

Southbroom *Kwa Zulu Natal, South Africa*

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2018

Hi Everyone,

The reality of real life in 2018 has now set in but wow what an amazing season we had. Some great weather saw our beaches packed with families having fun, in fact many said it was the busiest they have ever seen Southbroom beach, it would seem the secret is



out and more and more people are discovering our little gem. The buzz around town was fantastic, the restaurants did an excellent job of keeping everyone fed and lubricated; we hope all our visitors had a great time and come back soon.

We do appreciate the fact that the vast majority of visitors respect our environment but unfortunately there are always the few who spoil things for the many; speeding, dumping litter and letting off fireworks is not only selfish but a threat to our environment.

This little grey duiker hates loud noises. Duiker and bushbuck can often be seen crossing the road, if you are going too fast you might hit them.



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: FEBRUARY 2018 by Brian Thompson

AGM

The AGM went well with good attendance and interaction. A copy of my annual report which was presented to the meeting is attached for information. The following matters, which were brought up under general, require action:

- The security of the water reservoir – We have requested a site meeting with Ugu to agree a plan to replace the missing manholes and improve access control.
- Contamination of Umkobi lagoon - We met with the chairman of the Umkobi Lodge, who provided details of the installation of a new sewerage plant at the end of 2017, and will send us the monthly analysis of water samples.

NEW YEAR PARTY

The party was a success with reduced numbers (about 1560) as agreed, and no complaints. The party area and beach were clean on New Year's Day and there were no issues of concern.

The one way system on Imbezane Drive that we implemented with assistance of RNM Traffic to try and regulate traffic flow did not work. We plan to get all the affected departments together early before the 2018 party to ensure that permissions and signage are in place in time

BEACHES AND POOLS

The tidal pool specialist that we engaged to repair the top of the walls and leaks in the side walls of the main beach tidal pool were unable to complete the repairs before the December holiday season, this work should be complete shortly.

RNM held a site meeting with service providers who will provide tenders to maintain the wooden structures at Granny's beach, and we will monitor progress.

RNM advised that they have requested tenders to refurbish the ablutions at the main beach, and we will monitor progress.

UPDATE ON BEACHES & POOLS from Brian Dick

- The repair and maintenance work to the Main Beach ablution block, carried out before the December holiday season, was well received with positive feed-back from many visitors and beach goers. This work was funded by SRA.
- Phase 1 of the repairs to the storm damaged tidal pool was also funded by SRA and completed before the visitors arrived; positive feed-back and comments were also received.
- Phase 2 will commence on February 1st and will be completed by mid-February. This project is also funded by SRA.
- In addition to these projects on-going minor maintenance work was carried out at all our beaches and funded by SRA

ROADS

RNM appointed a contractor to complete an extensive pothole repair programme. Work started in College and Churchill roads in January, and we will monitor progress with the agreed schedule. I have requested a meeting with the Municipal Manager to discuss a proposal for a loan to fund the repair of most of the Southbroom roads, which will be managed and repaid by way of a levy by ratepayers through the Southbroom Property Owners Association; I am waiting for a response.



My thanks go to Dietmar Klein who repaired several large potholes in Lewin road with cold mix tar and a stamper.

WATER AND SEWERAGE

Fortunately, there were no water outages during the holiday season. However there was a 2 day outage towards the end of January following a major pipe break on the main line from the Umtamvuna water works, which was repaired by Ugu.

We have requested a site meeting with the Ugu General Manager Water to discuss:

- Security and **missing manholes from the water reservoir**
- **A large leak of water from the reservoir** which has been flowing through a nearby resident's garden for some time
- The repair of two road verges damaged by Ugu plumbers when repairing pipe breaks

MUNICIPAL BY-LAWS

New municipal nuisance by-laws came into effect on 1 January 2018. Please see below media statement issued by RNM which pertains specifically to public disturbance and noise by-laws.

