MINUTES

OF THE PUBLIC MEETING HELD AT IMMANUEL RUITERS PS HALL (KUISEBMOND) WALVIS BAY ON
MONDAY 30 MARCH 2026 AT 18:00

Present: Councilor
Cllr Johannes Shimbilinga
Cllr Miina Hangula
Cllr Ephraim Shozi
Cllr Patricia Munyala
Cllr Pius Benjamin
Cllr Sharon Roodt
Cllr Jo-Ann Kamaundju

Officials

Mr. Van Wyk
Mrs Sylvia Schubert
Mr. Erikson Mwanyekange
Ms. Johanna
Mr Jack Manale
Mr. Gotlieb Nghinongelwa
Mr Efraim Kathindi
Mr Sylvester Nyaambe
Ms. Krischka Stoffels
Mrs. Lelanie Coetzee
Ms. Anita Kaihiva
Ms. Shirley Tjaveondja

Others
Commissioner NK Kupembona
Station Commander: Tutaleni Police Station.
Station Commission
Detective
Detective warrent Officer
Members of the Public: 35
Members of the Media: 0

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1. OPENING

- The meeting opened with a prayer by a community member.
- The Mayor welcomed attendees and invited Councillors and Administration to introduce themselves.
- The Mayor emphasized that the Council will not tolerate lawlessness and affirmed the Council's commitment to making Kuisebmond safe and prosperous.
- Residents were asked to submit any procurement-related queries in writing to the Office of the Accounting Officer (CEO).

2. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mrs Victoria Kapenda
Mr Frans !Gonteb
Cllr Adolf Kahmann
Mr Theo Potgieter
Cllr Saara Mutondoka
Cllr Ndapewa Johannes

3. DISCUSSION POINTS

3.1 Solid Waste

Growth & equipment:
Walvis Bay is experiencing significant growth (oil, gas, green hydrogen). Council recognizes insufficient equipment for service delivery.

Procurements:
Two compaction trucks expected by end of April 2026; two skip trucks, two tippers and 40 skips expected within two months.

Refuse bins:
Households producing above-average refuse may be issued an additional bin and charged accordingly.

Littering:
Increased litter (e.g., toilet paper on entry from Swakopmund) linked to backyard shacks; Council seeking long term management solutions.

Tyre recycling:
Council engaging companies and SMEs to facilitate on-site tyre recycling/repurposing to reduce landfill waste.

Action: Continue bin distribution campaign and follow up on tyre recycling proposals.

3.2 Water & Sewage Management

Wastewater plant design:
Contractor appointed; design completion expected January 2027.

Sewer rerouting:
Rerouting on Muputanie Street in progress (further details to be provided by GM/Van Wyk).

Infrastructure:
Aging infrastructure and sewer abuse identified as primary contributors to failures;
public education campaigns planned.

Kuisebmond pump station: Project budget N$20 million; current progress 17%; expected completion in 2027.

Sinkholes:
Contractor appointed on a three year contract to accelerate sinkhole remediation.

Fairway lifting station:
Pump station component incomplete due to contractor default; contract terminated. Re-procurement underway.

Port Road:
Sewer replacement contractor appointed; Phase 1 underway.

Water security: NamWater engaged on a critical 10 km pipeline linking Walvis Bay to the regional network and a desalination plant; expected completion within two years.

Action: Provide timeline updates for Muputanie Street and Fairway pump station; continue public sewer use education.

3.3 Road Management

Staffing:
Road management requires at least two engineers; currently one in post.

Road condition:
Many roads have reached the end of useful life; full rehabilitation often required due to sewer lines beneath roads.

Contractor availability:
Difficulty securing suitably qualified contractors.

Planned works: Nangolo Mbumba and Nataniel Maxilli roads prioritized; consultant on site and construction tender forthcoming.

Stormwater:
Town lacks adequate stormwater drainage; even 40 mm rainfall causes major disruption.

Interventions:

- Short-term: One year routine pothole repair contract with three teams; re sealing tender to follow budget approval.
- Medium/Long-term: Three year road rehabilitation contracts awarded (details to be provided by Ms. Johanna).

Action: Provide list of streets covered by medium/long-term contracts and staffing plan for engineering capacity.

3.4 2026/27 Budget input

Budget timetable:
Council must submit the budget by 1 May 2026 (advance from 31 May); only one public budget presentation will be held at Walvis Bay Town Hall.

Budget figures (indicative):

- Capital budget: N$220 million (approx. 43% of total)
- Operating budget: N$660 million

Key budget priorities:
Land delivery, housing, infrastructure upgrades, and service delivery.

Strategic planning:
Council completed a retreat to develop a new strategic plan aligned with NDP6 and simplify previous plan complexities.

Action: Notify residents of the single budget presentation meeting; solicit focused inputs on forward looking priorities.

3.5 Make-shift stalls in Kuisebmond

Issue: Illegal traders, informal car washes and unregulated vendors affect road rehabilitation and public order.

Task team:
A task team has been formed and will begin operations this week.

