WITZENBERG NEWS

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

April - May 2024



Executive Mayor Cllr Trevor Abrahams





From the Mayor's Desk

Good day Witzenbergers

Allow me to introduce to you our newly elected Executive Deputy Mayor, Cllr Jonathan Nel, during a Special Council meeting on 18 April 2024. We wish you great success in your new role as part of the Mayoral Committee (Mayco).



The National Elections Day for 2024 was announced and will take place on 29 May to elect a new National Assembly as well as the provincial legislature in each province. This will be the seventh general election held under the conditions of universal adult suffrage since the end of the apartheid era in 1994, and thus the 30th celebration of a democratic South Africa.

We are in the process of producing a Municipal Services Charter in order to set standards that tot only he community can measure us by, but also to improve our own service delivery to the communities of Witzenberg. This will be finalised and made available on all platforms in due course.

As the Winter and snow season approaches, please take the necessary precautions to avoid any weather related disasters (and loss of life), due to ie flooding or trees falling on structures. We have a 24-hr Emergency Control Room for both emergency calls and service delivery complaints - 023 316 2328/9. Also see the tips on flooding on page 2.

We are also in the process of drafting the IDP and Budget for 2024/2025 and have held a series of public meetings in all towns and areas. However, if you have any further inputs, slot it timeously into an IDP input box placed at all our municipal offices and or send your inputs to idp@witzenberg.gov.za. Take care and stay warm this winter!



STORMERS IN CERES: The Stormers rugby team earlier this year paid a welcome visit to Ceres, and specifically Charlie Hofmeyr High School, and spent the day training locally on the school field and a gym. They also took some time to meet with fans, take photos, share a motivational message and show off their ball skills. Pictured with some of the players are: ClIr Trevor Abrahams (2nd from the left), Executive Mayor of Witzenberg Municipality, and Mr Attie Heyns, a local lawyer who was part of the Springboks' Rugby World Cup management team. Photo: *Witzenberg Herald/Facebook*

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TOKEN IDENTIFIER (TID) ROLLOVER FOR ALL STS PRE-PAYMENT METERS PROJECT

What is TID (token identifier) Roll-over?

When you purchase electricity, a 20-digit code (number) is generated by the vending system. The available number range, from which this number originates, started in 1993 and will run out of numbers internationally by November 2024. When this happens, all tokens/ slips will be considered as obsolete and will no longer be accepted by the pre-paid meters.

The only way to avoid a situation where **you will not be able to purchase electricity after November 2024**, is for your prepayment meter to be reprogrammed and successfully complete the TID roll-over process.

What if I have tokens/slips that have not yet been entered?

Any tokens that may be in your possession that have not yet been captured on your meter must be entered BEFORE any change is made as the old tokens/slips will NOT be accepted after the TID Roll-over and you will LOSE the units that you have purchased. Any units that are on your meter will still be available after the change. The municipality has a twofold operational approach to successfully address the upgrades of the **12 400** prepayment meter across the Witzenberg area:

* Physical meter inspections to verify meter configuration setup and to perform a key change upgrade.

* Next-vend action – to generate the required key change code with the first electricity purchase of every month (the consumer will be required to insert the 40-digit token into the meter)

Field personnel of Bohlabela Pty Ltd are visiting certain residential households to perform the key change. Kindly visit our website **www.witzenberg.gov.za** in order to verify these staff members.



FINANCE NOTICE: ACCOUNTS

Residents and business are requested to submit alternative contact details, email addresses and/or cell phone numbers with their relevant account numbers to <u>account@witzenberg.gov.za</u> as accounts are not delivered on time. If you have opted to receive your account electronically, ensure

your email address is up to date.



NEW ABLUTION FACILITY UNVEILED AT LYELL STREET FIELD

Various local sporting rolesplayers and stakeholders recently attended the official opening of the new state of the art ablution facility at the Lyell Street sport field in Ceres. The project took a little more than a year to complete and was funded with Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) funding. The new facility houses multiple modern cloakrooms, showers and toilets.



WITZENBERG SOCCER CHAMPS! Over the recent Easter weekend Witzenberg Municipality in collaboration with the Witzenberg LFA held a soccer tournament. Makanyana FC from PA Hamlet (photo right) won the tournament 4-0 to beat Real Madrid from the Kouebokkeveld. Above from L-R: The Executive Mayor, Cllr Trevor Abrahams, Mr David Nasson, Municipal Manager, with Cllrs Andile Gili and Khanyiso Yisa presented the trophies to the winning teams.





THUSONG OUTREACHES - BRINGING SERVICES TO THE PEOPLE!

The Department Local Government: Thusong Programme earlier this year held two Thusong outreaches in Nduli, Ceres and Pine Valley, Wolseley respectively as part of its annual outreach calendar. This followed a request raised at the outreach held in Tulbagh, last year that was organised in collaboration with the Public Service Commission (PSC). Hundreds of community members were assisted during the two days by various state departments and other services.



