

Meet your councillor: Deidre Bruintjies, Ward 33



Ward 33 Councillor, Deidre Bruintjies

Since 2011, Deidre Bruintjies has been the councillor of Ward 33 which includes Govan Mbeki and Kleinschool. We spent some time with Deidre and found out a bit more about her background and how she entered into politics:

Tell us a bit about your background?

"I was born in Port Elizabeth and grew up in Kleinschool. My interest and career in politics began while I worked. Between 1994 and 2007 I was the shop steward at my various workplaces."

How did you become a ward councillor?

"Apart from representing my colleagues at work, I was also very involved in community activities and in various structures such as the Youth League, the ANC and I was a shop steward for the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU)."

What are some of the successes you have achieved for Ward 33 since you were elected as councillor?

"The tarring of roads in Govan Mbeki is a big achievement for us."

"One of the main challenges we have had to deal with was the relocation of residents from Riverside. The area was not good for homes to be built on. We are proud to say that we were able to relocate these families from this unsuitable area to Chatty where they now live in proper houses."

"In Govan Mbeki, a rectification programme has been imple-

mented to address the issue of poorly built houses. In a first phase of work, 600 of a total of 2300 houses have been rectified. Work on the remaining 1700 is expected to begin soon. "Another work in progress is the rehabilitation of the Kleinschool Bridge. Every time it rains, the bridge floods and this makes it impossible and dangerous for anyone to cross. Work to prevent the bridge from flooding when it rains is almost complete."

What is the main challenge facing Ward 33?

"The Kliprand Informal Settlement is a major concern for us. The land is privately owned, and the more than 600 people who live there pay the landowners to do so. As far as we know the municipality is in talks with the owners to buy the land. If this happens it will mean that proper housing can be built for the households who live there."

What are some of the things that you have planned for Ward 33 for the next six months?

"I can tell you that in the coming months a new road-tarring project will kick off."

"75 people will also be employed in various Community Works Projects (CWP); nine others will be employed through the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) and four more as youth pioneers and civic educators."

"Even more exciting news is that we are going to be opening our very own Multi-Purpose Community Centre at Govan Mbeki very soon! A smaller hall will also be built by the Mandela Bay Development Agency nearby the councillor's office in Kleinschool."

How can Ward 33 residents contact you?

"Kleinschool residents can visit me at 21814 Main Road in Kleinschool, or phone me on (041) 485 1789."

"Residents of Govan Mbeki can visit me at 17135 Mbeki Road in Govan Mbeki, or call me on (041) 464 3405."

Useful contact numbers

The Housing Development Agency: 041 393 2600
Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality:
Customer Care (All hours): 041 506 5555
Service Delivery Centre (All hours for water, sanitation and all other services): 0800 205 050
Human Settlements Eastern Cape: 043 711 9500
Emergencies: (From cell phone): 112
Childline: 0800 55 555
Eskom Customer Care: 0860 037 566
Land Invasion:
Macdonald 082 410 5066
Hlela 079 490 0531
Fire: 041 585 2311
041 508 5505
Water leaks, Power outages etc. 0800 205 050
General Emergencies: 041 506 2735

Clinics

Chatty Clinic in Dullisear Street: 041 506 3070
Veeplaas Clinic in Kani Street: 041 506 1183
Zwide Clinic in Johnson Street: 041 506 7410
Soweto-on-Sea Clinic in Mbanga Street:
041 506 1191
Booyens Park Clinic 2 in Booyens Park Drive:
041 483 1590

Police Stations

Bethelsdorp Police Station: 041 404 3000/4/5
071 475 1938
Kwazakele Police Station: 041 408 7720
Zwide Police Station: 041 459 0213
KwaDwezi Police Station: 041 405 4712



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Zanemvula

Bringing the Rain

Community Newsletter • May 2015

The Zanemvula housing project launched in 2006. It is an informal settlement upgrading and human settlement project in Nelson Mandela Bay. The project is located in the Chatty, Joe Slovo West, Soweto-on-Sea and Veeplaas areas and involves the relocation of residents from the floodplains of the Chatty River, backyard dwellings and other stressed areas around Nelson Mandela Bay to decent human settlements. The project will deliver 13 500 houses.

