

July
2011

	Telephone	Fax
Hermanus	028 313 8000	028 312 1894
Gansbaai	028 384 8300	028 384 0241
Kleinmond	028 271 8400	028 271 4100
Stanford	028 341 8500	028 341 0445
24 Hour Emergency	028 313 8000/8111	
Fire Brigade	028 312 2400	

Bulletin

Official newsletter of the Overstrand Municipality

• A MUNICIPALITY WITH INTEGRITY AND CHARACTER

PRIORITIES FOR NEW COUNCIL

Overstrand's unique value system must be inculcated in everyone – councillors and personnel alike – by way of training and team-building exercises so that the municipality can serve as an example of a municipality with integrity and character for the rest of the country.

This was what re-elected mayor Nicolette Botha-Guthrie said in her accession address at the inauguration of Overstrand's new council of 25 members on Wednesday 1 June 2011 in Hermanus. (Know Your Council poster inside)

The event was attended by, amongst others, Mr Anton Bredell, Western Cape Minister of Local Government, Mr Theo Beylerveldt, member of parliament and former mayor, and Mr Mike Walters, member of the Western Cape Legislature.

Mayor Botha-Guthrie said the new council is blessed to have a knowledgeable and hardworking administration at its disposal and assured the Municipal Manager, Mr Werner Zybrands, and his top management of the council's dedicated cooperation in keeping Overstrand at its current level and to even improve on this.

Mayor Botha-Guthrie said she is looking forward to a better working relationship with the Overberg District Municipality, where the Democratic Alliance is now in control, and believes that coordination and consultation between the municipa-

lities at the southern tip of Africa will, in future, be much improved.

According to her, priority issues for the new council are the following:

- The delivery of basic services for all, an election promise which certainly requires no further explanation except that the provisioning of sufficient water in Greater Hermanus must be ensured as soon as possible. She called upon residents to continue cooperating, as has been the case over the past seven months, until the situation is under control. This is expected to happen by the end of next year when the well fields will be fully operational and alternative sources such as desalinated and recycled waste-water will probably be available too.
- Housing: The momentum Overstrand gained with its turnaround strategy must be kept going with the implementation of the Five-year Housing Plan that was accepted as part of our IDP for the next financial year.
- Economic development is the other leg needed to make the municipality's community upliftment programme stand. Unemployed people must be enabled as far as possible to earn an income, and much needed cash and investment must be brought into the local economy with self-produced products and services. We must achieve

sustainable and environmentally-friendly growth to lessen the pressure on our retirees and pensioners in terms of affordable rates and tariffs, which in the past always compared favourably with those of other coastal municipalities.

- The protection of our environment and the conservation of our architectural heritage may not be compromised in

the search for prosperity, and the Mayor expressed her gratitude towards the many NGOs, especially the Whalecoast Foundation (formerly the OCF) and the Overstrand Heritage Committee, for playing their part.

- Maintenance of law and order: The council must renew its efforts to turn the dream of a municipal court into a reality.



HOUSING ON TRACK IN OVERSTRAND

Seventy-year-old Mathilda de Bruin shed tears of joy when she, as one of the beneficiaries, received the keys to her very own low-cost home in Mooiuitsig, Betty's Bay, on Friday, 13 May. At the time of the handover ceremony, Mayor Nicolette Botha-Guthrie said that housing is regarded as a top priority in the municipality's Turnover Strategy and that huge improvements with the provisioning of houses have already been achieved.

NOMINATIONS FOR MAYORAL AWARDS AWAITED

Overstrand Municipality is in the enviable position to have some of the country's best talent residing in our area or having close ties with the region. Due to their association with the area, they not only promote Overstrand's image, but many of them voluntarily plough back a lot of their time, money and energy into our community.

Mayor Nicolette Botha-Guthrie would like to laud these achievers of excellence during Overstrand Municipality's annual Night of Excellence which is planned for mid-August.

This year, all Overstrand's annual awards will be included in this event: The Mayoral Trophy for Environmental Conservation, the Woman/Women of the Year and those for Achievers of Excellence.

The competition for the prestigious Mayoral Trophy for Environmental Conservation will once again be handled by the Whalecoast Foundation (formerly the Overstrand Conservation Foundation). Nominations for this award close on 8 July.

Individuals and organisations that have made an exceptional contribution

towards environmental conservation in the municipal area of Overstrand can enter, including former winners and finalists. In the case of former winners, only the work that has been done since they last won the trophy will be considered. Entry forms, guidelines for the compilation of nominations and the evaluation criteria are available at the organisation's offices at the Gateway Centre in Hermanus and on its website at www.ocf.co.za. Direct enquiries to Rob Fryer at 028 313 2025 or by email to ocf@telkomsa.net.