Enforcement vs support:
Council recognizes vendors' economic role and will direct them to approved trading areas; meetings with affected traders will be held.

Target areas:
Car washes on Independence Road, Sam Nujoma and Kapeljou will be prioritized for relocation to approved sites.

Market stalls:
Traders in Market Mall and painted MTC stalls have unresolved issues and are encouraged to seek clarity from municipal offices.

Bylaws:
Some bylaws are outdated; a review is underway and some bylaws are at gazetting stage.

Action: Implement task team operations; provide registration/application information to traders.

3.6 Housing

Population & shacks:
Walvis Bay population ~140,000. Census data indicate ~31,000 backyard shacks (≈41% of residents).

Progress: 75 houses have reached roof level in current projects.

Portion 10 of Farm 37:
200 houses funded by central government—services remain to be installed and beneficiary selection pending; this is a pilot for a larger government directive requiring >1,000 houses.

Middle income & serviced plots:
Council approved portion in Narraville (Ext 12) in 2024; 80 serviced plots completed in Narraville Ext 8.

Action: Provide timelines for services at Farm 37 and beneficiary selection process.

3.7 Red force Review

Concern:
Households in Kuisebmond are without water; requests for policy review on Red Force (water management) raised.

Response: Ongoing engagements; Council to make a formal pronouncement following consultations.

Action: Update residents after Red Force review.

3.8 Authorized Planning Authority

APA approved as of 25 March 2026; expected to shorten planning and approval timelines..

3.9 Safety and Emergency of the Town

Fires:
Numerous shack fires reported; construction materials contribute to rapid spread.

Fire infrastructure: New fire station planned at Farm 37 and a satellite office at Tutaleni.

Action: Provide timelines for the fire station and satellite office construction.

4. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

- Overtime for sewer truck operators: Request to review.
- Street vendors obstructing pavements and school routes (Katrina Invula Street): Enforcement and alternative sites requested. Council employee Jeremia mentioned as resisting inspections — complaint raised.
- Budget reporting: Residents requested follow up reporting on previous budget performance.
- Tutaleni overcrowding: Plot allocation and singular ownership for plots under review — strategic plan item.
- Youth centre: Strong request to include Youth Centre in the budget; new Community Manager tasked with progressing this.
- Traffic signals on B1: B1 is a national road; Road Authority must approve any traffic signal installations.
- Ambulance and police response times: Police noted vehicle shortages and increased population; foot patrols supplement capacity. Community urged to support neighbourhood watch efforts.
- Vendor nationality and certifications: Complaints about undocumented vendors and inappropriate fitness certificates; enforcement and clarification to follow.
- Levies for tuck shops: Suggested inclusion in municipal revenue considerations.
- Land servicing/allocation: Council engaging in land servicing and plot allocations.
- Skips and illegal dumping: More skips requested; Council notes many incidents are resident driven dumping.
- Procurement delays and contractor quality: Procurement capacity and contractor availability remain challenges.

- Truck bylaw and truck parking: Bylaw pending; refuse bin bylaw includes truck regulations.
- Open markets: More open markets planned beyond Ekutu.
- High water bills and meter readings: Disputes referred to Red Force; municipality to investigate meter reading processes.
- Tire burning and health hazard: Ongoing stakeholder engagements; meeting scheduled with councillors, police cluster and the Minister regarding site allocation; fencing stopped due to state land issues.
- Sewer replacement: Some sewer lines completed and in retention (e.g., Muputani Street — further details from Van Wyk).
- Potholes (Ben Amathila Street): RBC to allocate a team to repair.
- Road design (Agaat Street): Re design in progress to address traffic flow; consideration of a three way stop.
- Use of private sector (pro bono) for municipal projects: Council open but needs indemnity and insurance arrangements; pro bono approvals considered on a case by case basis.
- Public toilets: Reiterated community request for public toilet facilities.
- Tariffs: New tariffs introduced (including a fire tariff); concerns about increases and specific charges such as N$13.00 cleaning of open spaces raised.
- Noise, air pollution and odour: Residents requested these topics be included in the next meeting.

5. ACTION ITEMS (Summary with responsible units)

- Publish budget presentation date and circulate details. (Corporate Services)
- Provide list of streets covered by road rehabilitation contracts and timelines. (Roads / Ms. Johanna)
- Share detailed update on Muputanie Street sewer rerouting and Fairway pump station. (Water & Sewer / Mr. Van Wyk)
- Progress on Kuisebmond pump station and Farm 37 housing servicing/beneficiary allocation. (Housing / Infrastructure)
- Implement vendor task team activities and provide trader registration information. (Economic Development / Licensing).
- Continue tyre recycling stakeholder engagements and report back. (Solid Waste)
- Provide schedule for fire station and Tutaleni satellite office construction. (Emergency Services)
- Provide update on Red Force review and water billing disputes. (Water & Sewer / Corporate Services)
- Respond to complaints regarding pavement obstructions and enforcement actions. (By laws / Peace Officers)

6. <u>CLOSING</u>

Meeting adjourned at 21h50