

# WITZENBERG NEWS

Municipality • Munisipaliteit • U Masipala Wasa

Issue 1

A municipality that cares for its community, creating growth and opportunity!

January/February 2016

# From the Mayor's Desk

As we all are aware of by now, Witzenberg Municipality is one of the municipalities in the South Africa that has been declared a 'water stressed' area. This means that our water supply is limited and we need to work sparingly with that which we have. We have sent notices to the public to inform them of this dire situation, but I believe that we can do more to conserve water. Please speak to your neighbors about how they water their gardens and the reuse of grey water. Try to minimize the water with which you wash your hands and flush your toilet. Shower instead of bathing. Small changes can make a major difference. We are still seeing residents using a hosepipe to wash their cars or watering their plants at the wrong time of day or even having their irrigation systems water the pavement. Water domestic, grey or borehole - is precious and scarce. Please be informed that our law enforcement officials will be patrolling and fining residents that do not observe the measures we have put in place to manage our water usage. Please realize that it is not about being able to afford the tariff for water. It is about the limited volume available to everyone in Witzenberg. To those residents who have set up innovative and great water recycling efforts, thank you for going that extra mile! When we experienced some light showers, some residents performed water catchment. Some residents have even put a bucket in the shower with them or put a basin in the kitchen sink and wash basin to catch the excess water, to reuse elsewhere. We urgently need your help to ensure that we maximize our usage and protect this resource.



Executive Mayor Barnito Klaasen

## Water Restrictions - Borehole Water

At a Council meeting held on 25 January 2016, the Witzenberg Municipality Council adopted the following water restrictions with respect to private borehole water with immediate effect:

- \* Gardens may only be watered on the following days between 19:00 and 21:00 -
- Even numbered households (Mondays and Thursdays only) and
- \* Uneven numbered households (Tuesdays and Fridays only)
- \* The owner or occupier of any premises who intends to sink a borehole on such premises notifies the municipality on the prescribed form of such intention before work is commenced.
- \* The owner of any premises within the municipal jurisdiction upon which a borehole exists, or if the owner is not in occupation of such premises, the occupier thereof notifies the municipality on the prescribed form of the existence of a borehole on such premises and provide the municipality with such information in respect thereof as it may require;



If any residents are found guilty for any form of transgression, Council will impose fines against these individuals

We urge the public to use water responsibly during this period and ask that the community report any leaks to Witzenberg Municipality. For more information, kindly contact Witzenberg Municipality, Technical Services on telephone (023) 316 8540.

# Witzenberg Small Town Regeneration Programme

Small town regeneration refers to the restoration of civic pride within its inhabitants towards creating a resurgence of emotional investment, economic drive, capacitation of human capital and encouraging intrarelationship building and networking. Small town dynamics are often misunderstood and identified as areas of insignificance or of diminished fiscal potential. This perception has led to population influx towards the urban centres as well as created increased pressure and dependence upon the public management of these centres, reducing their efficiency and increasing the demand upon their resources. The



concept of small town regeneration aims to retain native human capital as well as attract human resources through remodelling alternative options for employment, social and economic activity as well as promotion of organic lifestyle. Globally, there is a massive movement towards simplifying living dynamics, returning to nature and embracing a higher quality of life as opposed to the frenetic pace and industrialised atmosphere associated with urban wealth and asset accumulation. According to Executive Mayor Barnito Klaasen, 'People need real solutions. It is very difficult to grow



something from nothing – no income, no education, no training and no skills. The concept of small town regeneration breathes new life into sustainable initiatives as it is not a prescribed concept, but a higher level of public participation, encouraging hope, innovation and imagination. All too often in government, we focus upon the harsh realities of our communities, that we lose sight of one of the greatest motivators of people – inspiration. It is our aim as a municipality to earnestly pursue small town regeneration within Witzenberg, not only to improve our revenue base, but also to bring dignity and onus to

our people.' Witzenberg Municipality has embarked upon this journey to revitalise their rural environs through their first set of public engagements conducted in November and December 2015, with the business, religious, education, union, ward committee and tourism sectors to identify where the deficits in their development lie. The second round of public engagements took place in January 2016 and focussed upon the appointment of a committee to represent community interests and initiate planning surrounding vital economic projects for implementation. Witzenberg Municipality welcomes inputs from the public in writing concerning potential programmes.

Witzenberg Municipality want to express their gratitude and appreciation to the South African Local Government Association for their guidance and support with this process as this project would not have reached fruition without their collaboration and investment.



For more information concerning the small town regeneration initiative, please contact Jo-Ann Krieger, Director:

Community Services on (023) 316 1854. Programme inputs for the small town regeneration programme can be sent to Witzenberg Municipality Small Town Regeneration Programme via email on admin@witzenberg.gov.za, hand delivered to 50 Voortrekker Street, Ceres or posted to PO Box 44, Ceres, 6835.

#### Water Restriction Tariffs

Water restrictions are put in place by municipalities to raise public awareness about conserving and protecting water resources, especially when they are scarce. Municipalities call for these restrictions when water levels in our dams are low and in the event of drought conditions, to ensure that there is enough water for us all to enjoy. Please find below the revised tariff structures for the water restrictions in place. The scarcity of water affects the nature of the water restrictions. Should you need clarification regarding the nature of the water restrictions applicable to your town, please contact the Witzenberg Municipality Technical Services Department on (023) 316 8540.

