



MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

Held at Immanuel Ruiters Primary School Hall, Walvis Bay
Date: Monday, 24 March 2025 | Time: 18:00

ATTENDANCE

Councillors Present:

- Cllr Trevino Forbes (Mayor)
- Cllr Saara Mutondoka (Deputy Mayor)
- Cllr Ryan Gordon
- Cllr Albertina Nkoshi
- Cllr Olivia Andrews
- Cllr Paulus Kauhondamwa

Officials:

- Mrs Victoria N. Kapena
- Mr Frans !Gonteb
- Ms Tuli Isitle
- Mr Joseph Amathilla
- Mr Asser Tjikuniva
- Ms Krischka Stoffels
- Mrs Lelani Coetzee
- Ms Shirley Tjaveondja

Apologies (Leave of Absence):

- Cllr Richard Hoaeb (Chairperson of the MC)
- Cllr Ronald Bramwell
- Cllr Leroy Victor
- Cllr Ephraim Shozi

Others Present:

- Media: NBC
- Members of the Public: 77

1. OPENING

The Mayor welcomed the attendees and invited a community member to open with a prayer. The agenda was guided by questions submitted by the public, in line with the Local Authority Act.

2. DISCUSSIONS & FEEDBACK

Refuse Removal

- Fleet management issues noted.
- Fleet Manager appointed in the previous year; support team being assembled.
- Proposal to place skips around town.
- Concerns raised about service disparities and poor conditions in Kuisebmond.
- Calls for clean-up campaigns and better maintenance of community halls.

Sewerage Issues

- Complaints of sewerage backflow and health hazards.
- Requests for asbestos pipe replacement and improved inspections.
- Calls for better regulation of informal developments.

3. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Public Engagement & Transparency

Question: Why aren't agendas made available before public meetings?

Answers: Council should ensure printed agendas are provided in future for transparency.

Question: When will the Council provide feedback from this meeting?

Answers: A follow-up will be provided via various communication channels.

Question: How did the 18% RED FORCE levy get introduced without public consultation?

Answers: Council acknowledges the concern and pledges better consultation in future.

Service Delivery: Waste, Water, and Infrastructure

Question: Can rebates be considered for residents whose bins are not collected on time?

Answers: The suggestion will be explored, especially in cases of prolonged interruptions.

Question: What happened to the Council workshop previously used for truck maintenance?

Answers: This will be investigated; revitalising in-house workshops is a priority.

Question: Is it possible for the liquid waste team to increase the frequency of pumping?

Answers: Yes, especially in severely affected areas.

Question: What is being done about road maintenance and road sweepers?

Answers: No active road sweeper currently; budgeting for this is under consideration.

Housing, Land, and Development

Question: What is the plan for decongestion and development in Tataleni?

Answers: The issue is urgent. Council will ensure clarity on land use and ownership.

Question: What measures are being taken to address land grabbing and informal housing?

Answers: A plan is being developed to address illegal occupation and provide alternatives.

Question: Why are sewer issues still unresolved after decades?

Answers: Infrastructure is outdated; funding constraints exist. Upgrades and inspections are underway.

Question: Can inspection regulations be enforced so people do not build below road level or on pavements?

Answers: Yes. Enforcement and community education are planned.

Kuisebmond-Related Concerns

Question: Why is Kuisebmond receiving inferior treatment compared to other suburbs?

Answers: The Council acknowledges the perception and aims to improve equitable service delivery.

Question: Who is responsible for cleanliness in Kuisebmond, especially near OK?

Answers: Responsibility is shared between residents and Council. Monitoring will improve.

Question: Can second-hand gym equipment be acquired for the Kuisebmond Gym?

Answers: This suggestion is under consideration as a cost-effective measure.

Safety & Security

Question: Why is the budget not reflecting increased crime and social problems?

Answers: Security is a concern; Council will consider more safety provisions in future budgets.

Question: Why are there still children selling on the streets?

Answers: The Council will work with social services to find long-term solutions.

Council Governance & Planning

Question: Is the Council guided by political parties or acting as an independent local government?

Answers: The Council states it acts independently in the interest of residents.

Question: What happened to the land allocated to UNAM, NUST, and IUM?

Answers: NAMCOL and Gymnasium are progressing; IUM has started building. Updates pending on the others.

Question: What is the state of the planned satellite fire station in Tataleni?

Answers: Previously budgeted, not reflected in current budget. Clarification to follow.

Markets and Informal Trading

Question: What is being done about vendors not using the designated market stalls?

Answers: Many leaseholders sublet or avoid units due to poor orientation. Enforcement will be reviewed.

Youth and Economic Development

Question: How is the youth budget being used?

Answers: Council will provide more details. Youth are encouraged to stay engaged and support funding initiatives.

Question: Is the Council planning to build a truck port due to port expansion?

Answers: Yes. Planning includes future logistics needs and safe pedestrian zones.

4. CLOSING

The meeting was adjourned at 22:00.