Nominations of Overstrand women who have made a difference in their area and ought to be considered for a Woman of the Year award must be forwarded to Elize Verrij at everij@overstrand.gov.za before Friday, 29 July. A brief motivation and contact details of both the nominator and the candidate are all that is required.

Achievers of excellence in communities are identified by councillors and submitted to the Mayor for consideration.

OPTIONS TO DEFLECT DEPOSIT HIKE

The electricity deposits of existing Overstrand clients will be adjusted from September onwards to ensure these are in line with those payable by new applicants, be they individuals or businesses. It boils down to a deposit equivalent to the client's two highest months of consumption.

In future, this adjustment will be affected on an annual basis in keeping with the average increase in electricity rates.

For many, this will result in a drastic increase – some clients' service agreements date back to an era where no deposits were required – but to soften the blow, the increased amount will be payable over a period of 10 months, commencing September 2011. Alternatively, consumers could switch to prepaid metres.

This increase was unavoidable. Consumers should keep in mind that a deposit not only serves as a safeguard against defaulters. It also provides the municipa-

lity with the required capital to purchase the service which, in the case of electricity, Eskom demands should be settled within 10 days from month-end.

With the drastic hike in Eskom rates, to the tune of 107 percent over the past three years, the municipality now finds itself in a position where the deposits at its disposal are simply not enough to guarantee its financial sustainability. In the current year, the ratio between cash on hand and fixed monthly obligations can drop to around 0,66:1, where the legal requisite is fixed at around 1,2:1.

This situation explains why deposits should be equivalent to two months' consumption. In general, meters are read during the first week of the month, consumption is levied against a consumer's account at the end of the same month and the final settlement date is the 20th of the next month. Consequently, by the time the municipality receives its first instalment, it has already deli-

vered two months' service and settled the account in full with Eskom.

As an alternative to an increase in consumer deposits, the installation of prepaid electricity metres is encouraged. In the current financial year, the costs associated with such a move will amount to R975 for installation and R346 in the form of a deposit. The latter will be deducted from the client's existing deposit. The excess or deficit will be debited or credited to the client's municipal account. Based on experience, consu-

mers with pre-paid metres have a tendency to monitor and manage their daily consumption of electricity far more effectively.

It is anticipated that clients would switch to prepaid metres en masse; for this reason we have stocked up on 3500 metres. Should clients apply for a conversion before August, they will not be required to pay the increased deposit, even in cases where the prepaid metres cannot be installed immediately.



WARD COMMITTEES ESTABLISHED

During the course of the week 6 to 9 June, the election of ward committee members enjoyed considerable support, no doubt as a result of an extensive awareness campaign employing the full arsenal ranging from advertisements to newspaper reports, radio spots to text messages, et cetera. All thirteen ward committees have now been established; some have even convened their first meetings in the interim. Pictured here are but some of the 500 voters who pitched to elect the committee in Ward 1 (Franskraal and Masekhane) – a meeting which for practical reasons had to be concluded over a two-day period. Along a similar vein, following on an equal vote, the die had to be cast in no fewer than two wards in order to decide who should take up the final positions on the ward committee. The names of the ward committee members will be published in an upcoming newsletter.

HERMANUS BOY RETURNS FOR CELLO CONCERT

On Sunday afternoon, 10 July 2011, Tobias Kotze (cellist), currently studying at Stellenbosch, will perform works of Vivaldi, Beethoven, Brahms, Gabriel Fauré and Robert Schumann. This young man started his music career in Hermanus and since his last performance in the Auditorium, he has been described as one of the most promising young cellists in SA. He will be accompanied on the piano by Philippus Hugo. Tickets are R80 (R40 for scholars) and bookings can be made at BELLINI in Hermanus on 028 312 4988. Call René du Plooy on 082 940 4238 for any further enquiries.



MORAL STANDARDS INITIATIVE (MSI)



Respect focuses on potential

by Wilhelm Burger

The MSI is a community programme which aims to help Greater Hermanus grow towards a value-driven community. Schools, business leaders, churches and public leaders have been engaged to create awareness amongst the community of six key values, namely trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and good citizenship. These common values can unite our entire community towards a new way of life.

One example is the importance of RESPECT.

We often hear the expression: Respect must be earned. I wonder if that is really the case. Doesn't respect actually mean that we respect people's dignity, despite their conduct, social status or reputation?

