MUNICIPALITY OF WALVIS BAY

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES — KUISEBMOND

Tuesday, 11August 2026 -| 18:00

Date & Time	Tuesday, 11 August 2026 at 18:00
Venue	Immanuel Ruiters School Hall, Walvis Bay
Chairperson	Cllr Johannes Shimbilinga (Mayor of Walvis Bay)
Purpose	Municipal service updates, tariff adjustments, public safety, and community engagement

1. Attendance and Apologies

1.1 Present Councilors

- **Cllr Johannes Shimbilinga**
- **Cllr Miina Hangula**
- **Cllr Ephraim Shozi**
- **Cllr Pius Benjamin**
- **Cllr Adolf Kahmann**
- **Cllr Saara Mutondoka**
- **Cllr Ndapewa Johannes**
- **Cllr Sharon Roodt**

1.2 Present Municipal Officials

- **Mrs. Sylvia Schubert**
- **Mr. Erikson Mwanyekange**
- **Mr. Frans !Gonteb**
- **Mr Jack Manale**
- **Ms Johanna Shihepo**
- **Ms Elisabeth Nawa**
- **Mr Efraim Kathindi**
- **Mr Sylvester Nyaambe**
- **Ms. Krischka Stoffels**
- **Mrs. Lelanie Coetzee**
- **Ms. Anita Kaihiva**
- **Ms. Shirley Tjaveondja**
- **Mrs. Lelanie Coetzee**
- **Mr. Roger Tjijuniva**

1.3 Leave of Absence

- **Cllr Jo-Ann Kamaundju**
- **Cllr Patricia Munyala**
- **Mrs Victoria Kapenda**
- **Mr. Van Wyk**

1.4 Others in Attendance

- **Detective warrant Officer**
- **Members of the Public: 61**
- **Members of the Media: 2**

2. Opening and Welcoming Address

The meeting officially commenced with a opening prayer led by a community member. The Mayor, Cllr Johannes Shimbilinga, welcomed the community and introduced the Councilors and the administration.

3. Structured Discussion Points

3.1 Housing and Decongestion Programme

Presented by Deputy Mayor Miina Hangula. This point addressed regional housing backlogs and informal settlement management:

- **Kuisebmond Backyard Decongestion:** Council has identified Extensions 11 and 13 in Kuisebmond to temporarily relocate residents (Reception areas) from overcrowded backyard structures. These temporary placements do not carry land title deeds.
- **Farm 37 Services Policy Shift:** While solar electrification has successfully been installed for residents at Farm 37, a government-led project to construct 230 houses faced massive delays because the land lacked water and sewer linkages. Consequently, Council has established a strict policy: no housing structures will be built (including government initiatives) unless the underlying land is fully serviced beforehand.
- **Development Workshop Trust MoU:** The Walvis Bay Municipality has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Development Workshop Trust of Namibia (DWN), a non-profit organization helping local authorities eradicate informal settlements. The partnership targets low-to-middle income groups. Council will provide the bulk infrastructure up to selected extensions (one in Narraville and two in Farm 37 Green Valley), while DWN will complete internal servicing using donor/sponsorship funds.
- **Foreign Land Ownership Policy:** In light of industrial developments, Council is encouraging a policy requiring land applications from foreign entities to feature local Namibian partnerships to prevent complete foreign ownership.

3.2 Solid Waste Management & Litter Enforcement

Cllr Benjamin, updated the meeting on landfill ownership and routine waste collection challenges:

- **Landfill Ownership Transfer:** The Cabinet has approved transferring ownership of the local landfill/rubbish dump site (formerly owned by the Ministry of Environment) to the Walvis Bay Municipality. The official gazetting is currently being completed, which gives the municipality full custodial rights to combat tyre-burning and illegal scavenger activities.
- **Skips and Equipment Procurement:** To combat hotspots, Council acquired 30 skips. Namport donated an additional 10 skips, and Council purchased 2 new skip trucks to improve collection efficiency.
- **Illegal Dumping and Tariff Adjustments:** Illegal littering and dumping remain severe issues. Residents are urged to photo-document violations and submit registration numbers to senior officials. Past cooperation has led to immediate traffic enforcement, with violators fined N$ 2,000. Due to heavy operational losses in routine collection, a 3% tariff increase has been approved specifically for waste management services.

