



# Blouberg News

*"Fetiša Molaetsa"*

OFFICIAL QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER - July - September 2015



**Giving hope to the less privileged as Minister Ngoako Ramatlhodi, Kgoshi Maleboho NI, Mayor Selamolela and De Beers' Phillip Barton cut the ribbon.**



# Blouberg News

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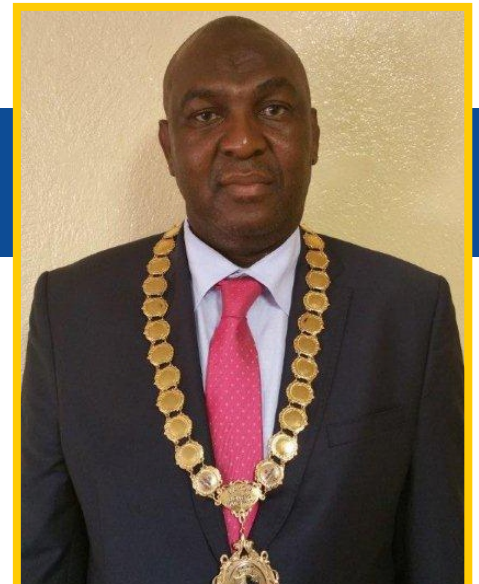
# The keynote Address

It all started with the meet and greet sessions and now the ball is rolling at a very high tempo. We request all and sundry to fasten their seat belt because we will be flying many miles above sea level and you snooze you loose. It remains our epoch that every one of us should and will at all times enlighten our little corners for the benefit of our communities whom we serve wholeheartedly. We agree with our state President Jacob Zuma that South Africa is now better than what it used to be before 1994, through a plethora of service delivery interventions and the responses we received from our people during our greet and meet sessions. We have met with all stakeholders to collate challenges and advices on how we can run our institution efficiently and effectively. We take those interactions very serious and we will from time to time come back for engagements and our doors remains open for further engagement by any potential stakeholders. Our aim is to make our institution as much more participatory as possible as enshrined in our mission statement that we strive “to ensure delivery of quality services through community participation and creation of an enabling environment for economic growth and job creation.” It is our believe that our institution with the masses of our people coexist and none of us can be better without the other. We acknowledge the fact that every living organism has its ups and downs but our eyes remains focused on the target as per our vision statement which preclude that we are “a participatory municipality that turns prevailing challenges into opportunities for growth and development through optimal utilization of available resources.” On both our mission and vision the doing word is community participation and we will not divert from that stance. We have as well met with our sons and daughters of Millennium Park, who after vandalizing the tar road came to their senses and met with us and commonly agreed that public violence and malicious damage to government property cannot solve our problems. We plead with all Bloubergers to desist from harboring any

thought of similar style to that of Millennium Park residents and engage in dialogue since it remains the only tool for solving problems of whatever nature. We on a serious note appreciate the effort by the leadership of that village who through thick and thin came forward in solving the debacle. The manifestation of such tendencies should not find a dwelling place in our society because it drags us back as a nation like what civil wars did to some part of countries in our continent. Instead of concentrating on human and capital development we will end up striving to rebuild properties that were destroyed during demonstrations.

Our new financial year coincided with the Mandela Day which we celebrated in our own style through the grand opening of Sekiding phase 1 project and sod turning of phase 2. The Mandela day was celebrated with hype of activities, razzmatazz of performances and exhilarating exhibition of organic talents by the councilors of Blouberg Municipality. We salute the residents of ward 14 and ward 03 for a full capacity attendance and outstanding performances on the day. The Indermark internal street phase 2 was opened for use and we boost with confidence that the phase 3 contractor that we handed over will as well produce good results. In Senwabarwana we did sod turning for both storm water and internal street. We believe this project will solve the flooding crisis in Senwabarwana especially during rainy seasons. The Senwabarwana complex paving is almost complete as well. There was bravura in Mongalo, Gedion and Motadi perpetual of the electricity projects that we opened during this quarter as well.

