

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CLARENDON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
HELD AT CLARENDON PRIMARY SCHOOL, ROBERTS ROAD, ON THE 7TH SEPTEMBER 2016 AT 6 P.M.

PRESENT: Rowan White Chairman
 Dylan Horn Treasurer
 Pam Read Secretary

120 Residents

1. WELCOME :

Rowan welcomed everyone to the Clarendon Community Association AGM 2016 and extended a special welcome to Ross Strachan- DA Ward Councillor, Capt Jeary – Captain of the Town Hill Police station, Wayne King – Town Hill SAPS and Ed Szudrawski – Chairman of the Town Hill CPF.

Clarendon has seen a dramatic decline in crime and criminal activity over the past few years, and it needs to be stressed that the success of the Clarendon Community Association is not only about what is happening presently but rather what has gone before and the people who have played such a huge part in forming an association.

Rowan presented a brief history prepared by Philip Kretzmann the founder Chairman of the CCA, and the progress of what the CCA has achieved over the years.

The end result of years of hard work is a clean, safe, beautiful neighbourhood, with an incredible sense of community spirit, silent nights, but occasionally we have no water. Rowan said he would like to publicly acknowledge and thank the present CCA committee members Jim Read, Dylan Horn, Dion Curtis, Peter Bristow, Greg Dreyer and all other area representatives namely Marlene Daly, Chris Withers, John & Jane Kassner, Mark Dent, Steve Crosly, Craig Smith and Rob Van Heerden who have all given so freely of their time in all the unseen duties affiliated with the Clarendon Community Association.

Rowan thanked Lyndon Holder from Meat up, Con Malherbe from Coffeeberry and Cameron MacKenzie, Parklane SPAR, for contributing the platters tonight.

Rowan also thanked Clarendon School for the use of the school hall.

To Shelly Smith, our grateful thanks for her ongoing battles with the municipality to keep our street lights burning and neighbourhood lit.

To the neighbourhood patrollers, your continued personal sacrifice of sleep and time in the early mornings is greatly appreciated by all.

To Warrant Officer Wayne King, from Town Hill SAP, and Ed Szudrawski , Chairman of the Town Hill CPF, for all the work that goes on behind the scenes and for your support of the Clarendon community. Welcome to Capt Jeary who has taken over as commanding officer at the station, we look forward to a very healthy relationship with you and your team, we as a community are in full support of the work that you do in keeping us safe.

Special mention must go to Derek Butler who after many years has decided to step down as our CPF representative, thank you for all the time that you freely gave to represent Clarendon on the CPF and on the association. Dion Curtis has volunteered to take over from Derek and represent us at all CPF meetings. Derek is still committed to the CCA and has offered to help out wherever he is needed.

Rowan also thanked Rob Evans as he did not get enough of a chance to publicly thank Rob at last year's AGM, for the 3 years of chairmanship and ongoing support that really galvanised the CCA and set us on the path where we find ourselves today. Rowan said it is a rather large set of shoes that he hoped he has managed to fill. Thank you Rob.

And finally Pam Read, for all she has done and continues to do in beautifying our neighbourhood, keeping all records up to date and all the dedication to the association and all the support and assistance to me personally over the past year.

2. APOLOGIES : 20 Apologies were recorded.
3. MINUTES OF AGM 2015 : The Minutes of the AGM of the 15th September 2015 having been circulated were confirmed and accepted.
4. FEEDBACK ON THE MINUTES OF AGM 2015 :
Special Rating Area that was proposed was investigated after last year's AGM but the process turned out to be a particularly lengthy and an expensive one. It was decided not to pursue it.

What we have done instead is attempt to increase the contributing membership in order that the CCA maintains firm and transparent control of the finances and ultimately the smooth running of the neighbourhood and association.

The WhatsApp groups have been aligned with CCA membership and we have restructured the 4 original community groups into 2 large security groups.

