

October
2009

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Bulletin

Official newsletter of the Overstrand Municipality

COUNCIL SHUFFLED

PIETER SCHOLTZ NEW DEPUTY MAYOR

During Overstrand Municipality's council meeting on 1 September, 64-year-old Petrus Albertus Scholtz of the Democratic Alliance was unanimously elected as executive deputy mayor.

He takes the place of Alderman Verrell Herbert, who retired from office on 31 July this year. Mr Herbert has emigrated to Australia to be nearer to his daughter and grandchildren. His elderly father also lives in Australia.

Scholtz, who had a long career in the SA Police and retired as a brigadier, has been serving in Overstrand Municipality's council since its inception and has always represented the Democratic Alliance as ward councillor.

Following on the 2006 election, he was designated by the Executive Mayor, Cllr Theo Beyleveldt, to serve as a member of the Mayoral Committee, initially for the portfolio Finance and Management Services, but with the restructuring of the committee, he took over the portfolio for Infrastructure, Planning and Economic Planning and will continue to handle this portfolio as Deputy Mayor.



Overstrand's Deputy Mayoral couple, Ans and Pieter Scholtz.

Cllr Philippus Appelgrein has been appointed by Cllr Beyleveldt, as a member of the Mayoral Committee for the portfolio Community and Protection Services.

The experience he has gained as ward councillor over the past three years, together with the 28 years gained in an engineering environment within the Defence Force where he advanced to the



(Left) Cllr Philip Appelgrein, new Mayoral Committee member for Community and protection services. (Right) Ald Willie Smuts... previous Mayor who retired finally after 26 years of service.

level of director, means that he is superbly equipped for his new role. He regards service delivery as a top priority, and he will also endeavour to conduct a comprehensive socio-economic investigation into housing in Overstrand.

The Democratic Alliance designated Mr Rudolf Smith to fill the vacancy for a proportional representative in the council. Mr Smith is a community leader from Hawston. The IEC confirmed his appointment on 15 September 2009.

Alderman Willie Smuts, former mayor of both Overstrand (2000-2006) and Hangklip-Kleinmond (1995-2000), resigned on 2 September 2009 as councillor of the Overstrand Municipality, thereby also vacating office with the Overberg District Municipality where he represented Overstrand and chaired the portfolio committee for Corporate Services. He accepted a contract appointment with the District Municipality to serve as consultant with regard to councillor services and labour matters, or to build capacity as the Municipal Manager may require.

Mr Smuts, who was awarded the honorary title of alderman twice, has a career of 26 years in local government and during the eighties also served as Mayor in Vereeniging. He has now also retired from office as the chairperson of the Western Cape Non-metro Bargaining Council.

Mr Smuts was a proportional representative of the ANC, who has not yet announced who his successor as councillor will be.

HOUSES IN STANFORD HANDED OVER

The first houses of the low-cost housing project in Stanford have been handed over to their new owners on Wednesday, 26 August 2009 – exactly nineteen weeks after the first sod has been turned.

And the first beneficiaries were very deserving cases indeed: the disabled Karel and Elizabeth Blok who, after a lifetime spent toiling on farms in the Stanford area, have now found a permanent place to put their feet up; and the couple Sandile and Nosisa Mgwaza who used the dream of a new life in a proper home to help overcome the terrible loss of three children due to a shack fire.

In a letter read on behalf of the Mgwazas, Sandile relates how 25 November 2005 was the worst day of their lives when their darling children Ntombi Siyathemba, Lulama and Lulamile perished in the fire. They blamed themselves for the life they had to lead in a squatter structure and have been dreaming ever since of finding a house. "I wish I had a thousand mouths with which to thank you," he said.

The rest of the houses has since been handed over one by one to their new owners. In the course of this process, each recipient signs a purchase deed, opens an account with the municipality and confirms in writing that he or she is satisfied with the quality of the house.

The Stanford project consisted of 88 houses developed by M5 Developments Cape. Mr Rieger van Rooyen, a director with M5, said that their approach was to provide the recipients with a safe place that will be pleasant to live in. The design of the houses has been modified so that an additional door with a glass panel and bigger aluminium-framed windows will allow more light to penetrate the houses.

The Mayor, Cllr Theo Beyleveldt, said that a massive effort is being made to find additional land for housing in Stanford and that this matter is expected to be resolved within the next six months. As for the rest of the housing programme, the next project will be tackled in Betty's Bay, whereafter Kleinmond will follow.



Mayor Theo Beyleveldt cuts the ribbon at the front door to Sandile and Nosisa Mgwaza's new home while Mr Boginkosi Madikizela, Minister of Housing (far left), and Rieger van Rooyen, a director of the developer M5 Developments Cape (far right), look on.

COMMUNITY HALL FOR PRINGLE BAY



The Tru-Cape Kogelberg Mountain Challenge was one of the first events to be hosted at the new community hall.

Overstrand would like a healthy community life to flourish, and for this reason, no fewer than sixteen community halls have been upgraded or built from scratch over the past three years.

Although the brand new Pringle Bay Hall, inaugurated on 25 August in a festive manner, was the last of these projects, it is probably the one that took the greatest effort.

The ladies club of this coastal village with its panoramic views has been campaigning for a hall for more than fifteen years. Until recently, the only venue available for welfare work and other community activities was the local church, which wasn't always suited to every occasion – especially if one wants to crown the past year's hard work with a good old New Year's Eve dance.