8. Noise

(1) No person may in a public place cause or permit to be caused any disturbance or impairment of the convenience or peace of any person by shouting, screaming or making any other loud or persistent noise or sound, including amplified noise or sound, except where such noise or sound is emanating from (a) an authorised public meeting, gathering, congregation or event; or (b) an emergency or rescue announcement, which noise or sound is normally associated with such meeting, gathering, congregation, event or situation and in accordance with the conditions of authorisation of any such meeting, gathering, congregation, event or situation.

(2) Subject to subsection (1), no person may permit noise or sound from a private residence or business premises in his or her control to be audible to users outside of such premises to such an extent that it reasonably interferes with the use and enjoyment by an owner or occupier of his or her property, except for places of entertainment as defined in the planning scheme on zoned premises where noise or sound is normally associated with the normal use of such place and in accordance with the conditions of authorisation of that business: Provided that no person may permit any noise or sound to emanate from a private residence or business premises.

(3) Notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2), **no person may cause or permit to be caused any disturbance or impairment of the convenience or peace of any person within the following times: (a) from Sunday to Thursday, between 21h30 to 07h00; and (b) from Friday to Saturday, between 00h00 to 08h00.**

Promulgation of RNM nuisance by-laws

MEDIA STATEMENT BY RAY NKONYENI MUNICIPALITY:

The municipality calls upon general public to cooperate and comply with the new Nuisance and Behaviour in Public Places Bylaw 2017 as it has since been promulgated and came into effect on the first day of January 2018.

The Ray Nkonyeni Municipal Council, acting under the authority of Section 156(2) of the Constitution, 1996, read with Section 12(3) (b) of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act No. 32 of 2000), published these by-laws as adopted by the Council at its meeting held last year on 28 November 2017, under resolution C136/11/2017.

These by-laws' purpose is to provide for measures for preventing, minimising or managing public nuisance and also to prohibit certain activities or conduct in public places. The municipality was previously relying on by-laws of the Transitional Local Councils (TLC's) which were termed as "Ordinances" and which in some instances were applied differently depending on which town a community member resides. For example the by-laws of Hibberdene TLC were slightly different to those of Margate TLC. So therefore the promulgation of the new Nuisance and Behaviour in Public Places Bylaw 2017 will seek to address the discrepancies caused by the previous by-laws. At some instances the previous by-laws made things difficult for the Law Enforcement Officers to enforce and keep order.

This by-law prohibits wrongful acts to mention a few such as acting in a manner dangerous to life or damage of property, urinating or defecating in public, perform any sexual act, appear naked or expose genitals, spit, consume any liquor or be drunk and engage in illegal business or prostitution. Other

social aspects highlighted in these by-laws are that the residents are not allowed to start or burn fires unless it is for the purpose of making a braai in permitted areas.

People are encouraged to familiarise themselves with these by-laws as ignorance cannot be accepted as an excuse for a breach of it. The by-laws are available on Ray Nkonyeni Municipality website,:

http://www.rnm.gov.za/HCM_Documents/Policies%20SDBIP/ByLaw%20-%20Nuisance%20and%20Behavior%20in%20Public%20Places.pdf

For more information contact:

Simon M April

Senior Manager: Mayoralty and Communications

Ray Nkonyeni Municipality

+27 72 057 5387 Simon.April@rnm.gov.za /Simon.Apri95@gmail.com

CONSERVANCY CHATTER – by Anne Skelton

Thank you to all who attended the AGM on 6th January 2018 and those who renewed their subs for 2018.

Congratulations to the 2018 committee, the first committee meeting has now taken place and the following portfolios agreed, contact details can be found on the www.southbroom.org website.

Chairperson: Anne Skelton

Honorary President, Vice Chair & Spokesperson: David Halle

Treasurer: Bob Kempthorne – Local Finances: Mike Lyall

Secretary: Dawne Murray

Committee: John Pole, Richard Savage, Les Savage, Malcolm Sutton, Dave Cox, Deric Mohr.

Colin says he has seen a white-eared barbet locally. They are usually seen further north but have occasionally been seen down here. With global warming they seem to be expanding their range southwards. <https://southcoastsun.co.za/98660/white-eared-barbet/>

Colin is also one of three who lay claim to having seen a Pel's fishing owl here. Keep those cameras on hand.

