

WHITE RIVER RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

The official newsletter for White River



HELLO MEMBERS

*More great reads
inside this issue:*

GO TO OTHER
PEOPLE'S FUNERALS,
OTHERWISE THEY
WON'T COME TO
YOURS

Hello again. I am pleased to tell you that the WRRRA had an EXCO meeting on September 9th, which has resulted in some activities and issues being aired, and which I can now share with you all. First, let me advise you that Rowan Torr has been selected by the DA to stand again for councilor and that Freddy Robertson will be standing for the FF+. Especially for new voters, registration weekend was 18/19 September to get yourselves on the voter's list.

You will remember that the WRRRA was in the early process of preparing litigation against the Council (CMLM) regarding their failure to promulgate rate increases over a number of years. We approached a local lawyer with the issue some weeks ago but there has been no progress. It seems the lawyer was not that keen on acting for the WRRRA, so we have withdrawn our documents and now stand where we began some time ago. We are now taking steps to select and engage a local lawyer to act for us. It should be noted that the WRRRA has been advised that there are other ways of confronting a council and that litigation can be very expensive. This is one of the reasons we need a majority of the town to be members, so please well-appreciated existing members, see if you can recruit one or two more, perhaps those who comment positively on chat groups.

Issue Of The Month

The issue of the month is clearly water pressure. Why I ask do activities at the treatment plant, such as backwashing filters, affect the pressure in the delivery pipes? Do we perhaps have some large underground leak from a shattered pipe, which shows intermittently? The CMLM are busy doing pressure tests around town – hopefully, these will help solve the problem. Rob Clanahan raised the issue at our Exco meeting, pointing out that parts of the town are now at fire risk, because of the low water pressure. Our expert water engineer is also uncertain as to the cause but had the pumps tested when he last inspected and they were all OK. He also says that without a detailed accurate map of the reticulation system, it will be difficult to solve. He also thinks a large underground leak would show on the surface. Has any resident perhaps developed a pond or pool that they did not plan for?! Incidentally, the completion of the repair in Tom Lawrence awaits a special valve which has to be manufactured and delivered.

Similarly, Rob McQueen has been keeping an eye on progress in replacing the transformer which caught fire a couple of years ago. The CMLM should have made an insurance claim but botched their original documents had had to start again. Be aware that if another fire breaks out, there is no quick replacement.



WE COME FROM DUST AND WILL RETURN TO DUST. THAT IS WHY I DO NOT DUST.
IT COULD BE SOMEONE I KNEW.



WRRRA & TPO8000 working together

Our Chairman, Piet Skead, took time at the meeting to congratulate Lisa Gordon-Davis for her leadership of TPO8000 and their activities, and for writing to the CMLM about the IDP. Rhodes Abell added that the TPO8000 sees itself as part of the WRRRA and is dedicated to seeing the WRRRA grow. The IDP (Integrated Development Plan) is up for renewal right now and we ask members to let us know what they think should be included. This is more than just a traffic light or speed hump, so think big if you come back to us. Write your thoughts to me on my email address simon@evered.co.za. It is important for the town to submit a list of all its perceived needs, which the CMLM will then consider. In order to keep the CMLM on its toes, Rowan Torr our councillor suggested we pursue the idea of a meeting a month with the CMLM. The WRRRA is forming a small committee to collect IDP ideas and submit them to the CMLM, which has in fact organised a meeting on September 28, which a delegation from the WRRRA and the TPO8000 will attend.

ONE MINUTE YOU'RE YOUNG AND HAVING FUN. NEXT YOU'RE TURNING DOWN THE STEREO IN YOUR CAR TO SEE BETTER

The earlier meeting of the WRRRA and the TPO8000 with The Speaker was recorded in the minutes of a special meeting of the CMLM held on August 25. It was recorded that we, the "stakeholders" expressed a wish to work with the CMLM to address their specific issues of service delivery in White River. It was recorded that we would like to partner with the CMLM in addressing these issues, which included water infrastructure, illegal dumping, under-capacity of the Clinic, and overnighting of heavy-duty trucks. At least the CMLM now acknowledges our serious concern and hopefully no longer thinks we will disappear after a few months. The CMLM minuted that we request a response to our initiative. A meeting was in fact held between the WRRRA, TPO8000, and law enforcement regarding illegal dumping, littering, and noise pollution in the town. We are told that by-laws will be enforced.

Piet also advised that there are 80 empty shops in the town. Perhaps this will improve as the pandemic recedes but he suggests we put together a loyalty program, perhaps with incentives to "buy local" We do not want the CBD to become a ghost town – anyone got any ideas on this?



ONE DAY WE WILL TELL OUR GRANDCHILDREN "WE SURVIVED THE GREAT TOILET PAPER SHORTAGE OF 2020

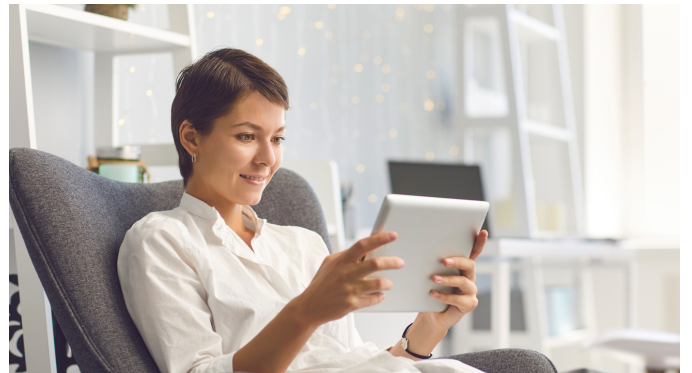


WHITE RIVER SPCA

The meeting opened its heart to our four-footed friends and agreed to donate R500 a month for four months to the White River SPCA, which again is short of funds.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

I remind you all that annual subscriptions are due. To those who have paid already (well over half), we thank you for your prompt and willing support. To those who have not yet paid, a reminder that subscriptions were due from September 1st. I still have one deposit reference "1606balc14". Will the depositor please get hold of me and tell me who he/she is. I need your name or WRRRA number as the deposit reference.



I regret I have had no contribution from the TPO8000 or the CPF, although the activities of the TPO8000 have been well documented in various chat groups. I will share with you any late contributions.

Simon Evered

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