Respect always focuses on man's inherent potential. Christians believe that the image of Christ is present in every human being. We should help to unleash this! That's why we may disapprove of someone's conduct but still respect the person. Many people who have been reduced to misery testify that their recovery started with people who kept on recognising their inherent potential. Jesus Christ specifically lingered with those who have already

been rejected by society. That was their saving grace!

In our community, people differ on many issues. Respect means that we may sometimes differ vehemently but still keep on respecting one another's humanness. In that lies the power of our diversity! Respect then leads to fairness, because we also respect one another's needs. Respect grants others the same opportunities and space I desire for myself.

Respect for one another protects our safety and belongings. It creates a safe environment for children and the elderly. Respect allows women to come into their own. Respect recognises God's hand in nature and, for that reason, treats His creation with the respect it deserves. Respect lets the potential in each one of us come to the fore, because I am comforted by the One who believes in me!

For more information, contact

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at ernstes@vodamail.co.za
or 082 412 4538
or Wilhelm Burger
at wb@ngkonrusrivier.co.za.

VERKIES U DIÉ NUUSBRIEF IN 'N ANDER AMPTELIKE TAAL?
SMS u rekeningnommer met A vir Afrikaans na 082 338 1631

UNGATHANDA LENCWADI YESAZISO-NDABA IBHALWE
NGOLUNYE ULWIMI? Thumela i-SMS enenombolo ye-akhawunti
yakho kunye no X omele isi Xhosa kule nombolo 082 338 1631

How to register for the Municipality's SMS service

SMS your account number with the letters SMS to 082 338 1631 or contact a Client Services Officer at your closest Rates Hall.



Executive Mayor and Committee

In terms of Overstrand Municipality's Third Establishment Amendment Notice of 28 May 2003, Overstrand is a municipality with a mayoral executive system combined with a ward participatory system.

At its inaugural meeting, council elects an Executive Mayor and an Executive Deputy Mayor. Legislation allows the Overstrand Executive Mayor to appoint a Mayoral Committee of five members, of which one normally is the Executive Deputy Mayor. Each of the members heads a Portfolio Committee, consisting of members of all political parties in Council. In Overstrand these committees are in line with the administrative directorates, namely: Infrastructure and Planning, Finance and Economic Development, Community Services, Protection Services and Management Services.

The Executive Mayor, members of the Mayoral Committee and the Speaker are full-time councillors.



Executive Mayor
Cllr Nicolette Botha-Guthrie

At its inaugural meeting, Council resolved that all powers not reserved by law for the council and with the exception of those vested in officials must be delegated to the Executive Mayor. In the decision-taking process the Executive Mayor will normally receive reports from Council's committees and will consider them at a meeting of the Mayoral Committee, which is open to the public. She also plays a leading role in the compilation and implementation of the Integrated Development Plan, the Municipal Budget, the Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan, performance management, community participation in council affairs and corporate communication services and performs ceremonial duties. She reports to Council.



**Executive Deputy Mayor
and Mayoral Committee Member**
Ald Pieter Scholtz

In addition to his duties as Deputy Mayor, this member sees to Infrastructure, Planning and Electrotechnical Services, consisting of:

- Water and Transport Services;
- Electrotechnical Services;
- Project Management and Development Control;
- Town Planning and Property Administration;
- Building Control;
- Environmental Management Services;
- Solid Waste Management; and
- Geographic Information Systems.

Mayoral Committee Member for Finance & Economic Development Cllr Ben Solomon

This member's responsibilities encompass:

- Finance, consisting of
 - Expenditure and Assets Management;
 - Income;
 - Accounting Services and Budgeting Services;
 - Supply Chain Management; and
 - Systems and Data Control; and
- Local Economic Development, including the destination marketing organisation, Whale Coast Marketing.



Mayoral Committee Member for Community Services Cllr Rudolph Smith

This member is responsible for:

- Area management and operational services in Hermanus, Gansbaai/Stanford and Hangklip-Kleinmond;
- Housing;
- Corporate Projects; and
- Sports and Culture



Mayoral Committee Member for Protection Services Cllr Moira Opperman

This member is responsible for:

- Fire and Disaster Management;
- Traffic Services and Vehicle Licensing; and
- Law Enforcement and Security.



Mayoral Committee Member for Management Services Cllr Philip Appelgrein

This member is responsible for:

- Human Resources;
- Strategic Services;
- Information Technology;
- Legal Services;
- Corporate Communication Services; and
- Council Support Services, Records and Archives.