The Eagle island baobab looks to be happy and settling in well. Dare we hope for a flower or two next October – December? Here is a bit more info for those interested: <http://pza.sanbi.org/adansonia-digitata> It is not the only baobab down here. There is another in North Ridge road, a 10 year old sapling in Leigh road and three of varying ages in Ramsgate. I have been asked about the straps. They need to stay for 18 months so they are only due to come off March 2019. Please just be patient.

On the subject of special trees: there are another 4 Pondo palm <http://pza.sanbi.org/jubaeopsis-caffra> seedlings gracing the Outlook walk. Thank you Dave Halle for doing the digging and Terry Mitchell for the seedlings.

Many of you will have seen that the Tennis club and surrounds are having a facelift. Thanks to Sylvia Gudegast for arranging the planting of shrubs and trees sourced at Simply Indigenous.

Brad, Reggie and Philemon continue to do a sterling job of clearing up litter. It seems impossible that there is more to be winkled out of the bushes but the supply appears to be never ending. We have asked for bins at the Superette and garage as the others were stolen. Who steals rubbish bins?



We are delighted that the SA Bird of the Year, The African Black Oystercatcher is an often seen resident on our stretch of the coast



Grey Heron fishing in the Golf course dams
Thanks to Malcolm Sutton for these amazing bird photos.



The viewing deck at the Frederika Reserve is undergoing a major refurbishment by the Conservancy. Take a stroll from the end of Woodlands Road up to the deck to enjoy the view



A visitor enjoying a swim in the disabled wheelchair, this is one of two beach wheelchairs maintained by Conservancy and housed on the deck at Grannies Pool. Contact number to obtain the key and use the chair can be found on the chair hut.

Managed correctly our wildlife can add so much pleasure to our reserves and our whole village. Please consult Conservancy before starting to clear stands for whatever reason to ensure we retain as many indigenous trees and vegetation as possible.

If you are not a member of the Southbroom Conservancy join up now and make your contribution to the excellent work these guys are doing. Contact Dawne Murray : imageworks@ibi.co.za



Anyone driving in Captain Smith Road past the Southbroom Tennis Club might have noticed all the recent activity and some of the changes taking place.

Most immediately visible is the planting on the pavement of Captain Smith (*Dietes*, for the cognoscenti), next to the courts alongside the very broken road leading to Eyles Park and the club house (there, Bushman's poison bush – *Acokanthera oppositifolia*), and near the Southbroom Conservancy's indigenous garden. Speaking of which, the conservancy has also undertaken to plant some indigenous trees near the clubhouse, which will bring some welcome shade to chill under after the heat of the events.

But that road to Eyles Park! It remains a bone of contention, and there are forever attempts by the Ratepayers' Association to achieve the seemingly impossible – to get the municipality to repair it. The refurbishment of the clubhouse is still underway. Both the exterior and interior have been repainted and the patio is also being extended to provide more shelter outside.



The initiation of the extended patio at the STC clubhouse on Sunday, when a visiting team from Weltevreden Park took on two teams from Southbroom and surrounds.

Photo: Philip Schaffler



The club's longer-term goal is the resurfacing of two of the courts. Of course, any donations will be welcomed. You might even be mentioned in despatches. Work has also been done by club members in the stream alongside the courts. The severe storms in December led to the erosion of the banks, which posed a threat to the courts. Rocks and debris have been cleared from the bed of the stream, which has also been partially diverted to avoid further erosion.

Just ended is a men's Team Tennis Championships, between the Weltevreden Tennis Club from Jo'burg and South Coast teams. The tournament was played on Friday February 2 in Uvongo and in Southbroom on Sunday February 4. Southbroom won the internal team challenge and the overall challenge was won by Weltevreden Park.

All the noise later was from the carousing that followed.

The Southbroom team was the winner of the internal team challenge.

Photo: Frank Hall

Coming up are the annual club championships. All the doubles will be played in February and March in a round-robin format. The singles matches will start in April.