We manage to make the little ones happy as well by the opening of Motadi crèche and we will continue to make them happy this financial year after we shall have built same at Indermark Block B, Ditatsu, Kgatlu, Papegaaai, and Venetia will as well build the sixth crèche at Sias village.



Cllr. Sammy Selamolela  
**Mayor.**

We will not only make the little ones happy alone their parents too after we shall have electrified several extensions like Witten, Wegdraai, and other areas working with Eskom.

We are in the building phase indeed but we also believe that a journey of a thousand miles starts with a single step. Our believe is that we have started with a single step during our infancy stage and now we are flying at a very high speed above frequencies.

We are a corner around local government elections, we infact awaiting the proclamation of the date by the president. It is worth mentioning that the demarcation board has made several amendments or alterations to existing municipal outer boundaries and we were as well affected. Our wards were reduced from 21 to 20 and we are going to receive at least 04 wards from the disestablished Aganang local municipality. The said alterations will mean our outer boundary will increase or stretches from the already far flung Alldays, Ramaswikana and Swaartwater on the North to Tibane on the South.

In conclusion, we would like to appeal to our communities to exercise their right in full by supporting our democracy during voter registration period and vote on the day of elections. As we approach rainy season we would like to appeal to our communities to be on alert and avert flooding and other related circumstances and road users avoid over speeding because our roads are at times badly affected by floods.

# DE BEERS MINE REHABILITATES RATANANG SPECIAL SCHOOL HOSTELS



Minister Ramatlhodi, flanked by Kgoshi Maleboho NI, Blouberg Mayor Cllr. Sammy Selamolela and Phillip Barton, cut the ribbon signalling the opening of plush accommodation (hostel) for the Ratanang Special School pupils.

Three hundred and sixty (360) learners with special needs now have access to state of the art hostel facilities in their school, thanks to De-Beers Consolidated Mines. On the 26th of June 2015 Minister Ngoako Ramatlhodi, the Mayor of Blouberg Municipality Cllr Sammy Selamolela and De Beers Consolidated Mines' Phillip Barton unveiled the plaque officially marking the opening of the Ratanang Special School Hostels in Senwabarwana.

Ratanang Special School is one of a few special schools in the Limpopo Province that caters for learners with special needs. In 2006, the De Beers Fund, in partnership with the Department of Education in Limpopo, helped build hostel facilities at the school which can accommodate up to 320 learners. De Beers invested R6 million in a 50/50 partnership with the Department of Education resulting in the school hostel being valued at R12 million. In 2010, significant storms in the region caused serious damage to the roof and structure of the hostel facilities

and De Beers has since invested R7.2 million into rehabilitating the site.

The hostel caters for children ranging in age between 7-21 years. Current and former principals Motshabi Morakane and Lesiba Teffo sang De Beers Consolidated Mines praises for putting shelter for the less fortunate children at Ratanang. De Beers Consolidated Mines Chief



Ratanang Special School learners show appreciation to the De Beers Consolidated Mines management for their provision of much needed shelter to the school.

Executive Officer (CEO) Mr Phillip Barton said De Beers has a number of people living with disabilities in their employ. He further reiterated that

through their social and labour plan, the mine had committed to and had to a certain extent improved the lives of their labour sending areas.

Upon welcoming the guests, the Mayor of Blouberg Municipality Cllr Sammy Selamolela said working together with the mine, the municipality has made significant strides in the eradication of the triple challenges that face the community of Blouberg. "The mine is one of the biggest employers of our young people. The mine, in employing our people, has drastically pushed back the frontiers of poverty in our communities", said the Mayor.

