



## Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch

"Looking out for one another"

### **Minutes of Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch Annual General Meeting Held on the 16<sup>th</sup> of May 2024 @ 19H00 Plumstead Bowling Club, Princessvlei Road, Plumstead**

#### **1. Welcome by the Chairman – Gary Klugman**

##### **Opening:**

Welcome to our special guests, - Deputy Mayor Eddie Andrews, Cllr Carmen Siebritz, SAPS Cpt Voges and Sgt Ray (Sector Commander), Itubah, Zone Mr. Dylan Williams, FADT Mr. Nic Ansel, and all members, especially Lori for taking the courage to come down Princessvlei Road in her wheelchair a show of strength and courage.

#### **2. Apologies / Attendance**

**As per registers**

#### **3. Adoption of the AGM minutes of the previous AGM 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023.**

**(Proposed for adoption, 1<sup>st</sup> Sabine Kerrison and 2<sup>nd</sup> Lowene Carolus)**

#### **4. Special Thanks**

A big thanks to our Ward Councillors Aldr Andrews and Cllr Siebritz for your huge support in assisting Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch by having permanent Law Enforcement and the generous donations of equipment. Ithuba for being our head Financial Sponsor. Zone for financing our IT and to keep it going. FADT, for paying the radio controllers salaries.

#### **5. Financial Report – Marc Roberts**

Thanking Louw Cooper Rasool, Patrollers, Members, and all our Stakeholders

**The financials are available on our website under Financials.**

E-mail: [info@plumsteadwatch.org.za](mailto:info@plumsteadwatch.org.za)

Website: [www.plumsteadwatch.org.za](http://www.plumsteadwatch.org.za)

## 6. Operational Report – Justin De Vos

We are very lucky to have 70 active Patrollers.

### PATROLLER NUMBERS



**We have had 66 SAPS operations which included other Neighbourhood Watches and 7 Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch Op's all have been very successful. SAPS organizes a special operation weekly.**

### CRIME FOCUSED OPERATIONS





**68 TOTAL RADIOS**

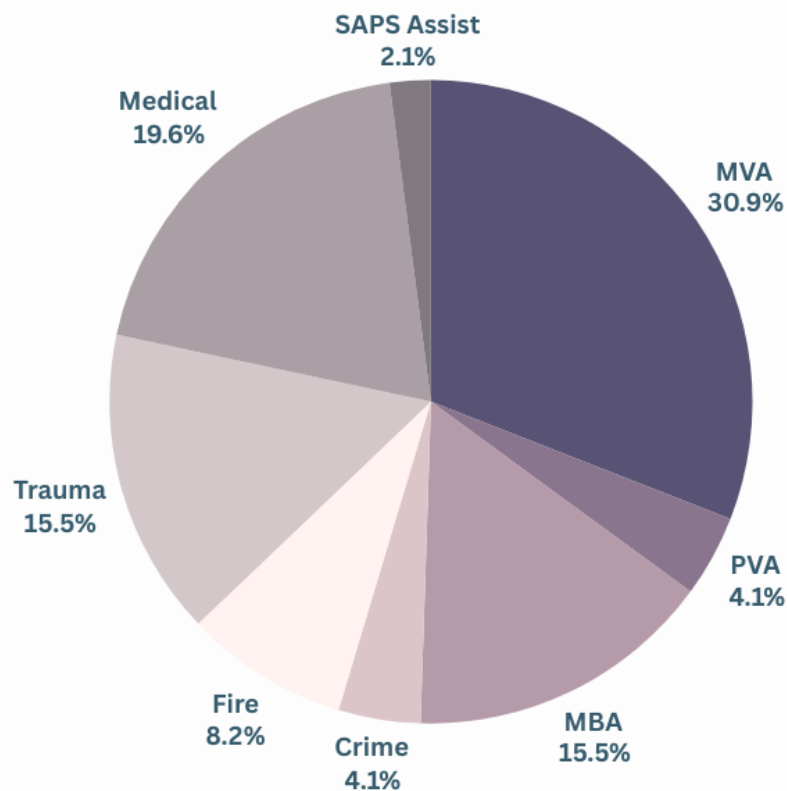
**50 WITH PATROLLERS  
30 PRIVATE & 20 PNW**

**7. Response Team Report – Justin De Vos**

**STATS FOR OUR RAPID RESPONSE TEAM**

# **RESPONSE TEAM CALLOUTS**

**13 MAY 2023 TO 16 MAY 2024**





# RESPONSE TEAM CALLOUTS

13 MAY 2023 - 16 MAY 2024

TOTAL CALLOUTS

252



MVA & PVA - 90



Fire - 10



MBA - 30



Medical & Trauma - 100



Crime Response - 20



Police Assist - 2

We would like to thank our sponsors, last year we invested in an AED Machine as far as we are aware, we are the only Neighbourhood Watch that owns one. We would like to thank our Ward Councillors for the equipment donated.