On Sunday February 11 is the Women's Doubles Round Robin starting at 1.30pm, which is usually themed Valentine's Day. (The ladies love wine and chocolates, guys! And some attention, of course.)

Then is the Men's Doubles Round Robin is on Sunday February 18, also starting at 1.30pm.

The Mixed Doubles Final is on Saturday March 24, starting at noon, and both the Men's Doubles Final and the Women's Double Final are on Sunday March 25, also starting at noon.

A good turnout of spectators would be greatly appreciated by the players, so why not pack a picnic basket, grab a flagon of wine and enter the spirit of the games. Sadly, Federer has other commitments and won't be there.

Club days are on Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2pm. Visitors are welcome, but there is a R30 visitor's fee. The courts are open 24/7 (for night-time games, take a torch), and there is an honesty box. The fee is R30 per court.

For anyone wanting to up their game, Frank Hall is the resident coach. He can be contacted on 083 274 5888. And for anyone wanting to get fit (fitter?), he also conducts cardio sessions at the courts on Mondays at 8am and Tuesday at 4pm. Some might find it fun. — *Alfred Hayter, STC voluntary scribe*

SOUTHBROOM BOWLING CLUB NEWS by Julie Walker

There's plenty of activity at Southbroom Bowling Club. The chicken-and-egg competition has been reintroduced on the last Friday of the month except February, when the club will be hosting 24 British bowlers touring the South Coast to mark their club's golden anniversary.

St Valentine's Day and St Patrick's Day will also be celebrated by Southbroom members with bowls and snacks. There is social tabs-in followed by a bring 'n' braai on the last Sunday of each month; the bowlers bring salads to share.

During the summer months, tabs-in are 2pm for 2.30pm on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday, and an hour later for 12 ends on Fridays, and the bar is always open afterwards. Any queries, please phone the secretary:

Julie Walker - 083 273 6840 or southbroombowls@gmail.com



Southbroom bowlers know how to party, having fun on the patio

SOUTHBROOM GOLF CLUB

The Golf club was very busy over the holidays, the daily casual suppers on the stoep introduced for season proving extremely popular with both members and visitors.

The Club discontinued the daily suppers after season but back by popular demand are the Friday and Saturday evening dinners on the patio. Check the menu and book at the Club.

Even if you are not a golfer, why not join as a social member, SGC has become a social hub of Southbroom with regular functions, such as Winston Smile on Saturday 10th February and the Valentines dinner dance on 14th February.

Join up now so as not to miss out and enjoy all the benefits of membership.



SOUTHBROOM RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

We know that here in the Newsletter we are preaching to the converted and the majority of our subscribers are members of SRA. If not you will see from the attached annual report how important it is to support this organisation. Please also encourage friends and neighbours to join, the more money we can bring in the more we can do to maintain and improve our surroundings.

Drop a line to admin@southbroom.org to find out more and join up.

Thank you to all those who support SRA and have paid their subs for 2018 and if you haven't paid we would appreciate your doing so asap.

Anyone who has a business in Southbroom and is a member of SRA is entitled to a free listing under our business directory on the website www.southbroom.org. If your business is not listed please contact us with your details. If your business requires directional signage or a sign at the main entrance please also send us your details and Petra Klein who handles signage, will contact you.

We wish everyone everything of the best for 2018 – keep Southbroom beautiful.

Jackie Pratt – SOUTHBROOM RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION – admin@southbroom.org



SOUTHBROOM RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 23 DECEMBER 2017

OPENING

Ladies and gentlemen, welcome and thank you for your participation at this meeting. 2017 was a difficult year, with our main focus being roads and water. Our approach has always been to work on a cooperative basis with the local municipalities, but we have had mixed cooperation from the municipalities in 2017.

PROPERTY VALUATIONS

New property valuations were published on the municipal website on 17 February 2017 and notices were sent to all property owners in February. The new valuations initially appeared to have been reasonable, but we received many complaints about the large increase in rates after the July rates bills were issued in August. The increase arose mainly from the increase in property valuations for the five year period from 2012 to 2017, which were implemented on 1 July 2017. The increase in the rates randage on 1 July 2017 for residential properties was only 3.5%.