Know your Council

July 2011



Speaker
Ald Anton Coetsee



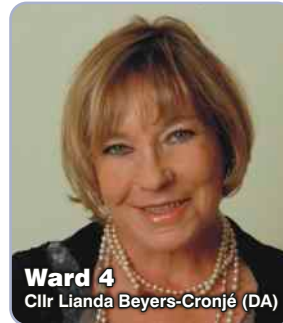
Ward 1
Cllr Theodorah Nqinata (ANC)



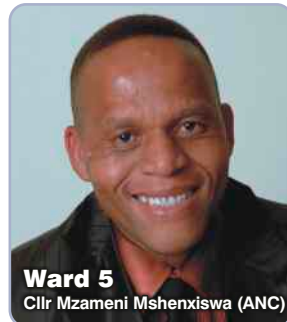
Ward 2
Ald Pieter Scholtz (DA)



Ward 3
Cllr Maxie Lerm (DA)



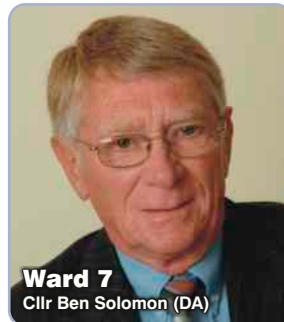
Ward 4
Cllr Lianda Beyers-Cronjé (DA)



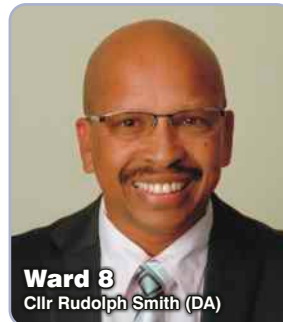
Ward 5
Cllr Mzameni Mshenxiswa (ANC)



Ward 6
Cllr Michelle Sapepa (ANC)



Ward 7
Cllr Ben Solomon (DA)



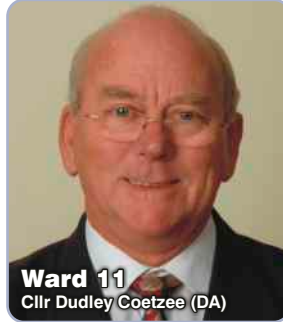
Ward 8
Cllr Rudolph Smith (DA)



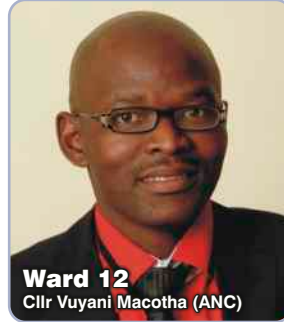
Ward 9
Cllr Philip Appelgrein (DA)



Ward 10
Cllr Lisel Krige (DA)



Ward 11
Cllr Dudley Coetzee (DA)



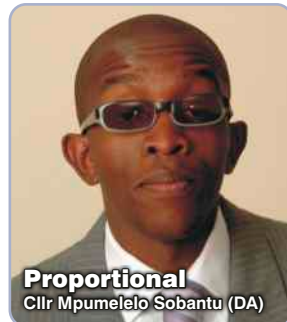
Ward 12
Cllr Vuyani Macotha (ANC)



Ward 13
Cllr Elzette Nell



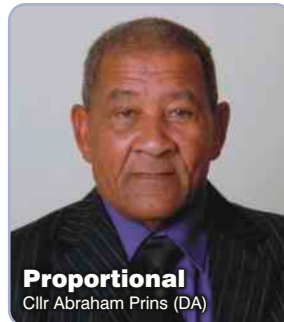
Proportional
Cllr Nicolette Botha-Guthrie (DA)



Proportional
Cllr Mpumelelo Sobantu (DA)



Proportional
Cllr Moira Opperman (DA)



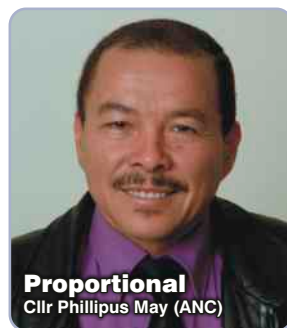
Proportional
Cllr Abraham Prins (DA)



Proportional
Cllr Mercia Andrews (DA)



Proportional
Cllr Maurencia Gillion (ANC)



Proportional
Cllr Phillipus May (ANC)



Proportional
Cllr Marilyn Pie (ANC)



Proportional
Cllr Makhaya Ponoane (ANC)