He indicated that through implementation of De Beers Social Labour Plan the mine has developed Blouberg communities by amongst others, electrifying settlements such as Mongalo, Kgatla and Mashamaite. The provision of Early Childhood Care facilities at Alldays, Grootpan,

Mokwena (Glenfernis) and Sias (under construction), The provision of educational facilities at Wegdraai, Matsela, Bostec and the current state



Minister Ramathodi getting a feel of the boys' dormitories.

of the art Ratanang hostel facility. The mine has also renovated Alldays Combined School and provided the Alldays community with bus shelters as well as renovating of Alldays swimming pool and the provision of the state of the art sports facility.

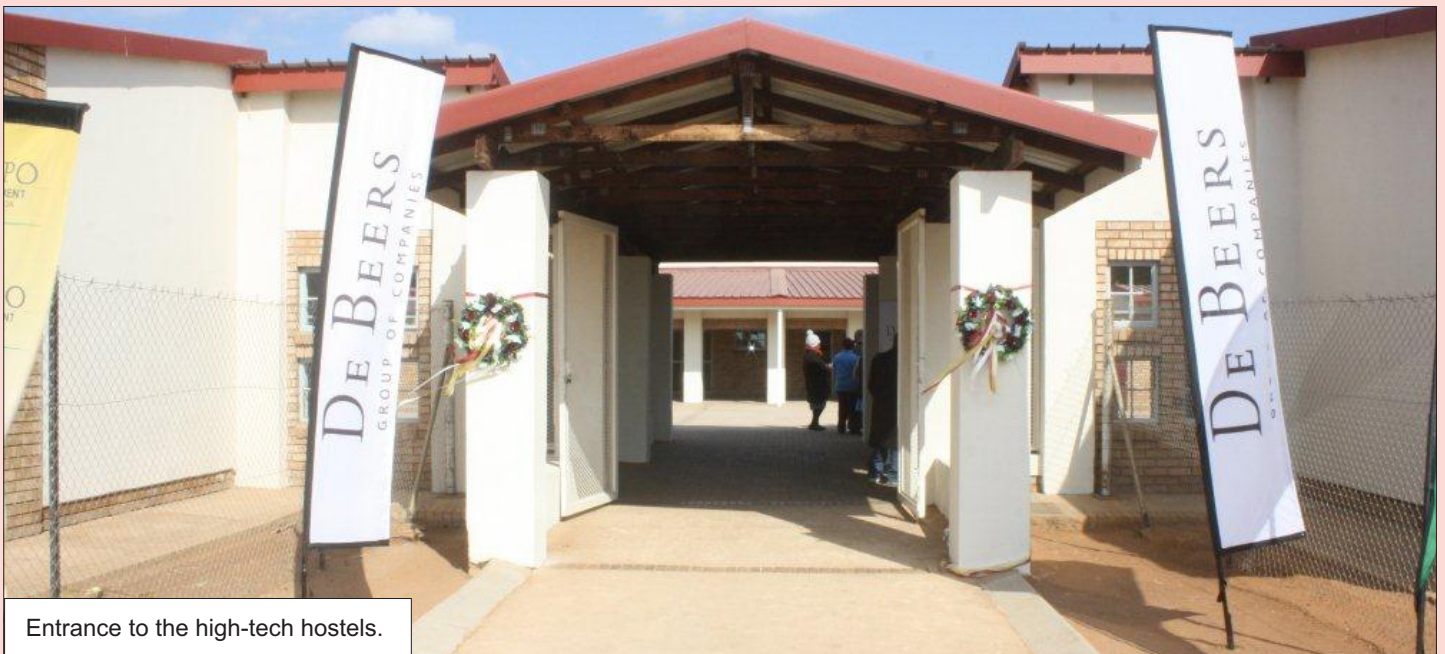
“As much as there is much

facilities among others are addressed.” concluded the Mayor.

By ensuring that South Africa's largest producer of diamonds, Venetia Mine, operates responsibly and profitably, as one of seven of the world's tier one mines, De Beers with its partners in the DMR and in local government, is making

openpit mine into an innovative underground operation expected to be viable and sustainable beyond 2040. Mark Cutifani De Beers Group Chairman and Anglo American CEO has driven and supported DBCM in making sure mining matters to the country and to communities associated with De Beers mines.