3.3 Sewerage Infrastructure & Management Updates

Cllr Benjamin also updated the meeting on the Aging infrastructure and severe community abuse have pushed the local sewer system past its designed capacity:

- **Aging Pump Stations:** The Kuisebmond pump station currently undergoing reconstruction was built in 1966 and is entirely overcapacitated. Contracts for upgrading the Lagoon pump station are scheduled to be awarded shortly.
- **Financial Deficits:** Rehabilitating the entire municipal sewer system requires an estimated N$ 1.3 to 1.4 billion, which is nearly equivalent to the municipality's entire annual capital and operational budget (N$ 1.6 billion). The national government has committed N$ 400 million, with negotiations ongoing to increase this funding.
- **System Abuse & Business Compliance:** A massive portion of blockages are caused by foreign objects (mattresses, blankets) and food-industry oil/grease. A compliance campaign targeting businesses (such as KFC, Shoprite, and local fish factories) will strictly enforce the installation and maintenance of grease/oil traps, backed by a N$ 21,000 fine for non-compliant discharge.
- **Trenchless Sewer Replacement Technology:** With 60% of the town's 300 km sewer network requiring urgent intervention, Council is seeking trenchless pipeline replacement technology. Because this technology does not exist in Namibia, an international tender has been advertised. Once awarded, this technology is expected to cut replacement times by up to 80% (compared to the current average of 18 months per kilometer).

3.4 Informal Trading & Illegal Stalls

Councilor Ndapewa Johannes updated the meeting that Council has finalized the Informal Trading Regulations to ensure the town remains governed and clean:

- **Removal of Illegal Doorstep Stalls:** Street vendors blocking retail doorsteps in town are being systematically removed. Council is setting up designated formal informal markets to house these traders.
- **Registration and Fees:** All informal traders (including those using wheelbarrows) must be registered and pay a basic formalization fee (determined at N$ 10) to operate legally, helping the municipality regulate and maintain public spaces.

3.5 Road Management and Infrastructure Development

Presented by Cllr Kaumann, the discussion focused on structural challenges, tender delays, and community cooperation:

- **Sustainability & Deficits:** Cllr Kahmann highlighted that older roads in Rehoboth are exceptionally durable because they were built sustainably. Current budgets are completely consumed by maintaining failing, poorly built roads, leaving zero room for tarring existing gravel roads in areas like Narraville, where some residents have waited 60 years.
- **Rehabilitation & Pothole Contracts:** Unicorn Construction has been awarded an 8 km road rehabilitation contract covering 5 major town streets. The routine pothole contract was delayed for months due to a rigorous procurement dispute that went to the High Court, which Council ultimately won.
- **Independence Road Damage:** The Independence Road (running to the Navy) is less than 10 years old but is already ruined. This is primarily caused by illegal truck ports and car washes dumping wastewater directly onto the tarmac.
- **Street Sweeping Program:** To tackle the severe backlog of sand buildup from east winds, Council appointed 100 temporary workers for a year, organized into 5 teams, to rotate through streets and parks.
- **Self-Repair Insurance Policy:** Under an official Council resolution, residents who wish to repair potholes themselves must apply for approval and carry third-party liability insurance to protect against worker injuries or vehicular accidents during the works.