5. DA WARD REPORT: Ross Strachan
Ross presented his report and said he was pleased with the attendance and participation of the Clarendon community.

Water crisis: There are 2 Engineers who have guided and advised him through this and said in the 1987 drought the municipality were prepared for it. The water comes from Spring Grove, Ethekwini gets first then us. There is only one Civil Engineer in the municipality and there are no procedures in place

Crime: Ross said he is happy to see crime has come down especially since Magma is now in the neighbourhood.

Ross advised the meeting that residents should feel free to contact him with any problems and asked Pam to send out his e-mail to the community.

6. TOWNHILL SAPS and CPF - Capt Jeary and Ed Szudrawski
Captain Jeary:
Capt Jeary said he was happy to see such a big turnout and interest from the community. He said he started at Town Hill SAPS in May and was in Hilton for 15 years. Warrant Officer Wayne King who has been at Town Hill for 20 years is one of his officers and he requested the community to contact him if need be. Captain Jeary also congratulated Ed Szudrawski the CPF Chairman, on doing a fine job which has its challenges. He also welcomed Warrant Officers Muller and Taver from Prestbury SAPS. He also said that half of Clarendon is served by Prestbury and half by Town Hill.

Captain Jeary said the crime statistics are available on the SAPS website.

Captain Jeary said the SAPS has a good relationship with private security companies. He congratulated the volunteer patrollers in Clarendon and said it is a great initiative by the CCA.

He said if we have any concerns please don't hesitate to contact him.

He thanked Rowan for inviting him and said the SAPS and the CCA have a common goal in keeping the neighbourhood safe and crime free.

Ed Szudrawski:

Ed thanked the CCA for the invitation and said that Clarendon is at the forefront of neighbourhood watches and other neighbourhoods are following the example set by Clarendon. He said a community without participation is nothing and Clarendon has proved what can be achieved when a community mobilises as one cannot always rely on SAPS.

Good to see a neighbourhood coming together, your homes will be safe and the community will prosper.

7. FINANCES – Dylan

Dylan presented the Financial Statements on the power point and Dylan outlined the income and expenditure. Rowan asked whether there were any queries/questions or comments pertaining to the Financial Statements. Nobody commented and they were adopted.

Rowan thanked Dylan for handling the finances of the CCA and for producing the Financial Statements.

8. NEIGHBOURHOOD PATROLS : REPORT DION:

Dion said he cannot thank the patrollers enough for their passion and dedication to this cause. He also thanked the SAPS who don't live in the area who regularly patrol our streets. MAGMA: He said Magma have brought a new and fresh input into what we are doing. The patrollers regularly liaise with them. Since Magma started we have now moved to random patrols, but we can revert at any time.

He also thanked the committee for the hard work they are doing.

9. CLARENDON CRIME STATS – Dion – Comparative stats show that Clarendon accounted for 12-15 house burglaries for the Town Hill precinct where 262 were reported. These burglaries were predominantly at the flats and complexes bordering the conservancy. 3 burglaries were reported on the Prestbury side in December, with suspects gaining access from a hole cut in the fence below Hill Tops Office Park. There were a few incidences of petty theft and a few intruders were disturbed on properties. No reported car theft, murder or armed robbery.

10. WHATSAPP GROUPS - Rowan

Rowan outlined to the meeting the structure of the various WhatsApp Groups. The original 4 WhatsApp groups are now chat groups, 2 larger groups have been created for security purposes only. Magma Security group includes all neighbourhood patrollers, Magma guards and management, all alerts from the community security groups are forwarded to this group for appropriate response. A Magma 24/7 group has also been set up for all contracted

clients for direct communication with Magma armed response officers and management in the event of an emergency.

11. CAMERAS – Rowan

Licence Plate Recognition (LPR) cameras are being positioned at all the entry points, replacing the old cameras which are being moved and positioned behind Jacaranda School with 2 keeping an eye on the parking lots behind and adjacent to the school and the third camera facing up Villiers Drive, hopefully soon we will have 1 looking over the open veld adjacent to 11 Villiers Drive.