In his speech, DBCM CEO, Phillip Barton emphasised that the social benefits of mining can only be realised if companies comply and work closely with the DMR and other stakeholders and that the disruption of mining activities damages South African efforts to promote mining as a driver of economic change. “I am most grateful to De Beers for the



Entrance to the high-tech hostels.

appreciation by our communities on the efforts of the mine to develop our people I must stress that our people still feel that the mine's development impact is not enough until service delivery challenges such as Roads infrastructure, water and sanitation infrastructure and adequate health

transformation real for thousands of South Africans, not just employees, but also communities and local suppliers.

Looking to the future, between the underground project launch in 2013 and until 2021 De Beers is investing R20 billion to transform the existing

impact they make in the areas where they operate. They're setting a good example to other companies” said Minister Ramathodi.



**Cllr Maria Thamaga  
Speaker**

In my capacity as Chairperson of the Blouberg Local Municipality Council, I would like to officially welcome the duo of councillor Selamolela Samson and Seduma Matee Derick into our fold as Mayor and Chief Whip respectively. Their deployment should at all costs be viewed in the context of the ruling party's decision of accelerating the service delivery mandate; nothing more, nothing less. Words of unparalleled appreciation are directed to erstwhile Mayor, Serite Sekgoloane and Chief Whip Billy Choshi whose invaluable experience will come in handy in their new capacities as Proportional Representative Councillors in the same council. Selamolela, who was in the recent past Chairperson of the Special Focus Portfolio Committee and Seduma, who was one of our District Representative are seasoned politicians in their own right and will through their immense experience undoubtedly bring about much needed depth and guile to our council set up.

If initiatives (though I suspect them to be merely tips of the iceberg) that both Selamolela and Seduma have already come up with are anything to go by, Blouberg Municipality is bound to scale even more higher up the stakes than ever before. The Mayor has for his part, already introduced weekly Political Management Team (PMT), Executive Committee (EXCO) and Senior Management meetings where the referred to stakeholders sit under one roof, bring each other up to speed with regards progress, developments and challenges in respect of implementation of municipal plans and programmes. That thus dispels the silo mentality that for long beset our institution – talk of the left hand knowing what the right one does. The Chief Whip has by the same token, introduced regular

# FROM THE SPEAKERS'S PODIUM

whippery meetings across the institutional political spectrum and Portfolio Committee ones are preceded by study groups which are provided administrative and secretarial support at all times. The above boil down to shorter, seamless and effective Portfolio and Executive Committee as well as Council meetings while at the same time enhancing a sense of collective accountability without making any forays into each other's realms.

The quarter in issue is arguably the most daunting as it incorporates the well documented Mandela (July), the equally magnanimous Women (August) and effervescent Heritage (September) months activities. Without giving much credence to one monumental activity over another, women month remains very dear to my heart for obvious reasons. The fact that there is still institutionalized violence and repression against women more than two decades into democracy is not about to stop boggling one's mind. We however, still pay solemn homage to the heroic leaders of the 1956 generation such as Lillian Ngoyi, Hellen Josephs, Albertina Sisulu, Sophia Williams De Bruyn and our recently departed Isithwalandwe "Seaparankwe" Mama Ruth Mompati among others. This year's Women Day celebrations take place coincidentally at the same time as the national conference of the ruling African National Congress Women's League which will eventually shape the short and long term plights of women going forward. The patriarchic tendencies where men determine what's good for women should come to an abrupt end and sooner rather than later women should brace themselves as we seriously consider putting in the succession debate mix the possibility of the first female president – well though that's an issue for another day – the bottomline is, as women we are no second class citizens and will need to continue showing more resolve and fortitude in the male dominated world to make more meaningful strides.