## 8. PRO – Eddie Wicomb

The Raffle ticket, first year we did the online sales which contributed well to our grand total. Thank you everyone for your support.

## 9. Chairmans Report

Matters that transpired over the last 4 years. Not to rehash what was stated at previous AGM's however, we started with the period called COVID. Stay at home for all citizens in South Africa, "Permits required to patrol", this led to subdued criminal activity. Load shedding also contributes to patrollers opting to stay at home etc. Drop off commencement of Patroller hours.

We carried out a deep dive to understand the changes in Neighbourhood Watches activities as to the causal reason/s for the drop off in patrollers hours, concluded that causal reasons could be attributed to fatigue, burnout, financial or other personal reasons, but we still have our die hard patrollers that go out week in and week out. A special thanks to P83 Mike Ballard, he is a patroller and response team Medic, currently he is ill and sent his apologies. He is our active Medic and books on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, besides the private medical calls he receives.

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Getting down to the landscape of the role of Neighbourhood watches in South Africa but more importantly Plumstead with the current changes that requires PNW to adapt, using high end state of the art technology and the current and future role it will play.

It will be amiss of me not to thank SAPS and really, I mean that from Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch. Without SAPS and I think this is a problem our residents and members do not appreciate and or understand. We have such a wonderful relationship with them but unfortunately SAPS in the Western Cape is curtailed, their hands are tied, they lose resources which are not replaced. Cpt Voges, I don't know how you manage your shifts bless your heart, but you do. Visible Policing, Community Policing which is absolutely amazing. Our Sector Commander Sgt Zak Marais was transferred to SAPS HQ Cape Town last year, then Sgt Klein became Sector Commander, he was repurposed to the Gang Unit, we lost him in January 2024. Cpt Voges has stood in since then, now Sgt Ray, he has been appointed our Sector Commander in the interim. If our Residents do not call in the smallest of crimes committed to SAPS, does not matter how small, it is our numbers at Diep River CSC that will carry the brunt of the fallout. It is not going to look good when crime stats are analysed and that is what National SAPS analyse, and if the crime stats are low, we are seen as a low crime area, and they will continue to remove resources from Diep River CSC, rendering our CSC very vulnerable. We commend you for maintaining the high profile of visible policing at our Diep River SAPS Station.

We condensed our WhatsApp groups into one platform, I want to thank Gavin Rhoda for all the many months of hard work migrating our WAGS into one portal.

We need to thank our SSP's the Armed Response Officers on the ground, all 4 (Four) of the Security Companies in Plumstead working together on the ground as a Team who respond sometimes to useless calls (Residents see a man/women walking down the street, they post "suspicious") people are not profiled correctly we all have human rights but the cost to our SSP's is absolutely enormous so I am pleading with everyone before you post something make sure that the individual is according to your ability suspicious and has done something that you have seen. The first thing people do is grab hold of their phone take a photo/video. There first port of call should be SAPS or call your Security Service Provider if the person is on or near their property. I can't express the increase cost to our SSP's enough. Our unemployment rate has increased, to the highest level in current history, 33% of the South African workforce unemployed, which equates to an "Increase in Crime" we have to be vigilant. PNW EXCO believes we should have one (1) Silo in the NHW and not many Silos as collaboration equates to success. Our success has proven that we are creating one (1) silo with all stakeholders inclusive. Looking ahead at the new technology as a Neighbourhood Watch it is very encouraging.

We will be moving more towards virtual patrols; we already have 9 artificial intelligent overview cameras up, streaming, functional. Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch has contributed R80 000.00 towards this project already, thus the funds we have raised is repurposed back to our Members and Community to continue the fight against crime. Thus we continue to give back to our community through critical investments for the benefit of our suburb. We have another 15 cameras coming online and completion date is expected by the end of July 2024. The sites are the hot spots in Plumstead which has been provided by SAPS. Whether its above or below the railway line, Patrollers can now sit and monitor the cameras for an hour or 2. We are now in the Beta phase of the camera project, having being successful in the Alpha phase. Patrollers/members can apply to monitor the cameras. They will then be screened and selected to do Virtual Patrols.

