



THEMBELIHLE

Incorporating the towns of Strydenburg and Hopetown

Northern Cape Province, Republic of South Africa

LOCAL MUNICIPALITY
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VERSION 3

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MUNICIPALITY PUBLIC UPDATE

The Municipality since the last update has experienced many developments in the municipal area. This was both positive and negative. Government has marked this year as the Centenary of Nelson Mandela and Albertina Sisulu. As Country we are entering Women's month, and we call on all to protect the vulnerable.

"We pledge ourselves to liberate all our people from the continuing bondage of poverty, deprivation, suffering, gender and other discrimination." – Nelson Mandela

The update would reflect on the work and activities of the last 7 (SEVEN) months since January 2018.

Council highlighted in the last update certain planned activities for 2018, progress to date;

- Councillors were part of Back to School assessments
- Council Meetings were convened:
 - Review of the IDP
 - Adopted Budget
 - Adopted Audit Action Plan
 - Budget related Policies
 - Adopted reviewed Tariffs for the Financial Year (2018/2019)
- Council Meets the People convened (certain areas unsuccessful in the second round)
- Smart Metering System – appointed Company to improve the metering system (electricity and water)
- Commenced to meet businesses
- The Chief Financial Officer post was advertised, the Municipality in process to finalise for appointment
- Council reactivated talks with Orania.
- Projects are still continuing in the Municipality.

State of the Municipality:

The Municipality is not immune to challenges experienced by communities. Council always at the best want to address challenges through Ward Councillors and all other Stakeholders. For the past 7 (SEVEN) months the Council recorded a considerable amount of positives that would be reflected on later.

The Council must pause to reflect on the current situation specifically in Hopetown. The Council upfront want to offer an apology to society at large for the sudden

turmoil experienced through an uprising by a segment of the Community of Hopetown. The apology is afforded based on the fact that the Thembelihle Council is a responsible government of the people. The Council condemn the sporadic attack on shops owned by Foreigners in our areas through looting and malicious damage to properties. These properties in some cases belong to citizens of South Africa. We wish to thank the SAPS for the continued service to protect us, the people of Thembelihle.

Council was not informed or aware of the sudden protest action that occurred. We are sure that businesses suffered losses and service delivery to our people was denied.

The peaceful march of 4 May 2018 delivered a memorandum to the Council with number of complaints and suggestions raised. The Council on several occasions attempted to respond and were denied through disruptions by the very people requiring responses from Council. The Municipality through its Council delivered the responses 22 June 2018 to the Conveners of the protesters. Council is willing to work with all communities as it was done all along. Council never refused to respond to the memorandum delivered and has already institutionalized number of the issues raised by the communities, including daily complaints and suggestions received. In short the Municipality is addressing the matters raised by members of the Community.

The sudden protest action has now as a result led to a number of minors (possible learners) being arrested. The uncontrolled actions have left our children vulnerable and the Council call on us to protect our children. We cannot deny the communities platform to raise matters or challenges but we cannot have self-proclaimed governance structures developed, and take over the Constitutional obligation of Thembelihle Municipality Council.

The following is some positives that can be reflected:

- ❖ Water situation stabilised in Hopetown, Strydenburg is still under control.
- ❖ In process to complete Strydenburg 63 sites.
EIA processes for submission to COGHSTA.
- ❖ Pour Flush Toilets Project continues in Hopetown and Strydenburg (Provision of toilets).
- ❖ Electrification Project commenced (bulk line and house connection follow later).
- ❖ Road and Stormwater Project in final stage.
- ❖ Sewende (7de) Laan Project nearing completion.
- ❖ Filling of Chief Financial Officer post in final stage.
- ❖ Council established LED Forum.
- ❖ Municipality honouring ESKOM agreement.
- ❖ Agree with COGTA on Revenue Enhancement programme, that commenced already.
- ❖ Council had Mandela Day programmes both in Hopetown and Strydenburg.
- ❖ Title Deeds are available and will be handed over in due course.
- ❖ Completion of 1st phase of Church Street and will be reopened soon.
- ❖ Launched the Impumelo Project – Vodacom IT Centre.
- ❖ Launch of CWP Local Advisory Council.
- ❖ ±90 young people are currently engaged in Learnership Programmes.
- ❖ Engagement with Hopetown Community Forum.

- ❖ Government Departments including Parastatals are performing services in the area.
- ❖ Once more our children have performed well in sports – all codes (locally, Regionally, Provincially and Nationally).

Service Account Holders are urged to continue pay for services, as this is the most practical way of increasing our revenue and to improve service delivery.

Municipality continue to urge communities to use water responsibly at all times.

The Council wish to thank businesses for their continued support and for payment of services.

Home owners are thanked for payments of services and others are encouraged to do the same.

The Church Leaders, farmers and certain businesses have shown keen interest to assist the Municipality to clean up the towns.

The Council congratulate Pep Stores on their facelift, this has certainly improved their image and delivery. Other business in the Main Road must be encouraged to do the same.

The Council invite Community members to provide us with complaints and also suggestions on how to improve on a consistent basis.

The Council call on communities not to grow impatient with our fellow citizen, our neighbours, our public servants, our businesses, our foreign brothers and sister, our leaders and fellow compatriots; let us rather help to better the areas of weaknesses.

Councillors remain elected leaders and are accountable to the entire communities.

The Council extend to all stakeholders to join hands in building our beautiful towns.

The Public is urged to attend the planned Community meetings of Council planned for 2018 year.

Let us unite in peace and excel in our ability to do good.

“There can be no keener revelation of a society’s soul than the way in which it treat its children.” – Nelson Mandela

Any suggestions can be forwarded to:

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