



26 April 2023

Dear GPRRA member,

The extensive coverage of our AGM (minutes distributed on 3 September 2022) highlighted the tireless work done by the GPRRA Committee. We also keep residents informed on social media. This newsletter is to update you on our recent activities to promote, enforce and safeguard your interests and rights. And you can catch up in person at our AGM on 1 June at Hamilton Ruby Club. Please save the date so we can expect another record breaking attendance.

The key note speaker will be Antonia Malan, a heritage expert and part of the GPRRA team which lobbied for the Green Point Common to be declared a Provincial Heritage site. The objective was to protect our 'green lung' as intended when the Common was vested in perpetuity in 1923 for sports and recreation to all the people of Cape Town.



Green Point Common

Western Cape Heritage declared it as such in March 2018 followed much later by approval of the required Conservation Management Plan (CMP). However, one of the lease holders insists on their specific development agreements being written into the CMP thus extending the seven-year wait for the nomination.

https://www.atlanticsun.co.za/news/gym-lodges-appeal-against-heritage-plan-269663fe-91a0-40f0-b424-e2ea06a8de2c?fbclid=IwAR0Sr7P5dl_DqmpBJptgtZwu2qjF1HWCbR84dW3hutpHdwxdSBYi5272tqg

Your support is essential to keep on fighting the good fight. Please renew your membership via our website <https://www.gprra.co.za/membership> or via GPRRA First National Bank | Cheque acct no: 62143274059 | Branch: 560|250655 (please ensure name appears on EFT) - R200 per annum per household. Encourage neighbours to join.

Also please connect with us if you have time to volunteer your skills. For example, to manage our website, to develop our membership and various other initiatives.

Management Committee (MC):

We address many issues that concern the community and also attend numerous meetings. For example:

- members of the Built Environment Committee have encyclopaedic knowledge of our built environment and play a crucial role in preserving this heritage
- at Ward Forum meetings we lobby for improved service delivery such as refuse collection and recycling; for support by Parks and Cleansing Services to assist with trimming trees in public spaces and maintaining pristine streets; we scrutinize liquor license applications; share common interests and goals to improve our community with other Ward 115 members.
- we share feedback on Councillor Ian McMahon's activities such as his engagement with Traffic Network Management to solve long delays at York Road traffic lights by adjusting the timing to ensure an improved flow without negatively impacting Main Road and the Circle intersection. Solutions for lights at Glengariff/Main Road are also bearing explored.
- we propose projects for the Ward Allocation from SubCouncil's operating fund - for 2022/23 GPRRA motivated for the upgrade of Thornhill Park.
- Events Committee attends the Green Point Urban Park Forum bimonthly to discuss management of the precinct, compliance of all lease holders and problems faced on event days.
- we pressure SanParks to maintain Signal Hill particularly as residents are funding and actioning cleaning of slopes behind Springbok and Merriman roads as well as Upper Strand Street. We also emphasize to SanParks the need to step up patrols to protect residents who hike in the area.
- we attended CoCT's first workshop on 22 March that commenced the process of collating and sharing ideas for the redevelopment of the Strand Street Quarry.
- we support the extension of Pinocchio Creche's lease based on their invaluable contribution to our community.
- we attend the monthly Community Police Forum to catch up on reports from SAPS, Metro Police and Law Enforcement regarding safety and security, bylaw infringement arrests and debate on how to deal with street children and other challenges.
- we engage with Avenue Response to monitor cul-de-sac and isolated pockets of our neighbourhood. (Consider singing up with AR and also becoming a member of GPNW.)

- **GPCID Extension:** 9 January marked closure of many months of campaigning for adequate signatures in support of the extension of the Green Point CID Improvement District along Somerset and Main roads (from Boundary to Varneys roads). A CID has powers to arrest via their law enforcement program, issue fines and deal with bylaw infringements. It provides visible policing by public safety teams and officers with radios patrol streets 24x7 in vehicles and on foot. It has partnerships with Law Enforcement, Metro, SAPS, Traffic and private security companies and observation via CCTV and Licence Plate Recognition (LPR). The levies also ensure management of litter, noise, street lights and upgrading of public areas. All these factors should create an environment for investment and notable increases in values for commercial and residential property owners. Following anticipated approval by Council of the application in May, the extension will come into effect on 1 July. Marc Truss will be presenting at our AGM on 1 June.

Liz Knight

Built Environment Committee (BEC):

- Finalizing the nomination of the Green Point Common as a Provincial Heritage site has again been delayed. Antonia Malan will make a presentation summarizing the status of this nomination at the AGM.
- Erf 2127, 38Y Ocean View Drive: the application for rooftop base telecommunication stations at 38Y OVD was refused by the Municipal Planning Tribunal and by the subsequent appeal. The six base telecommunication stations continue to operate. Notice to remove them was served on the property owner in February 2023. The neighbours are watching!



Base telecommunication stations

- Erf 288, 25 Ocean View Drive: In November 2022 we were advised that, after a seven year process, this matter has finally been resolved by way of a court order, in terms of which the planning decisions of CoCT have been set aside and the restrictive title deed conditions have been restored.
- Following approval of the redevelopment of the Ultra Liquors site on Main Road, application has now been made to redevelop the site at the back of the Never at Home Hotel next door. The proposal is for a seven-storey residential block with 36 apartments and 24 parking bays.

We expect any approval to be subject to the same requirement to effectively preserve the tree roots in Thorniebrae garden during excavation.

Stuart Burnett

Events Committee:

Since January, CoCT has issued over 327 permits for events across the whole city. With its beautiful scenery, low operational costs and inexpensive accommodation, Cape Town is fast becoming the events capital of the world. Of these events, many have taken place in the Green Point area.