Patrolling is a voluntary exercise and the costs for fuel, wear and tear on the vehicle, equipping themselves comes out of the patrollers pocket, self-funded. This is a contribution back to society, our society and Plumstead is a beautiful society, we have beautiful people, beautiful cultures, and to see it kind of go skew when it comes to safety & security is a bit sad, so we have to pull together, the welding of 1 Silo, that is the mission going forward with the change in technology to assist.

Our Plumstead CIVIC, Rate Payers Association Mr Mark van Wyk – Chairperson thank you for being here tonight, your contribution in safety and security working together, will be a part of the 1 Silo, collaboration. PNW are also looking towards the younger generation for patrollers stepping up to the plate, somehow, they think they are bullet proof. We have had a huge turnover in properties in Plumstead, and the wonderful thing is the value of properties keeps going up., they do not go down, so Plumstead must be doing something right in real terms of value of properties. Our rates and taxes keep going up, but it is something we have to live with. But to keep the beauty and harmony in Plumstead this is what we are about we are a community. It is of utmost importance to all of us and it starts off with Safety and Security and it the smallest of crime committed to the largest, which should be reported immediately. Looking ahead I can't tell you what is going to happen tomorrow or what is going to happen after the National Elections, we don't have that crystal ball, if we did, we would not be here tonight, we would make our own decisions. I think the responsibility is upon all of us to pull together to maintain the unity, integrity, ethics, and morals of PNW.

On that note I am going to ask for a show of hands, we need to change our Constitution {it was written in 2008} we have outlived that, we are living in the now not the past. On the other hand, our membership has grown 46% over the last 4 years we are sitting at 2064 members, and look who is hear tonight, part of changing the Constitution, is that we have to have 50% + 1 members to have a quorate, historically over the past 10 years, the PNW AGM Elections has never been quorate, plus, there are several other clauses which do not affect anything substantial, except for the day to day running of the watch. If

we adopt by a show of hands to change the Constitution, it will be circulated to our members for comment and then will be adopted if approved. By show of hands who are in favour of us changing the Constitution and Code of Conduct. (CPF to count show of hands – majority voted yes).

In closing I would like to thank everyone for the support, it's been a wonderful journey personally, I was privileged and honoured to lead Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch for 4 years. The EXCO was amazing, we did have our differences of course, that's what an executive committee is there for. I can honestly stand here before my colleagues and they can contradict me if they wish, that there was not one matter that I put forward to adopt which was autocratically decided upon, all topics and matters arising was carried out by a majority democratic vote, and that is what democracy is about it's about the majority and putting heads together to come up with the right decision and or action which the Exco believed was correct and in the best interest of PNW.

So, folks, I thank you sincerely on behalf of my EXCO, and thank you EXCO you guys, rock, thank you for everything you put into PNW. SAPS you are awesome, incidentally SAPS attend every EXCO meeting and general meeting called, and that is held, this is outside of their shift working hours, it is voluntary, and they do not miss a meeting, I salute you.

#### 10. **Voting for vacant post/s on EXCO**

There are 3 Ballots, the Chairperson unopposed, Op's Manager unopposed and the Secretary unopposed. We received 15 independent nominations from our members. EXCO members vacated the table, SAPS remained.

Nominees introduced themselves.

##### **Assistant to Chairperson- Vice Chair**

Lowene Carolus

Brenda Besterfield

##### **Treasurer**

Michelle Sutton

Gavin Rhoda

##### **Public Relations Officer**

Therese Nicholls

Sabine Kerrison

#### 11. **Introduction of New Executive Committee 2024 -2026**

**This gives me an honour to announce the New EXCO**

**Chairperson – Anthea Klugman**

**Assistant to Chairperson-Vice Chair – Brenda Besterfield.**

**Secretary – Sharon Botes**

**Ops Manager – Jaryd Munro**

**Treasurer – Michelle Sutton**

**PRO – Sabine Kerrison**

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## **12. Acceptance speech from the New Chairperson – Anthea Klugman**

I would like to thank everyone for having the confidence in me to become the new Chairperson. Also to thank the past EXCO for the excellent job they did OVER the past 4 years. They have set a very high standard and it's up to the New EXCO to continue and enhance this standard. My fellow EXCO members I want to congratulate you; we will become the A Team, it is going to be TOUGH in the beginning, but working together we can and will make PNW proud. Thank you.

**Adjournment at 20h00 - Next AGM - TBA**