The protracted process to get a com-

munity hall often fell victim to administrative red tape. First, a suitable portion of communal land had to be identified, subdivided, rezoned and subjected to an environmental impact study. Funds were set aside on the budget, but the tender was too high ... and so it went.

Fortunately, solutions to the problems were finally found. As for construction, the decision was made to use an alternative building method where the building is comprised of a light steel framework which is then covered on the interior and exterior with suitable material.

The tender was awarded to Overberg Light Steel Construction, and the project was completed within three months. Pringle Bay's residents were very excited about the project and often visited the site to chat to the contractors and to share in the progress.

Construction of the hall, measuring almost 300 m², was completed at a total cost of R1,7. The finishing all round is of a top quality.

The access from Buffels Road and the immediate area around the building will be paved shortly to add the finishing touches to the project.

According to municipal policy, community halls are managed by a management committee comprised of local residents. In Pringle Bay, mainly members of the ladies club serve on this committee. The ladies club delved deep into their own pockets to buy equipment and the like.

Already, the hall is being well utilised and several bookings have been made. Contact Rina Scholtz on 073 203 1487 for more information.



GANSBAAI PROJECT HIGHLY COMMENDED

The Gansbaai sewerage works was the only project in its category to receive a commendation in the 2009 Engineering Excellence Awards hosted on 12 August 2009 by Consulting Engineers South Africa (CESA). The project was one of seven entries in its category for projects with a value of between R 10 million and R 100 million. The winner in this category was the Ntmbale Dam in Botswana. From the left are Pieter Jordaan of Stewart Scott International, who managed the Gansbaai project, Felix Foncoqa, president of CESA, Andrew Chislett, representative of the sponsor Glenwood MIB, and Dennis Hendriks, Overstrand Municipality's manager of infrastructure projects and development control.

TEA PARTY IN KLEINMOND

The Mayoress' tea party for Hangklip-Kleinmond residents aged 70 plus will be held in the Proteadorp Community Hall at 10:00 on Wednesday, 21 October.

People who want to attend or perhaps want to offer their assistance can call Wilna Hooneberg, Kleinmond's librarian, on 028 271 8430 or 028 271 4021. She can also be reached by fax on 028 271 3732 or per email at whooneberg@overstrand.gov.za

MORAL STANDARDS INITIATIVE: N° 7

GOOD CITIZENSHIP

"Good Citizenship" is the sixth and last moral standard which the Greater Hermanus Moral Standards Initiative (MSI) will be focusing on. These six values form the building blocks of our moral character as individuals and, thus, collectively of the community within which we reside.

In **Good Citizenship**, the moral standards of **Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness and Caring** find expression in how everyone fulfils his or her role and responsibility as citizens of the community.

In practice, **Good Citizenship** implies amongst others that:

- Residents meet their financial obligations and make sustainable arrangements pertaining to these obligations. They don't ride on the back of fellow citizens in their utilisation of the privileges and services on offer in the community.
- Residents believe and acknowledge that laws, regulations and rules, no matter how unpopular they may be at a personal level, are necessary to

ensure the successful functioning of a community. They are law abiding because they believe that this is the responsible thing to do.

- Residents strive to display good neighbourliness at all times and to respect others' right to privacy and property. They treat their fellow citizens with civility and consideration.
- Residents will engage constructively with matters that are in the public's interest.
- Residents will work collaboratively to protect the environment and to keep it neat and tidy.
- Through their conduct, authorities and community leaders will foster good citizenship amongst citizens.

Be sure to reflect on your strengths and weaknesses in terms of Good Citizenship and what you can do to eliminate those weaknesses.

Feel free to forward any comments or suggestions on the Moral Standards Initiative to or per SMS to 082 412 4538/082 470 3975.

WORLD ENVIRONMENTAL CALENDAR: N° 7

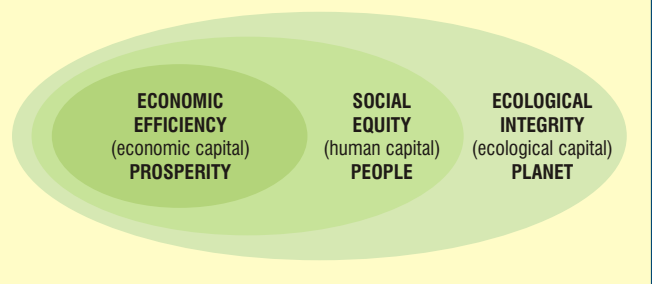
WORLD HABITAT DAY

The first Monday of October every year is World Habitat Day. The United Nations has designated this day in an attempt to reflect on the state of our towns and cities and the right everyone has to adequate shelter. It is also intended to remind the world of its collective responsibility for the future of the human habitat.

The theme for World Habitat Day 2009 is: *Planning our urban future*. It is important to raise awareness of the need to improve urban planning in order to deal with the major challenges posed by the 21st century. All over the world, cities and towns are increasingly feeling the effect of climate change, overpopulation, resource depletion and various other factors. Urban planning systems in many parts of the world are, unfortunately,

ill equipped to deal with the challenges facing modern cities and towns.

An integrated approach is in the process of being implemented in the Western Cape to address these backlogs. The Western Cape Provincial Spatial Development Plan is an attempt to avoid repeating developmental mistakes made by past decision makers. This plan will focus on ecological integrity, social wellbeing and economic development (the so-called "triple bottom line" principle of sustainable development). This plan will help decision makers in the land-use and environmental fields to consider whether proposed development would be feasible in keeping with the three pillars of this principle.



**NATIONAL FRAUD
HOTLINE**

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