Slow progress at Soweto-on-Sea

The HDA is appealing to beneficiaries to come forward to find out if they qualify for a house in the Soweto-on-Sea 500 project.



Initially under the Soweto-on-Sea / Veeplaas Upgrading Project, beneficiaries were given freehold titles and serviced sites with external toilets. Contractors applied to build houses for them but construction stopped in 2005 when the Zanemvula Project was established.

Since then the HDA has rectified about 2 500 houses. This has meant that some owners of unbuilt sites are still waiting for theirs. Last year the Eastern Cape Department of Human Settlements made funds available for the construction of these houses to go ahead, and the sign-ups process continued. However, so far, only 190 beneficiaries have come forward and just 80 applications have been approved. Houses can only be built on properties that belong to approved beneficiaries.

A contractor should be appointed by the end of July 2015, and the project closes when construction starts. From then on no more applications will be accepted, and the contractor will only build as many houses as there are approved beneficiaries.

How do you find out if you are a beneficiary of the Soweto-on-Sea 500 project?

Planning lists are kept at the offices of ward councils 24, 26, 27, 28 and 30. If your name and erf number appear on

this list, and your property is 150m², you can sign up. If your property is between 100m² and 150m² you must obtain and bring along an affidavit that gives your permission for building to proceed.

How do you qualify?

You must:

- Be a South African citizen
- Be competent to contract (18 years or older)
- Be married, or habitually cohabit with a partner; or be single and have financial dependants
- Not earn more than R3500 per month per household
- Not have received a government subsidy before
- Not have owned a house in the past
- Must be the original owner of the site

When do sign-ups take place and what must be taken along?

Sign-ups take place in wards 24 and 26 on Mondays; in Ward 30 on Tuesdays and in wards 27 and 28 on Thursdays.

When you go to sign up, remember to have:

- Your Identity Document and a certified copy of it as well as a copy of that of your spouse or partner
- Your original title deed and one copy
- Proof of income, or an affidavit if you are unemployed
- SASSA letter or bank statement if you are a pensioner
- Birth and marriage certificates

To find out more, you can visit your local ward council office on sign-up day. You can also phone the HDA Port Elizabeth Office on 041 393 2600, or visit them at 5th Floor Fairview House, Fairview Office Park, 66 Ring Road Greenacres.

Ingaba ufanelekile?

Abantu abaxhamlayo bayabongozwa ukuba beze ngaphambili ukuza kukhangela ukuba ingaba bafanelekile na ufumanana indlu kwiprojekthi ekuthiwa yi-Soweto-on-Sea 500. Izindlu ziya kwakhiwa kuphela kwiindawo zokuhlala ezizezabantu abamkelweyo ukuba baxhamle.

Ikontrakta kufuneka yonyulwe ngaphambi kwasekupheleni kukaJulayi 2015, kwaye iprojekthi iyavala xa kuqalisa

ulwakhiwo. Ukusukela ngoko ukuya phambili izicelo ezingaphezulu ziya kwamkelwa, kwaye ikontrakta iya kwakha izindlu ezininzi kangangenani labantu abamkelweyo ukuba baxhamle.

Ukufumanisa ukuba ingaba ufanelekile na, yiya kwi-ofisi yebhunga lewadi kuwadi 24 nakuwadi 26 ngoMvulo; kuwadi 30 ngoLwesibini nakuwadi 27 no-28 ngoLwesine.

Be prepared: winter is on its way!

As winter sets in, there are a number of ways in which you can prepare your family and your house for the cold weather.