Formula E

From the start of January the GPRRA Events Committee has processed over 75 event applications for the Promenade, Stadium, Green Point Park and shared fields as well as the Waterfront area.

Notable among these were various athletics, running, soccer and rugby events as well as the Imagine Dragons Concert, the World Marathon Challenge, Cape Town Rugby 10s, Formula E racing, Cape Town Cycle Tour and the recent Cape Town Carnival. On 22 April was the huge Monster Jam event at the Stadium, followed by the Spar Women's Challenge on 23 April.

The audience of the Monster Jam event was bigger than any of the major rugby games, hence the traffic congestion on evening of 22nd. Councillor Ian McMahan spent three hours in the rain to monitor the volumes and was also out appeasing affected residents.

For the morning of 23rd Beach Road in Mouille Point and Sea Point was closed for the Spar Women's Challenge race. Once again the organizer (as with many running events) did not comply with guidelines to moderate use of loudhailers.



Cape Town Cycle Tour

Coming up in late April, May, June and July will be the We are Africa event at the Stadium and various Currie Cup rugby games as well as the Cape Milers Running and the Prescient Freedom Paddle.

So far, we have managed to keep sound levels at an acceptable volume, but occasionally announcers at sports events do get over-excited and make it difficult for the independent sound consultants to keep within the designated decibel levels.

Traffic flow from large Stadium events and illegal parking continue to be problematic. The MPRA and GPRRA regularly meet with Councillors Nicola Jowell and Ian McMahon and CoCT's Events and Traffic Departments to discuss solutions.

Steve Massey

Human Environment Committee (HEC):

Friends of Green Point Lanes (FoGPL): Our network of lanes serve as crucial pedestrian routes for those who live, play and work in our neighbourhood as well as for tourists. MyCity bus stops are spatially placed at the beginning (or end) of each lane on High Level. FoGPL have invested time and funds to transform these once derelict historic features in accordance with CoCT's spatial planning position. We meet many hikers and dog walkers and our hiking group is now well established. Get in touch to be part of our 'mini watch', to get fit, to appreciate our environment and to engage with your neighbours.



FOGPL hiking group and garden

Our team (in orange and blue) are responsible for transforming the gardens in the lanes and parks. They have also been creating a garden at SAPs. Assigned by Peter Cookson (CoCT Social Development based on our support for his programs), 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.



FoGPL/EPWP team of gardeners

CoCT Social Development: Supported by Peter Cookson, we continue to engage with our homeless community and are making progress in finding longterm rehabilitation solutions. This is despite the recent ruling preventing CoCT from serving eviction notices.

<https://www.capetown.gov.za/Media-and-news/City%20disappointed%20by%20delay%20in%20CBD%20unlawful%20occupations%20matter%20due%20to%20late%20notice%20to%20oppose>

Success of interventions by the fieldworkers can be judged by the numerous IDs we fund (approx. 120 in the past year valued @ R16,800) plus bus fares are also crucial for those wishing to return home to families. Thanks to Green Point residents who support this initiative.

The anticipated opening of a 300-bed Safe Space in Ebernezer Road is crucial to our efforts to assist more people off our streets. The Safe Spaces provide access to onsite social workers, personal development planning, social grant assistance, family reunification services, access to substance and alcohol abuse treatment, skills training, job seeking assistance and access to EPWP work placement. In addition to accommodation and ablutions, they receive two meals a day. CoCT will continue adding more transitional shelter beds in the coming months to assist more people off the streets.

GPRRA SafeStreet Collective: Funding from the National Treasury's Public Employment Program (PEP) was renewed in January so our program on Main Road continues to transform the lives of 12 individuals by offering a regular income and stable living environment. Many are saving from stipends and supporting their families. The program comprises health/psychosocial support, counselling and substance abuse reduction. Skills development includes computer literacy at the library; training at

Red Security and St John First Aid and, most recently, Mr Cookson organized driving license training for nine in the team. The longterm vision is for permanent employment and housing. Leisure activities include hiking and playing chess.

The team is managed by Riedoewaan Galant and are easily identifiable by their black jeans, grey T-shirts and caps and branded GPRRA vests with name cards in their pockets. We encourage you to engage with them (Mon-Fri 8am-4pm) and hear how the program has changed their lives. Their role is to assist the community with parking, valet as well as clearing litter, removing graffiti, gardening and picking up and documenting needles.

We may not be solving all problems along Main Road but we are transforming 12 lives. We are not able to assist foreigners without papers; the mandate to engage with children lies with DSD Provincial and SAPS are the only ones who can manage those who require psychosocial support.



GPRRA SafeStreet Collective

Organic and recycling waste: we continue to lobby residents to be particularly diligent about managing bins given that services are currently erratic. Recommend reducing organic waste by composting and wasting less food. For all your recyclables WasteWant provides free bags and free collection. See attachment for collection days and accompanying map. Together we can protect our natural environment. Contact Liz Knight to sign up for recycling lzbknight@gmail.com / 0765972640

Service Requests: participate in the day-to-day management of our environment with service requests: https://eservices1.capetown.gov.za/coct/wapl/zsreq_app/index.html or 0860 103 089 or download the App on your phone

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.thinkable.android.muldereugene.MyCapeTown&hl=en_ZA

Report all crime: Sea Point Police continues to urge the community to report all crime, no matter how small, as soon as possible, and give all relevant information. This is to ensure that the police are aware of all incidences for deployment purposes. By working together crime can be curbed.

Yours sincerely,

GPRRA Management Committee