again during the past year. Money was spent on the website, ID's for homeless and upgrade the lanes. Net results showed a R9,000 surplus for the past year. In a nutshell: we don't have much money and we don't spend much.

JL thanked the members of the various committees and declared the meeting closed.

Minutes taken with thanks by Sanet Tattersall.