



WITZENBERG NEWS

Municipality • Munisipaliteit • U Masipala Wase

A municipality that cares for its community, creating growth and opportunity!

September - October 2024



Executive Mayor
Cllr Trevor Abrahams

From the Mayor's Desk

Good day All

As we welcome Spring and soon Summer, we are well on our way towards the end of yet another great year. May we start to reflect on our successes and shortcomings, but despite all the highs and lows we all go through sometimes in our lives, may we never lose hope!

As Council we recently honoured local long-distance runner and Paris Olympian, Adriaan Wildschutt, with a special celebration held in Tulbagh (pictured below). During the Olympics Adriaan not only set a new personal record, but also a new national record in the 10 000m race. This young and humble athlete is such an inspiration and a great rolemodel to us all, especially the youth. During his address Adriaan thanked the Municipality, and his family and friends for their ongoing support. Although still mainly focused on his athletics career, he wants to give back to the community of Witzenberg in a big way.

The Municipality, together with multiple stakeholder participation, recently launched the Witzenberg Climate Change Needs Assessment and Response Plan. This plan identifies existing municipal level climate change-related vulnerabilities in our municipal area, within the Western Cape Province. It maps out the local government responses recommended to address these vulnerabilities and to ensure that no one gets left behind in overcoming these. Read more on page 2.

We also held a round of Jamborees and IDP meetings between September to October. If you missed the opportunity to engage with our departmental officials, you can still have your say by sending us an email to admin@witzenberg.gov.za or call our Department IDP and Public participation on 023 316 1854.

On a sombre note, the extreme vandalism and theft of municipal infrastructure and property is of great concern. As a result, millions of rands are spent on repairing and in most cases replacing infrastructure to ensure basic service delivery to all communities. However, this is placing an even greater burden on an already strained municipal budget and finances and takes away from improving service delivery to and uplifting society.

Although we had good rain this past winter season and our dams are full, we urge all to continue to use water sparingly and responsibly and report all water waste to our control room. Together with the warmer weather and beautiful Spring blooms, we invite all to come and experience all the Witzenberg valley has to offer. For more details visit the local Witzenberg Tourism offices situated in Ceres, Tulbagh and Wolseley respectively or check out their social media pages. We hope to welcome you all to Witzenberg soon! Take care.



24-hr Control Room

Report all service delivery issues and emergencies to:

023 492 0181/2

Alternative numbers
ONLY when landlines are down:
ER1 - 081 896 5480
ER2 - 081 896 0998

Kindly save the above numbers to your phone & share with family and friends.



For municipal updates and news

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Municipal Climate Change Response Plan launched

Witzenberg Municipality together with the Democracy Works Foundation (DWF) recently launched its newly developed Climate Change Needs Assessment and Response Plan. This plan identifies existing municipal level climate change-related vulnerabilities in Witzenberg, in the Western Cape Province. It maps out the local government responses recommended to address these vulnerabilities and to ensure that no one gets left behind in the overcoming these.

DWF, together with Green Patch Connect, developed the plan at the official request of the Witzenberg Municipality. The development of the plan was done in close collaboration with the Municipality and was subject to extensive engagements with stakeholders from public, private and civil society sectors. The DWF team also hosted various focus group discussions with various public interest groups for example those representing agriculture – a key economic driver in the municipality – and formally presented the draft plan to the Council to facilitate the adoption of the plan.

This initiative is part of the Foundation's commitment to supporting good climate change governance through the *Fostering Inclusive Growth through Climate Change Champions* (FIG CCC) project. The project aims to enhance Civil Society participation in municipal and private sector decision-making processes within the climate change and development nexus, in line with the Just Transition framework. The development of multi-stakeholder participation in municipal climate change planning tools is a key outcome of the project.

This launch was hosted in the spirit of bringing the project to a close; handing over the climate change planning tools to the Municipality for approval and implementation; and connecting municipal officials with support networks from government and the private sector to ensure sustainability of municipal climate change planning and response mechanisms.

Witzenberg Municipality appreciates the DWF as a key strategic partner, and we are grateful for the opportunity to deepen democratic processes in local government climate change planning and responding.

The FIG CCC project is co-funded by the European Union and ran from March 2021 until August 2024 in the Northern Cape and Western Cape provinces of South Africa.

COLLECTION OF DEBT THROUGH PREPAID ELECTRICITY PURCHASES

Auxiliary deduction from prepaid purchases is a debt collection mechanism that is in accordance with the municipal **Credit Control and Debt Collection Policy**. It has been part of Witzenberg Municipality's debt collection policy for many years, but it was only recently implemented as a debt collection mechanism.

This means that if a consumer has arrear or outstanding debt on their municipal account, we may be able to recover it through prepaid electricity purchases.

How does it work? When you purchase prepaid electricity, we subtract a percentage of the purchase of the electricity, which goes toward paying your arrear debt. Kindly note that the auxiliary deduction is not a penalty, the money is credited to the outstanding balance on the municipal account.

How much is deducted? A portion of electricity purchases (30%) is taken and set off against arrears that are due.

When will the deductions stop? We will only stop deducting from your prepaid purchases if:

- The customer's account is paid up to date.
- The customer has made a payment arrangement as per our Credit control and Debt Collection policy and the payment agreement is paid up to date.