The overall market value of Southbroom properties increased by 6% in 2017. Therefore, the average rates increase should have been 6% for valuations plus 3.5% for randage = 9.5%. However, the average market value of residential properties increased by 12% (compared with 0% for sectional title properties and a 37% decrease in vacant stands), which gives an average rates increase of about 15.5% for residential properties. However, there were many residential properties with increases of far more than 15.5%, which meant that their property valuations were higher than average.

We assisted residents in lodging objections against property valuation (there were about 80 objections in Southbroom)

MUNICIPAL INTERACTION

I attended Ward committee meetings for the first half of the year, but the Ward committee system was changed after the municipal elections, and I have had no feedback on the way forward. We have a good relationship with many municipal departments, but they all claim lack of budget. We were unsuccessful in arranging a meeting with the RNM municipal manager to make a presentation on roads.

Surprisingly, we were invited to attend a meeting with senior Ugu management (including the mayor and municipal manager) on 17 August, at which they presented the major water projects in the district. The important project for Southbroom is the upgrade to the main water supply from the Umtamvuna water works which will increase capacity from 20 MI to 30 MI and is scheduled for completion in March 2018.

The new mayor appears to be focused on service delivery and cooperation with ratepayers, and gave me the opportunity to express our main issues, namely:

The reliability of the main water pipe from the bulk water supply from the Umtamvuna water works to Southbroom, particularly leaks near the Mpenjati river. The mayor advised that this was in the program, but waiting for funds to be allocated.

Ugu water tankers damaging Southbroom roads and noise when they fill up the takers at the Lewin road hydrant for emergency water supply in other areas. The mayor agreed to investigate, and a new water refill site was established outside of the Southbroom village.

Southbroom has numerous water outages from breaks from ageing asbestos pipes which need to be replaced with PVC pipes. The mayor advised that there are limited funds, but they will consider this request in future. We also continue to have a good relationship and cooperation with the Conservancy and CPF.

ROADS

Roads was our major focus for 2017, and we established a database of all roads including an assessment of the condition and maintenance done on each road. We arranged a site inspection by the RNM Roads Manager in January, and we jointly rated the condition of roads.

RNM responded quickly and refurbished Rivulet road (which was the only road rated Very Bad at the time). RNM also proceeded with a comprehensive programme of pothole repairs after this meeting. In order to supplement the RNM repairs we appointed Margate Asphalt to repair 100m² of potholes in May. .

We arranged a contractor to replace the two cone type speed restrictors in Captain Smith roads near the tennis courts with 20 kph asphalt speed humps, because we have had many complaints about speeding vehicles on this road. The contractor also added a new speed hump at the south of Captain Smith road, following complaints that residents had difficulty in getting out of their driveways because of speeding vehicles.

We are aware of the concerns about the safety of pedestrians in the village centre near the Doctor's offices. We had a meeting with RNM in January and they originally agreed to erect a "raised" pedestrian crossing to reduce

speeding in this area, but this never happened. We then requested a quotation from a contractor to install a “raised” pedestrian crossing, but there was a long delay because of RNM specifications and liability issues. We eventually appointed a contractor to install a speed hump in November, but this has been postponed to early 2018 because of bad weather

We had favourable comments on the new traffic circle and signage that we installed on Southbroom drive to replace the Ponytail tree that was damaged by a reckless driver. We investigated adding a solar light to the sign pole, but were unsuccessful.

I was unsuccessful in arranging a meeting with the RNM Municipal Manager to discuss the unacceptable condition of Southbroom roads for more than four months. A meeting was eventually held with the HOD Technical and road managers on 27 September, and I made a comprehensive presentation on Southbroom roads. The main problem appears to be that there is inadequate budget for road repairs, which is decided by RNM councillors and not the managers (i.e. a political decision). We did achieve some benefits from this meeting by way of a commitment to refurbish College and Beach roads, regular liaison meetings with RNM roads superintendent, improved pothole repair program, painting of lines and signage, and drain clearance program. RNM also implemented a comprehensive road repair program for the second half of the year, which resulted in the improved condition of many of the roads. Unfortunately, they were unable to complete this programme before mid-December because of bad weather. My thanks go to Dietmar Klein for his initiative to purchase and store a supply of cold mix tar and a stamper, and making repairs to “problem” potholes.

