



## MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

**Held at Dolphin Beach, Walvis Bay**

**Date: Thursday, 27 March 2025 | Time: 18:00**

### **PRESENT:**

#### **Councillors:**

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

#### **Officials:**

- Mr. Theo Potgieter
- Mr. Frans !Gonteb
- Mr. Erikson Mwanyekange
- Mr. Henok Shikongo
- Ms. Krischka Stoffels
- Mrs. Lelani Coetzee
- Ms. Shirley Tjaveondja

**Media:** None

**Members of the Public:** 29

### **1. OPENING**

The Mayor welcomed the community and asked Cllr Gordon to open with a prayer. Following the prayer, the Mayor introduced the councillors and administrative officials present. The agenda was based on public-submitted questions, in accordance with the Local Authority Act.

## **2. LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

- Cllr Leroy Victor
- Cllr Paulus Kauhondamwa
- Cllr Ephraim Shoji
- Cllr Richard Hoaeb (Chairperson to MC)
- Cllr Ronald Bramwell
- Mrs. Victoria N. Kapena
- Mr. Jack Manale
- Mr. Dries van den Heever
- Mr. Jan Kruger
- Mr. Joseph Amathilla
- Mr. Piet van Niekerk
- Mr. Asser Tjikuniva
- Ms. Anita Kahiva

## **3. DISCUSSIONS / FEEDBACK**

### **Afrodite Beach Community Initiatives**

A meeting was held with the CEO and some issues have been addressed. An informal committee was formed, contributing funds toward maintenance of the suburb.

### **Financial Accountability and Transparency**

**Question:** What is spent on Afrodite Beach? Are they a financial burden to Council? How can residents give input on the budget without financial statements? Is Council in financial distress due to lack of services like traffic officers?

**Answer:** The procurement process is guided by national legislation (Procurement Act) and cannot be bypassed. The Council is not in financial distress.

**Question:** Are the Council's financial statements available to the public?

**Answer:** Yes, they are available on the Auditor General's website.

### **Building and Zoning Regulations**

**Question:** Where are the minimum specifications from building inspectors? Residents cannot be expected to act as inspectors.

**Answer:** Building regulations fall under town planning. Council does not support rezoning from single residential to industrial use unless viability is proven.

### **Public Safety and Security**

**Question:** Langstrand submitted a petition five years ago for speedhumps with no response. There are also leaking pipes that are never fully repaired. Is Council responsible for supporting security?

**Answer:** Council will provide the capital budget details to Mr. Ziggy via email. Council cannot invest with institutions other than a bank or NamPost.

**Question:** There's a gap with no surveillance cameras in an area where antisocial behaviour is common. Can this gap be closed?

**Answer:** Frans will provide a breakdown of unpaid penalties, including whether they relate to water, property, or other debts.

**Question:** What action is being taken on incomplete buildings near Bay View Hotel that housed 80 squatters?

**Answer:** Council is authorized to issue notices to property owners to secure such buildings and make them inaccessible.

### **Water Supply Issues**

**Question:** Why do some homes in Afrodite go without water for days?

**Answer:** The water comes from Kuisebmond. When issues arise, supply is switched to the Swakop line (fed by NamWater). Rain and theft have affected infrastructure. Council is budgeting improvements. NamWater expects issues to continue for another two weeks.

### **Law Enforcement and Traffic Control**

**Question:** Can members of the neighbourhood watch be appointed as Peace Officers? Who oversees the B&B establishments not registered with NTB?

**Answer:** Council welcomes resident involvement and unregistered B&B's should be reported to the municipality.

**Councillor Comment:** Cllr Ryan Gordon emphasized that the area is part of Walvis Bay and raised concerns about increasing cocaine and tik in the area.

**Suggested:** Yanni Savva could be made operational 24/7 to help reduce crime.

**Suggestion:** Include regional councillors and police heads in public meetings.

### **Tourist and Beach Safety**

**Question:** Can more security be deployed on the beach? A German resident's son was nearly killed by a reckless driver.

**Answer:** Since December 2024, the fire brigade has been conducting beach patrols.

**Question:** Who enforces bylaws? Can maps be updated to show where people can drive?

**Answer:** Council will work on updating the maps.

### **Public Amenities and Services**

**Question:** Why are braai areas and public toilets (e.g., Klip toilet area) poorly maintained?

**Answer:** Council is aware of the lack of maintenance pertaining to public toilets, and recommits itself to deliver the services due to residents..

**Comment (Sharon):** Problems arise due to lack of Council inspectors or supervisors overseeing the work. Traffic officers also lack appropriate ticketing books for spot fines.

**Question:** Where do revenue from spot fines go? Can Langstrand get a hall or community space included in the budget?

**Answer:** A community hall would be viable in the future, however, Councils does not have the financial means to build a community hall at the moment.

#### **4. WAY FORWARD**

All discussions and suggestions will be considered for Council's capital budgeting and problem-solving initiatives.

#### **5. CLOSING**

The meeting was adjourned at 20:00.