The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Ward Committees'

Conference is upon us. This year's event is expected to be a rather smooth and bumper affair having come up with mechanisms of ensuring that all potential banana skins are dealt with. Ward committees were proactively met and engaged to get a feel of matters affecting their well-being as members and how they wish their conference should pen out. We have also discovered a few deficiencies in the ward committees' constitution which will be deliberated upon in the conference subsequently finding expression in Council for consideration and possible approval. Progress thereof shall be reported on in the next edition. In addition to the Mayor – Magoshi Forum, we also have Councillors – Mantona Forum which also incorporates chairpersons of bought farms where applicable. Such fora are held quarterly. We may not have much in terms of capital resources but Dale Carnegie's words, "If only people who worry about their liabilities would think about the riches they do possess, they would stop worrying" bring much needed solace to our belief of optimal utilization of available ones.

As a parting shot, let me hasten to mention that my throat always develops a lump whenever I have to report of the demise of one of our very own foot soldiers. Over the years we have been struck by the misfortune of almost on a yearly basis losing these vital cogs of our much enthused participatory democracy. Committee member Rasewana Kobola of ward (10) ten is no more. As testified by speaker after speaker during her funeral service at Avon (Marobyane) on Saturday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2015, a glowing picture of selflessness, dedication and a disciplinarian cadre to the core came to light. Scores who descended to the area to bid her farewell indeed attested to that. Her efforts of seeing to it that services were duly received by the community saw their ward scoop the coveted "2012/2013 ward that showed the most initiative" award as they went about doing away with all illegal water connections and that will forever remain entrenched in our minds,



Mr. Kgorane MJ - Acting Municipal Manager

### ADMINISTRATIVE OVERVIEW

We have an obligation to serve our respective communities with pride and further continue to engage with stakeholders as far as service delivery issues are concerned , we say 'ADIO SPANA ' 2014/15 financial year (meaning good bye in Spanish language), the referred to financial year had its own challenges with respect to municipal work force who engaged on an unprotected strike due to some labour issues and therefore we need to sincerely apologies for the service interrupted during the last quarter of the financial year. We further commit double effort in accelerating services to recover time lost. It is imperative to thank the previous leadership for their devoted contribution in the municipal affairs during their term of office and we further welcome and appreciate presence of our new municipal leadership led by the Mayor; Cllr Selamolela Samson and we go with the parable that says' a new broom sweeps much better than the old one and therefore we belief that their presence will bring new ideas and innovation solely to move municipal program forward.

Administrative machinery would rally behind the collective political principals as there are trusted with the responsibility to carry the mandate embodied in our IDP for bettering the lives of our poor communities. We also urge our municipal work force to close ranks with one another by so doing we will strengthen the employer-employee relations.

# ADMINISTRATIVE OVERVIEW

### Municipal Performance and Service Delivery Annotations

Our municipality still rated amongst top six (6) better performing municipalities in the province given a credible IDP, improved financial management state and also adequate response to back to basics principle championed by the ministry of COGTA and in the same token the municipality was then identified to beneficiate on the pilot program on Local government management improvement model (LGMIM) Initiated by COGTA wherein two officials were nominated to champion the program in the municipality. The referred to program will run for a period of twelve months. In our last edition we reported progress as far as our MIG Capital projects are concerned and almost 80% of the referred to projects have been completed before the end of 2014/15 financial year and further express that the Laanglagte MPCC has been practically completed after it was rolled over to the 2014/15 due to poor performance by the contractor. It is also of a vital importance to emphasize that the following projects had been rolled over to the current financial year ie. Senwabarwana internal street, Inveraan MPCC and it should be noted that the referred to projects would be practically completed by the end of the first quarter of the current financial year given the pace in which the contractors are moving. We can now safely report that all electrification projects for the previous financial year are almost done. Our principals impel management to carry out an mandate to fast truck service delivery in appointing service providers for all capital projects earmarked for the current financial year before the lapse of the first quarter and at least we have managed to advertise all of our

projects and conducted site handover in Indermark internal street project so far and belief to conduct same in all of our projects before the first quarter ending September 2015.