WITZENBERG MUNICIPALITY'S BANKING DETAILS:

NAME OF ACCOUNT:	OTHER PAYMENT OPTIONS:
WITZENBERG MUNICIPALITY	1) EFT
NAME OF BANK:	2) EASYPAY WEBSITE
FIRST NATIONAL BANK	(ONLINE) /EASYPAY MOBILE
BRANCH CODE: 200107	3) PICK 'n PAY STORES
ACCOUNT NUMBER:	4) SHOPRITE USAVE
627 482 18444	5) SPAR KIOSK (SELECTED)



FINANCE NOTICE: UPDATE CLIENT INFORMATION

Witzenberg Municipality is committed to customer service and to communicate important information to our customers. Updated information ensures that our customers receive monthly statements and any municipal reminders on time. The municipality can provide municipal accounts electronically to customers, and if you have a mobile phone and/or email address, we urge you to update your information. Customers can visit their local municipal office or write an email to account@witzenberg.gov.za to update their details.

THE POWER OF TREES PROTECTING US FROM CLIMATE CHANGE



What is air pollution?

Air pollution happens when harmful gases, like carbon dioxide (CO₂), get released into the air.



What is climate change?

Climate change is when our planet gets warmer because gases like CO₂ trap the sun's heat in the atmosphere. This is bad for the environment.



How do trees help?

Trees absorb CO₂ and release oxygen. This helps cool down the earth.

September is Public Service Month!

Batho Pele is a belief set that is used to improve service delivery in the public service.

In Sesotho it means "People First", an approach to get public servants committed to serving people and to find ways to improve service delivery.

BATHO PELE PRINCIPLES

Consultation
Service Standards
Access
Courtesy
Information
Openness and transparency
Redress
Value for Money

Theme: "Building a Professional Public Service for Inclusive Quality Service Delivery".

Municipal Women's Month Celebration



AIR BAG... OR BODY BAG?

#SpeedKills

Western Cape Government

#SafelyHome

safely home

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETINGS IN REVIEW 2025/26 IDP & BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that in terms of Council's Strategic Process Plan, there will now be embarked upon a round of public participation meetings to assemble the inputs from the community in respect of the Review 2025/2026 IDP and Budget.

The IDP meetings will be held in the various towns from **7-16 October 2024**.

NOTE the change in dates.

Meetings with the different forums & sectors will also be held.



DAY	DATE	TIME	TOWN	WARD	PLACE
Monday	7 October	6pm	Ceres	3 & 5	Ceres Town Hall
Tuesday	8 October	6pm	Wolsley	2 & 7	Montana Community Hall
Wednesday	9 October	6pm	Bella Vista	4 & 6	Bella Vista Community Hall
Thursday	10 October	6pm	Op-die-Berg	8 & 9	Nyukintaba Community Hall
Monday	14 October	6pm	P A Hamlet	4 & 10	Kliprug Community Hall
Tuesday	15 October	6pm	Tulbagh	7 & 11	Witzenville Community Hall
Wednesday	16 October	6pm	N'duli	1 & 12	N'duli Community Hall

NOTICE OF IMPOUNDMENT OF ANIMALS

Notice hereby given that stray animals will be impounded in terms of sect 6(1) of the Witzenberg Municipality: By-Law Relating to pounds nr. 7404 of 19 June 2015.

The owner of animals must: - Ensure that his/her animals are always under control and accompanied by and animals guard - Ensure that the animals does not pose any danger to the public or vehicles - Ensure that no roaming animals are being found on any public road or in the vicinity of a public road - Ensure that any animal in his/her possession are clearly marked with the owners unique marking.

Impounded animals will not be handed over to any person, unless: - He/she can proof ownership of the animal/s - All cost incurred relating to the impounded animal/s, including dipping, medical treatment, inoculation or any other treatment in terms of the By-Law, is fully paid - The impounded animal/s are claimed by the owner within 14 days of date of and includes date of first impoundment. (Impounded animals for a period longer than 14 days, will be sold on public auction).

Impoundment costs: - The owner of any impounded animal/s will be held liable for the payment of the impounded and any other cost incurred during the stay of an animal in the pound - The fees of an impounded animal accumulates on a daily basis per animal per day a portion of the day and also includes transport costs and where applicable, any veterinary services deemed necessary for the well-being of an animal - Horses, cows, pigs, sheep, goats, and any other animal, R150 per day, bulls and stallions, R200 per day and rams, R160 per day. Tariffs are inclusive of vat. - All animals will be sold on public auction, after a period of impoundment of 14 days to cover any costs accrued - The court may order the owner of an animal not sold on such auction, to pay any outstanding fees.

For any further enquiries please contact:

Municipal Manager: D. Nasson

at (023) 316-8196



The Witzenberg MRF team was informed of the need of books for Witzenberg Association of People with Disability (APD) on social media. The Witzenberg MRF team decided to donate some of the books that were recycled at the MRF to Witzenberg APD. This helps us to minimize the waste ending up in our landfill by re-using, recycling and recovery.

Michell's Pass Half Marathon

26 October
Saturday @ 07:00

Entries Open: 1 August 2024

Ceres
The perfect place to grow juice

Stalls & Refreshments



Info/Enter online: www.entryninja.com/events/80826-michells-pass-half-marathon