Tariffs - Extreme Water Restrictions (Tulbagh)		
Consumption per kilolitre	Tariffs 2015/16 (incl. VAT)	
Block A (Aimed at residential and smaller commercial clients)		
0 - 6kl	R2.85	
7 - 30kl	R13.91	
31 - 60 kl	R13.68	
61 - 300kl	R13.68	
Above 300kl	R29.10	
Block B (Aimed at larger commercial and smaller industrial		
	clients)	
0 - 300kl	R17.10	
301 - 1000kl	R15.05	
1001 - 8000kl	R13.91	
Above 8000kl	R13.91	
Block C (Aimed at larger industrial clients)		
Consumption above 20 000kl per month	R4.56	

Tariffs - Moderate Water Restrictions (All other towns)		
Consumption per kilolitre	Tariffs 2015/16 (incl. VAT)	
Block A (Aimed at residential and smaller commercial clients)		
0 - 6kl	R2.85	
7 - 30kl	R10.43	
31 - 60 kl	R10.26	
61 - 300kl	R10.26	
Above 300kl	R29.10	
Block B (Aimed at larger commercial and smaller industrial		
clients)		
0 - 300kl	R12.83	
301 - 1000kl	R11.29	
1001 - 8000kl	R10.43	
Above 8000kl	R10.43	
Block C (Aimed at larger industrial clients)		
Consumption above 20 000kl per month	R3.42	

## Water Restrictions - Rules and Prohibited Usage

As per the Council meeting on 26 November 2015, the following measures have been enforced to ensure that we conserve our water supply:

- \* The mechanical irrigation of gardens is prohibited.
- Gardens may be watered only on the following days between 19:00 and 21:00 (Even numbered households only Mondays and Thursdays, Uneven numbered households only Tuesdays and Fridays)
- \* If a garden hose is used, it must be hand-held.
- \* The irrigation or watering of all sport fields is prohibited. The only exemptions from restrictions are for the golf course greens, bowling greens and cricket pitches which may only be watered between 19:00 and 21:00.
- \* The washing of vehicles with a garden hose, except by a commercial enterprise whose business it is to wash cars, is prohibited.
- \* The cleaning of any area such as driveways and patios by means of water is prohibited.
- \* The filling of swimming pools is prohibited.
- \* Any person who contravenes these restrictions is guilty of an offence and is, upon conviction, liable to a fine as published in the by-law or six months imprisonment.
- \* Secondary offenders will be fined double the amount referred to above.

- \* Where own water from a borehole or reservoir is used, the appropriate notice shall be displayed on the premises, e.g. "own water".
- \* Applications for exemptions are to be submitted to the Technical Services Department for approval. Once approved, a written exemption shall be provided and individual applications assessed.
- \* Each household shall be limited to 20 kilolitre per month. Due to the water scarcity in Tulbagh, households are restricted to 15 kilolitre per month.
- \* Other users, businesses and the entertainment industries shall reduce consumption by 15% of the average use over the previous twelve months. Failure to comply will result in a fine as published in the by-laws.
- \* Industries shall reduce consumption by 10% of the average use over the previous twelve months. Failure to comply will result in a fine as published in the by-laws.
- \* Flow reducing devices shall be installed where the above limits are exceeded. Except for a registered indigent household, the offender will be charged for the cost of the installation.
- \* That stand-up water pipes in informal areas be closed from 22:00 until 05:00.

### Motorists need to Check Vehicle Licence Expiry Dates

You will not be receiving a renewal notice if your licence disc expires on 30 November 2015 or 31 December 2015. If you are affected please renew your licence timeously to avoid the payment of penalties at your registering authority by furnishing your identity document and proof of residential and postal address. The registering authority will advise you on the amount payable or call 0860 212 414. We apologise for the inconvenience caused.



# Verification of Personal and Address Particulars with any Motor Vehicle or Driving Licences Transaction

From 1 November 2015, persons and organisations or businesses will be required to submit proof of full names, identity or business number and residential and postal address. Failure to comply with these requirements will lead to the motor vehicle licence disc or operator card not being issued by the registering authority. For a list of acceptable documents that constitutes proof, see the website of the Department of Transport on https://www.westerncape.gov.za/general-publication/newverification-requirements-motor-vehicle-or-driving-licencetransactions.

#### How can Witzenberg Municipality help you?

Witzenberg Municipality is committed towards offering speedy and efficient services towards the public and welcome your feedback and queries. Should you require our assistance, please contact us so that we may be of service.

Head Office (Office Hours)	Address
Tel: (023) 316 1854 Fax: (023) 316 1877	50 Voortrekker Street, Ceres, 6835 PO Box 44, Ceres, 6835
Control Centre (After Hours)	Online
Emergencies Tel: (023) 316 2328/9 Service Issues Tel: (023) 316 1997	Website: www.witzenberg.gov.za Email: admin@witzenberg.gov.za Facebook: Witzenberg Municipality - Official