### Readiness and Preparations for Audit process

It is time for municipalities to prepare annual reports and financial statements for audit purpose as legal prescripts dictates. During previous financial year 2013/14 the municipality achieved an improved audit opinion which poses a serious peril and challenge to management not to regress but however maintain the monument achievement and we further commit to stick on our rituals in convening weekly Audit steering committee meetings to curtail disturbance as far as audit process are concerned. We will continuously employ other mechanism to maintain or improve the unqualified Audit opinion throughout this audit process and we will also put more effort in contributing towards attaining improved financial state.

### Conclusion

My office would like to call upon all municipal workforce to work closely and pull all stops to maintain or improve what we have achieved in the last financial year. We are also fortunate to have an experienced administrator in the form of a Mayor His Worship Honourable, Cllr Samson Selamolela whom we belief will steer the wheels towards right direction given his experience in local government spectrum and we also hope for an undivided guidance and wisdom to take the municipality forward. The interests of our communities will always be protected and prioritized at all times.

# INTRODUCING THE CHIEF WHIP

The name Matee Derrick Seduma definitely rings a bell to all and sundry given that he has inevitably served his dues in the local government set up having been part thereof since time immemorial. Seduma is among a few of the first crop of current councilors who oversaw the emergence of municipalities (local government) as the third tier of government. In his third term as a public representative, no one dares doubt or question the invaluable experience that the man garnered over the past fifteen (15) years serving in different capacities among them as member of the Infrastructure Development, Corporate Services, Budget and Treasury Portfolio Committees as well as being the Blouberg Municipality's District Representative in the high tempo Capricorn District Municipality. No wonder the man was unanimously agreed upon as the Council Chief Whip at a Special Council meeting held on the 30th June 2015.

Seduma, who hails from Springfield (Tikkeline) had the enviable honour of serving with among others, the respected late Desmond Monyekgope in the African National Congress (ANC) who undoubtedly became a positive influence in his thriving political career. Serala mphada, as he is popularly known in political circles, had his immense knowledge and tactical tenacity honed by his tenure as Member of the Executive Committee (EXCO) deployed as Chairperson of Infrastructure Development Portfolio as well as



Blouberg Municipality Council Chief Whip;  
Cllr. Derrick Seduma.

Remunerations Committees respectively. The two highly demanding deployment positions, along with numerous qualifications obtained from reputable institutions such as Regenesys School of Public Management (Certificate in Project Management), University of Cape Town (Certificate in Economic Development), Belgravia Institute of Management (Skills Programme in Local Government) proved to be master strokes in asserting the man and though academia was no prerequisite in his elevation, it certainly will always come in handy in his quest to, along with other members of the Political Management Team (PMT) steer the Blouberg ship in the right direction. He is currently enrolled with the University of Johannesburg on a Certificate in Municipal Governance programme.

Mention is made elsewhere in the edition (from the Speaker's Podium) of the strides already made in ensuring that all the parties represented in council namely; the majority African National

Congress (ANC), the Democratic Alliance (DA), the Congress of the People (COPE) as well as the African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) work in tandem with each other towards the realization of a particular objective being to have a dignified and well coordinated council which will ultimately bode well for the broader community - talk of agreeing to disagree. Asked what his immediate objectives are, Seduma said in his modest self, "Instilling a sense of purpose to our council, realizing as council that the Blouberg citizenry is dependent on us as ultimate decision makers is of paramount importance. Our conduct and actions should therefore be commensurate with offices we hold as public officials".

The Chief Whip further bemoaned the amount of breaks during council meetings which he felt did not augur well. "It is a worrisome trend that needed to be nipped in the bud, lest the electorate will not take us seriously. We are running government here !!!, he said in typical Chief Whip fashion. He obviously subscribes to Barbra Bush's assertion that, "You just don't luck into things as much as you'd like to think you do. You build step by step, whether it's friendship or opportunities". Seduma reiterated that understanding and adherence to the Standing Rules of Order and the Councilors' Code of Ethics will in essence be half the battle won. So you better watch laissez faire proponents, there is a new chief whip in charge!!!



