

## **WARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT FOR 2016**

The municipality will be constructing a pre-filtration plant at the Pearly Beach water purification works to remove colour from the drinking water. This project will commence during February or March this year at a cost of R1,25m and will improve the quality of the Pearly Beach drinking water as fewer chemicals will be used in the filtration process.

During 2017 I will be working towards having Castle Beach qualify for blue flag status. I hope this will be achieved before the 2017 Christmas holiday period commences.

The Pearly Beach Ratepayers' Association management committee under the guidance of Mike Lamb have arranged for the donation of 1200 indigenous shrubs that will be planted around the perimeter of the Pearly Beach Drop Off Zone. The plants are currently being cultivated by the Grootbos Foundation and should be ready for planting by April this year. The municipality will install a drip irrigation system for the watering of these shrubs.

No roads have been tarred in the Overstrand for more than five years because of the cost involved. I have been able to obtain Council's support to recommence with the light tar dust control method of surfacing gravel roads. The Dupal product previously used is no longer on the market, however a number of alternative products are available.

Funds for the dust control of gravel roads will be provided in the concept operating budget for the 2017/18 financial year, for the various roads throughout the Overstrand, including Pearly Beach.

A traffic survey will be undertaken in Pearly Beach to determine which stop streets in the village are essential and which should be removed. Simultaneously an assessment will be undertaken to determine where speed control devices should be installed.

The reason for these surveys is to improve road safety in the village as a number of motorists simply ignore stop signs, many of which were installed as a method of controlling speed in the village.

Members of the community have suggested various methods to improve security in the village. One of these is to erect cameras at strategic points in Pearly Beach. A camera system has been installed in Hermanus by the Hermanus Ratepayers' Association at a cost in excess of R1.2 m. The system is connected to a control office under 24 hour a day surveillance. However this has not been operating long enough for its success to be measured.

Another suggestion is that a drone be used to assist in combating crime. Drones can be used successfully during the day, but have a very short flying time, as the battery life is less than 30 minutes. In my opinion, the most effective method of combating crime in any area is an active neighbourhood watch system, operating under the auspices of a Community Policing Forum. This could then be supplemented with the use of a drone or a monitored camera system.

**ALDERMAN DUDLEY COETZEE  
COUNCILLOR FOR WARD 11**

5 January 2017