

## 2011 March Newsletter

Members who receive this newsletter in time are reminded that this weekend (5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> March) is the final weekend for voter registration. It is important that all South Africans have a voice in government, so please ensure you and your family can make your mark during the May municipal elections. This brings to mind our own membership. We need to maintain a strong voice with the municipality and therefore urge residents to speak to neighbours and friends who may be non-members, and encourage them to join with us in ensuring standards are maintained.

While your Committee has a good blend of skills covering a number of different disciplines, we occasionally need outside advice on certain specialised issues. In this regard we would like to build a skills database of members who are willing to provide such advice to us on an ad-hoc basis. The emphasis is on “occasional” and “ad-hoc”, so we will certainly not want, or expect any more time from you than can be conveniently given. If you have an accounting, auditing, legal, municipal, civil or mechanical engineering, town planning or other professional background, and are willing to provide occasional input to the Committee if and when required, can you please send us an email outlining your skills background, and areas of interest. We look forward to hearing from you.

We have received more complaints about dog mess on beaches. Should you spot dog owners not picking up behind their pets, please would you either give them a doggie bag or ask them to obey the dog-walking rules of the beach.

We have multiple domestic issues this month. While on the topic of cleaning up, it has also been brought to our attention that garden refuse is often left standing on pavements for some time ahead of collection days, causing the neighbourhood to look untidy. It would be appreciated if all refuse could be kept out-of-sight until the evening before or morning of garbage collection, if possible. In addition, we have once more received complaints about empty stands being used to dump garden refuse. With a recycling scheme in full swing, thus reducing the quantity of household garbage, please use the 7 bag or bundle system to dispose of garden refuse.

Just a brief update on security issues where house-breaking and theft from vehicles is on the increase both in Wilderness, mainly along the beach side, and Kleinkrantz where it has escalated to almost a daily problem. We all need to work together as a team to make it as difficult as possible for petty criminals, who target what they perceive as areas with security weaknesses. Where you spot new supplies of blue and black refuse bags lying in your neighbours' driveways or gardens while they are away, please do the neighbourly thing and place them out-of-sight, to avoid signaling potential targets to petty criminals.

We regret to advise the few members whose subs are still outstanding that this will be their final newsletter, as we are already six months into our financial year. If you wish to continue being kept up-to-date with local matters, please settle your subs before month-end.