Wi-Fi hotspots are being set up to allow the response officers to observe the cameras on a tablet, while standing off

12. MAGMA – Rowan

Following a security presentation and feedback from the community, the CCA approached Shaheen Suleiman, the director of Magma Security Services, and negotiated a monthly patrolling fee that the CCA would finance through the monthly subscriptions to secure a dedicated patrol vehicle with 6 guards who work on a shift rotation system of 2 nights on, 2 days on and 3 days off. The vehicle never leaves the neighbourhood unless to refuel in which case a backup vehicle replaces this vehicle for the short period of refueling.

We also urged any interested households to contract the company for alarm monitoring and armed response which included the proactive patrolling as a service. As such the CCA contributions will be reduced for contracting homes in order that the monthly security cost per household remains fairly consistent. The added feature is that in the event of an emergency, the patrol vehicle is under 2 minutes away as opposed to the industry's accepted standard of 10+ minutes.

The total cost of contracting Magma is R570 including VAT per household with the CCA contribution being reduced to R50 as opposed to R200, giving a total security cost of R620 compared to in Rowan's case, where he was paying R380 and R200 CCA contribution which put his original total security cost at R580, a R40 difference. There is a pensioner's and complex rate per unit, which is R399,00 inclusive of VAT. The home alarm system is connected via radio link to Magma Control and there is a R500 charge for a master remote for the gate to allow the guards access to contracted properties in the event of an emergency. On cancellation of a Magma Contract, this R500 is refundable. If residents wish to upgrade their system then Magma technical department will provide a quotation and install if the quote is accepted. The other huge incentive is that residents sign on for a month to month contract, with a notice period of 20 working days being required to terminate the contract.

This concept is a long term solution to the security of Clarendon and we have been overwhelmed by the backing that this initiative has received. In the 2 months that Magma have been operating in Clarendon, we have seen over 50 homes sign up, and although we have experienced some communication and administration issues, we have worked closely with Magma management to ensure that these minor hiccups are resolved quickly. In order that this initiative remains a permanent fixture and is financially viable for Magma, a further 10-20 contracted homes need to be linked up to achieve that threshold, and by the interest that has been shown recently this is easily achievable.

Furthermore, all Magma clients are added to a Magma 24/7 WhatsApp group which gives each contracted home a direct link to the Magma guards and staff in the event of an emergency, with a response time from WhatsApp notification to arrival on scene in under a minute. Rowan said he did not think there are too many criminals who would risk taking on that sort of home security.

Rowan said he has donated 2 thermal cups for the vehicle so if residents are in a position, please offer them a cup of coffee or a cold drink to see them through the day or night.

Their supervisor is Nikki Rajkumar, a friendly and unbelievably dedicated man and an asset to Magma and indeed Clarendon.

Magma K9 is Mike Wiid, former SAPS K9, who was always in the local papers for all the right reasons while still with the SAPS, he seems to have his feelers out constantly and be everywhere all of the time, and travels with his full time K9 partner, Numzaan.

Magma have been absolutely amazing since their inception in Clarendon and have stopped and profiled numerous characters on their way into the neighbourhood, most with prior housebreaking convictions, some with rape and theft convictions, 2 known Whoonga addicts and a few with drugs in their possession. The latest incursion into the neighbourhood was by a petty thief who was noticed by TWC staff who subsequently alerted through the security group, where Magma guards were notified. He was tracked down after scaling multiple walls and chased through yards where he was eventually cornered and unfortunately wounded in a yard in Roberts Rd. Town Hill SAPS were notified and to my knowledge picked up all the other suspects and had them profiled.

Refuse day loiterers have been discouraged from entering the neighbourhood and picking through the refuse.

Car guards at Jacaranda/Mama Mia parking area have had their ID documents copied and have been given CCA Staff T-shirts and Clarendon crime watch caps.