3.6 New Municipal Tariffs (Traffic Services)

The Chairperson to the Management Committee Cllr Shozi informed the meeting that new, gazetted municipal tariffs approved by the Ministry of Urban and Rural Development, aimed at aligning Walvis Bay with other national municipalities. These tariffs are exclusive of 15% VAT:

Service Description	Tariff (Excl. 15% VAT)
Abnormal Low Loads Escort (Harbor to nearest point)	N$ 750.00
Funeral Escorts (per event)	N$ 500.00
Street Processions, Schools, Matric Farewells (per event)	N$ 300.00
Political Rallies	N$ 800.00
Bikers Associations Escorts	N$ 500.00
Peaceful Demonstrations Escorts	N$ 550.00

3.7 Public Safety and Security Infrastructure

Presented by Cllr Sharon Roodt, this point outlined community crime prevention and municipal compliance:

- **CCTV Cameras:** Plans for installation of CCTV cameras in hotspots are underway.
- **Security Cluster & Community Policing:** A new Security Cluster is being launched under the Community and Economic Development department. This umbrella body aims to unite neighborhood watches from Dolphin Park, Aphrodite Beach, and Langstrand to replace the Community Police Forum.
- **Vandalism of Beach Toilets:** Public toilets near the Boma/Lapa are locked in the evenings due to severe drug use, prostitution, and vandalism. New public toilets are under construction at the Esplanade swimming pool, but will require physical guarding.
- **AirBnB Fitness Certificates:** All AirBnBs must register with the Namibian Tourism Board and hold a municipal fitness certificate. Residents are urged to report loud, disruptive parties; non-compliant operators will have their fitness certificates revoked.
- **Quad Bike & Quad-Access Violations:** Illegal quad-biking, driving without helmets, and illegal B2 road crossings remain rampant, especially among visitors. The Council, together with the Police Commissioner, actively intervened in a major incident where tourists repeatedly removed sand-maintenance boundary poles near the MTC tower. Red cat's eyes were installed near Langstrand's B2 entrance, but Council is pressing the Roads Authority for more prominent warning signs.
- **I Globe Public Mapping:** Residents were encouraged to use the 'I Globe Walvis Bay' (or I Spatial) app to check property dimensions, erf numbers, and utility lines directly.

4. Questions and Answers Session

Q: Drugs is a problem, where is the police. What is the Municipality doing about the little kids selling around town?

A: The matter of the illegal Angolan children has been reported and discussed in depth with the Minister and the Mayor was informed that the kids need to be arrested and deported back to Angola.

Q: Work together association (500 community members from street vendors) – is the housing project for only people qualifying or for all staying in Kuisebmond in shacks and in Farm 37. Informal traders – (get more information regarding the question from Erikson).

A: Decongestion – there will be a process that will be communicated by the Administration that will be relayed to the communication. 237 houses, there will be a transparent process that will also be communicated to residents the process will be dealt with though the Department. The houses still needs electricity before they can be allocated.

Q: The road construction will be affecting all those who were doing car wash businesses, Council to give guidance on where they must move as they will be loosing their livelihood.

A: Council still to respond

Q: Wanted to know if people can Community Security to ensure that there is safety around trading areas. How is council trading or registering foreign traders?

A: Foreign traders will be address by the council.

Q: Suggested to have the police, Redforce, health etc. present at these public meetings. Hotspots in terms of skips (metro in Kuisebmond). Can the hotspot be cleaned daily. What is the budget of casuals to be paid monthly. How do you rate the performance of casuals. If they are not performing they must be removing. Portion 11 and 13 is being used as a reception area, how is the Municipality going to manage this process as this is a temporary place of living. When are the empty houses going to be allocated. Regarding Red force, are there no credit controller in the Council, if there are, what is their role in the Municipality if their job is given to a third party. Will the people being allocated be selected from an old list or is there a new list?

R: Red force is currently under discussion with the Council and the community will be informed on the outcomes. There are schedules and monitoring programs to ensure that they are working. Measures must be strengthen in monitoring cleaning teams and casuals as the area is not being cleaned properly. Decongestion process will be communicated, and houses still need electricity before allocation. No fairness in allocation of houses, council needs to discuss this in depth. Those who have applied on lists need to be considered.

5. The Way Forward and Adjournment

Council will go consider all the issues brought up in this meeting.

The meeting officially adjourned at 21h25.