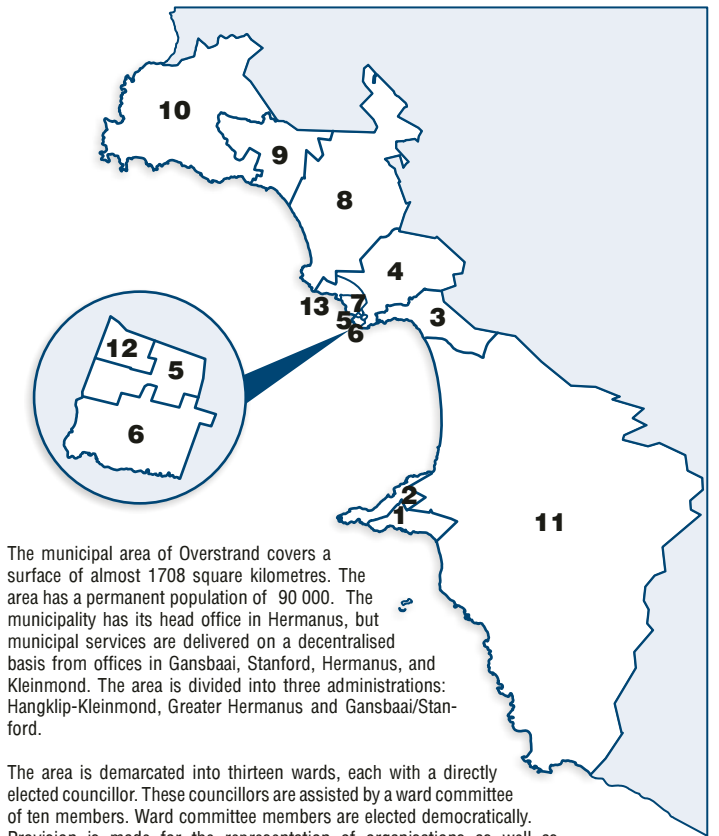


Proportional
Cllr Caroline Mandindi (ANC)



Proportional
Cllr JJ Januarie (NICO)

Overstrand and its wards



The municipal area of Overstrand covers a surface of almost 1708 square kilometres. The area has a permanent population of 90 000. The municipality has its head office in Hermanus, but municipal services are delivered on a decentralised basis from offices in Gansbaai, Stanford, Hermanus, and Kleinmond. The area is divided into three administrations: Hangklip-Kleinmond, Greater Hermanus and Gansbaai/Stanford.

The area is demarcated into thirteen wards, each with a directly elected councillor. These councillors are assisted by a ward committee of ten members. Ward committee members are elected democratically. Provision is made for the representation of organisations as well as individuals. Ward committees play an important role in the drafting and reviewing of the Integrated Development Plan and the identification of budget needs.

Overstrand's wards are as follows:

1. Kleinbaai, Franskraal and Masakhane;
2. Blompark, Gansbaai and De Kelders;
3. Hermanus;
4. Westcliff, Mount Pleasant and the Hemel-en-Aarde Valley;
5. Zwelihle South (Community Hall);
6. Zwelihle North (Lukhanyo Primary School and Hou Moed);
7. Sandbaai;
8. Hawston, Fisherhaven and Honingklip;
9. Kleinmond and Proteadorp East;
10. Proteadorp West, Overhills, Palmiet, Betty's Bay, Pringle Bay and Rooiels.
11. Stanford, Baardskeerdersbos, Pearly Beach, Viljoenshof and Withoogte.
12. Zwelihle North-West; and
13. Onrus and Vermont.



Twelve of the twenty-five councillors represent political parties on a proportional basis. This means that residents of Overstrand can also use political channels to bring matters to Council's attention. Three political parties are represented: the Democratic Alliance, the African National Congress and the National Independent Civic Organisation.

The Adminstration



Municipal Manager
Mr Werner Zybrands

A Municipal Manager is appointed by Council. He is the link between the council and the administration, of which he is the head, and also serves as accounting officer who has to account for the municipality's income and expenditure, assets and other obligations, such as proper adherence to the Municipal Finance Management Act. In terms of legislation, he should have the expertise and experience to discharge his duties. Subject to the municipality's policy guidelines, he ensures, amongst others, that an economic, effective, efficient and accountable

administration is established and developed, that the IDP comes to fruition, that municipal services are delivered in a sustainable and balanced fashion, that a personnel corps is appointed, managed, developed and disciplined and that sound labour relations are maintained. He should facilitate participation by the community and develop a system whereby the community's satisfaction with municipal services can be gauged.

In Overstrand's case, Mr Zybrands is supported in the above by a team of directors for the following:

- Finance: Mr Henk Kleinloog;
- Management Services: Mr Coenie Groenewald;
- Community Services: Mr Roderick Williams;
- Protection Services: Mr Neville Michaels;
- Infrastructure, Planning and Electrotechnical Services: Mr Stephen Muller; and
- Economic Development: Mr Solomzi Madikane.