We requested a meeting with the Municipal Manager to discuss a proposal for a loan to fund the repair of most of the Southbroom roads, which will be managed and repaid by way of a levy by ratepayers through the Southbroom Property Owners Association. If RNM agree with this proposal a resolution will be required from ratepayers at a special meeting.

WATER AND SEWERAGE

There were many water outages in March, mainly because of pipe breaks on the bulk water supply from the Umtamvuna water works. These breaks impacted all water users between Port Edward and Southbroom, and Clr. Dave Watson and the DA have taken this matter up with Ugu, who are not complying with their mandate to supply water to users. The DA also arranged a protest march to the Ugu offices on 15 March, and requested an intervention by the KZN provincial government.

There were also many breaks to the ageing asbestos pipes used for water reticulation within Southbroom. Ugu responded promptly with repairs, and we contacted the Ugu municipal manager, who agreed to consider replacing the old asbestos pipes with PVC pipes in some areas in 2018.

In November the entire South Coast area had a major water outage due to an unprotected strike by municipal workers, which was accompanied by sabotage of water infrastructure by the striking employees. The Southbroom outage was 8 days, but some areas in Ramsgate had an outage of more than 14 days. Fortunately, many Southbroom residents have water tanks and pumps, and I thank the local water shop (GoZone), which managed to meet the huge demand for bottled water at a reasonable price, despite having to truck in water from a farm. My thanks go to Clr. Dave Watson for his constant communication to residents, and our water committee who monitored the situation and ensured a smooth start up after the reservoir was filled.

We conducted a full investigation of the feasibility of a community borehole and tanks to assist residents with water during outages. We established suitable sites, but the costs are very expensive and the project could be a “white elephant”. We encourage all resident to arrange water tanks on their properties, and we will liaise with the water shop to increase capacity.

I am pleased to report that Southbroom sewerage plant in Quantock road, which was closed for about four months in 2016, was repaired and recommissioned in mid January, and I thank Ugu for their cooperation on this matter

I should like to thank the Water Committee for all the work they have put in to keep Southbroom's water flowing.

BEACHES AND POOLS

Early in the year we arranged for a contractor to repair the damaged retaining wall at the braai area, the damaged wall in the parking area and steps and surrounds of the tidal pool. We arranged for a contractor to repair the roof of the shelter in the car park at the main beach, which was damaged in a storm. The wooden structure of the shelter was found to be rotten and we arranged for this to be replaced as well.

The tidal pool was leaking due to heavy sea damage in May and October when sections of the coping/capping on the perimeter wall were washed away, and we arranged a meeting with RNM officials. RNM failed to obtain a report from a specialist engineer on the best way forward as agreed. In early December we engaged the services

of a tidal pool specialist to repair the leaks in the walls and repair the coping/ capping. The repairs to the coping/capping will only be undertaken in January 2018 so as not to inconvenience holiday makers. RNM advised that they approved a budget to refurbish the ablutions at the main beach, and were going to complete the refurbishment by the December holidays, but this was again delayed. We arranged for a contractor to complete a minor renovation of the ablutions in early December and we have received favourable comment from beach users.

I am pleased to report that we arranged emergency signs for the four Southbroom beaches, and they were erected on 1 December.

We arranged an order for an emergency torpedo buoy and sign for the main beach from NSRI, which should be erected shortly

The quality of work by the RNM contractor appointed to varnish the badly weathered wooden structures at Granny's beach was totally unsatisfactory, and we lodged a complaint to RNM. RNM agree that the quality of work is unsatisfactory and have withheld any payment pending an investigation. We are pressing them to appoint a new contractor in order to prevent damage to these structures.