Your family:

- Dress warmly even when you are indoors; this will help save electricity and ultimately, a few rand because the heater is not switched on

- It is warmer to sleep between two blankets (or between a blanket and a duvet) instead of underneath both
- Tiled or concrete floors are cold; lay mats on the floor to keep the heat in and to provide a warmer surface to walk on
- Roll-up a mat, towel or blanket and place it at the bottom of any outward-leading doors to prevent cold air from creeping in

Your house:

- Inspect window frames and glass panes for damages or cracks to ensure that drafts are kept out
- Check that all roof tiles are secure. Loose tiles could blow off on very windy days and this could lead to leaks
- If your house has gutters installed, ensure that these are free from leaves and other debris which will block the flow of water on a rainy day

Project updates:

Soweto-on-Sea rectification

- So far 2034 of 2500 houses have been rectified

Chatty 1380

- The NHBRC issued Final Unit Reports for 1273 completed houses
- Approved beneficiaries signed Client Handovers and took ownership of 1073 houses
- 1345 foundations, wallplates and roofs have been completed
- "New Norms and Standards" – such as internal plaster, gutters and downpipes – were installed in 1072 houses
- The completion of the project is affected by the illegal occupation of 176 units
- Site numbers and approved beneficiaries in occupation of units are being corrected on the Housing Subsidy System (HSS)

Joe Slovo West 4040 (Services)

- Completion Certificates were issued to all 4040 of the sites that were serviced

Chatty 1060, Chatty 491, JSW 4000 (Top Structures) and 500 Soweto-on-Sea/Veeplaas Unbuilt Sites

- All of these projects are in the procurement stages

- The HDA is adjudicating tender proposals to appoint Principal Agents/Structural Engineers who will provide services that include the design, contract administration and close out processes for the construction of a total of approximately 6051 houses
- Relocations to Joe Slovo West 4000 have resumed after the ward leadership was consulted
- Serviced sites in the Chatty 1060 component project are being illegally occupied

Soweto-on-Sea/Veeplaas 380 Toilet/Bathroom attachments

- The project is in the procurement stage; and the HDA is evaluating bids to appoint contractors
- Funding has not yet been approved by the Province
- The HDA intends to directly contract about ten SMMEs

Chatty MPCC

- An agreement has been signed by the contractor and the HDA
- Construction was disrupted by numerous stoppages linked to SMME issues
- The contract period runs from 08 September 2014 to 08 October 2015 and includes the annual builders' shutdown



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May is Workers' Month

Since 1994, South Africa has commemorated Workers' Day. It's a day on which we are encouraged to remember the efforts of various unions and labour movements to create a culture of solidarity among working people and to achieve fair employment standards.

Taking care of your animals

Many residents who live in the Zanemvula Projects own one or other kind of animal; whether it be dogs and cats, or even cattle, sheep, goats or pigs.

In 2010, the "Prevention of public nuisances and public nuisances arising from the keeping of animals" by-law was passed by the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality. Section 10 of Chapter Two of this by-law looks at the "Duties of an owner or keeper of animal".

Under it, the owner must:

- Not allow an animal to interfere with people
- Provide the animal with shelter, water and proper food
- Ensure that the premises where the animal lives is kept clean
- Not allow the animal to damage property or gardens
- Not allow the animal to roam in or onto the street



Passionate about farming

The Masakhane Farmers' Association Cooperative was formed more than ten years ago by a group of budding farmers. It is run by some of its members who currently farm on land at the Damasco Farm in Booyens Park.



Sizwe Ntshinka, Washington Molapo, Eunice Madrose and Tobingunya Ndlotovu

Sizwe Ntshinka started farming in 2012 and is a member of the Co-op committee. He says when he decided that he wanted to farm, he approached the Masakhane Cooperative who helped him find suitable land.

"I live in Chatty 12 but keep my animals here at the Damasco Farm. I have eight cattle, 20 goats and 28 pigs.

"I come to the Co-op every day to tend to my animals. In order to farm I had to apply for a permit with the Department of Agriculture, Farming and Fisheries."

"Farming is a good investment."

Eunice Madrose joined the Co-op in 2009. She farms 12 cattle, 14 goats and 11 pigs.

"Before I had my own animals, whenever I was out and about and I saw a cow I would stop and stare," she laughs.

Eunice lives in Zwide and travels to the Co-op by taxi.

"Home is far from here, and travelling is expensive. Because of this I sleep over here often; even though there is no electricity or running water. I also can't bear to leave my animals. I love farming; it is my passion."

"My dream is to have my own farm one day."