Rowan said he would just like to publicly thank and acknowledge all of the Magma staff for their dedication and commitment in the 2 months that they have been looking after us, their reaction times and professionalism is unbelievable. Our decision to contract their services so far has been vindicated and we look forward to many years under your protection.

Rowan said the Magma Contract with CCA is for the patrolling of the neighbourhood, responding to and assessing suspicious persons/vehicles, monitoring cameras in time. Magma will back up other security companies' clients, but are not permitted to enter properties unless directly contracted to home owners as legal implications may apply should an incident occur

13. CCA MEMBERSHIP – Rowan
318 in 2016, up from 250 in 2015, and 162 in 2014. Certainly a massive improvement but only representative of 57% of the neighbourhood. We need more to come on board.
14. NEW PROJECTS DURING 2016 :

We have taken on a number of new projects in 2016

- Kei Apple bushes being planted below Villiers Drive lookout along the razor wire. In time this will become a hedge which will act as a natural crime barrier, is indigenous and will provide food for the local monkeys and birds.
- Roberts Rd Bridge fencing,
 - Refuse removal operations during the municipal strikes last year generated donations and together with generous individual contributions to the CCA afforded the construction of the Roberts Rd fencing which is being maintained and will soon have bougainvillea planted to eventually hide the razor wire and become more aesthetically pleasing in the future. This bridge has for many years been a hotspot for criminal activity with many staff members being mugged. The fence has dramatically reduced criminal activity in that area, however there are still an alarming number of vagrants sleeping under the bridge and creating a huge mess with potential health and security implications. This needs to be addressed at municipal level. Rowan called on Ross if he wouldn't mind addressing that for us.
- License Plate Recognition cameras replacing some old cameras at entry points
- Old cameras positioned behind Jacaranda School with 2 keeping an eye on the parking lots behind and adjacent to the school and the third camera facing up Villiers Drive, hopefully soon we will have 1 looking over the open veld adjacent to 11 Villiers Drive.
- Wi-Fi hotspots allowing guards to observe the cameras while standing off
- Magma/CCA Sign boards
- General cleaning operations and gardening by Brian, who is recognisable by his yellow CCA STAFF shirt and cap
- Car guards at Mamma Mia/Meat up have been given caps and shirts and we have copies of their ID documents on file.

15. COMMITTEE 2017

Chairman	Rowan White
Secretary	Pam Read
Treasurer	Dylan Horn

16. GENERAL

16.1. SPEED HUMPS:

There have been multiple requests for speed humps for Kitchener, Moreland and Villiers Drive next to the school. We will need to establish public commitment and consensus.

A motivational letter will be required from the CCA to Msunduzi Transportation: Lindelwa.mngenela@msunduzi.gov.za. We will need to take this up and get support through the Ward Committee, as there will be numerous requests during the year throughout the ward. He asked Councillor Ross Strachan to follow up and rank them so that when finance becomes available there is consensus.

- 16.2. ESTHER HOUSE : Rowan appealed for old clothes or children's toys in support of a safe house situated in the neighbourhood for abused women who very often arrive with only the clothes on their back; either pregnant or with very young children with absolutely nothing. A team of ladies has volunteered to be contact people and collection points for this initiative.

- 16.3. MARBLE ARCH:
Kerry, a tenant at Marble Arch expressed real concern about the crime which is taking place here and was at a loss as to what to do about it. W/O King said they must call a meeting with all the owners and the Body Corporate must seal it off where the criminals gain access.
- 16.4. GATE MOTORS : W/O King said residents should alarm their gate motors as the 5 minute gang lift off the electric gates.

Derek thanked Rowan on behalf of all residents for his leadership and work he is doing for the CCA.

Rowan thanked everyone for attending and invited everybody to stay and enjoy some refreshments provided by Parklane SPAR, Coffeeberry and the new local restaurant Meat up

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 18h55.

CHAIRMAN : DATE:.....