COMMUNICATION

We issued a quarterly newsletter and a few newsflashes by e-mail to all on our distribution lists. I have received favourable comments on the quality of these newsletters, and wish to thank Jackie Pratt for a job well done. I also wish to thank Sean Larkins for maintaining our database system for our ratepayers. This system has automated communication with ratepayers and invoicing, and we have managed to increase membership numbers to more than 600.

NEW YEAR'S PARTY ON MAIN BEACH

We continue to organise a New Year's party on main beach. This is needed to control the area, which was previously used for many uncontrolled private parties, and to generate the means to clean up after the festivities and provide a clean beach on New Year's Day.

We obtain RNM approval for this party every year, and appoint Wozani Africa Events to run the party, and they do this on a very professional basis. We held a meeting in January with some of the local residents who complained about the party, and agreed some measures to mitigate the impacts. We have reduced the approved size of the party and made Imbezane Drive a one way road during the holiday season to try and improve traffic flow.

TOWN PLANNING ISSUES

A site inspection and Municipal Tribunal hearing was held in May for Erf 94 (4 South Ridge road). The owner's appeal was dismissed because the property is zoned residential 3 which only allows a maximum of 2 storeys, whereas the owner constructed 4 storeys and many other deviations in contravention with the Town Planning Scheme. The owner advised that he intended to bring a rezoning application in terms of the new Legislation, which he did not do within the prescribed six month period. We will strongly oppose any application for rezoning of this property.

We also lodged an objection to an application for a crèche to be run from an undeveloped stand at 2 Eyles road, which is zoned as residential. There was little transparency with the application regarding the details for the crèche, and we requested further details regarding the size of the crèche, noise abatement measures, traffic management, parking, signage and sewerage.

GENERAL

We arranged a contractor to repair and clean and paint the library roof and walls and some minor repairs, as requested at the 2016 AGM. The library building is now looking good and continues to be well used. Our library has been a great success story for our community, and I thank the volunteer librarians for their cheerful and efficient service.

We arranged for the Community centre hall (near the RNM Depot) to be painted and cleaned up the area between the centre and the RNM Depot buildings.

We also arranged to clean up the bowling club surrounds near the town centre, which was unsightly

COMMITTEE

We started and ended the year with eleven committee members. Kate Clarence has wanted to leave the committee for many years, but I refused her resignation until she found someone to take over the Signage portfolio. She has now arranged for Petra Klein to take over this portfolio, and I welcome Petra to the committee. I want to thank Kate for the high standards and efficiency that she has applied to Southbroom signage over many years. Libby Cochrane has also resigned from the committee after a two year stint, but has advised that she will

still continue her work for the community. We are also fortunate that Richard Bridgeford has agreed to return to the committee after a two year contract in Doha.

I wish to thank all the committee members for their efforts during the year. I have had a hardworking and happy committee, who worked well as a team. I am pleased that most of them have agreed to serve for another year: Brian Dick as vice chairman and beach activities, Richard Derman as treasurer, Jackie Pratt as secretary, Cees van der Slikke and Dietmar for roads, Eric Annegarn for town planning, Grey Norton for water and Sean Larkins for database.

I trust that you will support them into these positions when we elect our new committee under Item 10.

SERVICE REQUESTS

I have issued a one page summary of our activities in 2017, which contains the contact details of the municipalities. Please send service requests directly to the municipalities (preferably with photos of the problems), and not to committee members. This is much more effective as a reference number is given and they can be tracked for progress.

THANKS

I wish to thank Clr. Dave Watson for all the advice and support during the year, and the Golf Club for providing the venue for this meeting. I wish to thank Dietmar Klein for providing liaison with the CPF, who have done a great job in managing crime this year. We are also extremely grateful for the wonderful community support and assistance from many residents with regard to the library, beaches, gardens etc.

In conclusion, I feel that we have made some progress in 2017, but there is still a lot of work to do with regard to the quality of roads, beaches and water supply, and we are hopeful that RNM and Ugu will continue to make progress and improve service delivery. I thank you all for your support, and would appreciate your comments and priorities for 2018.

Brian Thompson – Chairman – Southbroom Ratepayers Association