# The Quest for a Cleaner Environment – Courtesy of the Capricorn District Municipality



Acting CDM Executive Mayor Cllr. Betty Kgare hands over keys of the new compactor truck to Blouberg Mayor Cllr. Sammy Selamolela.

Despite limited capacity as a rural municipality Blouberg has made serious strides in the quest for a clean, healthy and habitable environment. In a bid to keep their local municipalities clean and supporting the greening initiatives Capricorn District Municipality handed over a new waste truck to Blouberg Municipality. The hand over took place at the municipal head office in Senwabarwana in June 2015.

Upon handing over the keys to Blouberg Mayor Cllr Sammy Selamolela, Acting CDM Executive Mayor on the day Cllr Betty Kgare impressed upon the audience the importance of integrated waste management. She further reiterated that other than merely collecting waste, the new truck will also assist Blouberg Municipality in injecting much needed funds and consequently provide a shot in the arm in an effort to enhance income generation.

To date eleven settlements benefit

from the municipal waste removal services. Such include, amongst others, Senwabarwana, Alldays, Witten, Indermark and Dilaeneng. The Department of Community Services, which has shown remarkable improvement and resolve in recent times, came up with innovative methods to provide waste storage facilities in Alldays and Senwabarwana towns without negatively impacting on the fiscus of the municipality.

Mayor Selamolela thanked the district for a new waste collection truck saying the district indeed walked the talk when they say *Re šoma le setšhaba* as their slogan goes. He also expressed his gratitude at the fact that the district municipality, which was better financially resourced and had certain constitutional obligations, was getting true to its task of playing a supportive role to the locals with the ultimate objective of having the broader community receive the much deserved services.

With the 2015/2016 revised IDP and Budget the municipality is set to expand the waste removal service to other needy settlements. The municipality has in the current financial year undertaken to consolidate its operations while expanding to new areas such as Puraspan, Harrietswhich, Tolwe and Eldorado. Being a rural municipality that also thrives on stock farming, it is important for the citizens to maintain a clean environment where people's livestock will not be in danger of eating undesired waste with very dire consequences.

The municipality has a provision for industrial bins and household bins and will improve on the record keeping capacity to ensure that every household we provide with a bin uses same for the purpose it is intended for. Our humble appeal to communities is dissuading from using the bins for unconventional functions, among others as water storage. As a matter of fact those are refuse bins and should be understood in that context – period.



Mayor Selamolela putting his driving skills to the test on the compactor truck watched by CDM acting Executive Mayor Kgare Betty.

# NEW CRECHES FOR GROOTPAN AND MOTADI



Blouberg Mayor Cllr. Sammy Selamolela, ward 20 Cllr. Abram Ntlema and Speaker (partially obscured) Maria Thamaga officially hand over the facility to the Motadi community.

The new play and educational area for the children at Motadi village has officially opened doors. Blouberg Municipality Mayor Cllr. Sammy Selamolela officially opened the creche at Motadi as part of municipality's commitment to prioritize early childhood learning in Blouberg as it is critical to level the playing fields from an early age.

Parents and other onlookers gathered at the new facility to witness as Mayor Selamolela unveils the plaque officially handing over the creche to the community.

The new state of the art and modern early childhood facility cost the municipality R1.7million to build. It is fully functional with classrooms,

sleeping rooms, playrooms with furniture, fully equipped kitchen, high security fence and outdoor playgrounds with swings as well as educational toys. The centre will accommodate children from the ages of one to five (1-5) years.

Before the municipality could build a crèche children at this village were housed under a dilapidated structure with no required resources for the early learning centre.

In the 2014/2015 financial year Blouberg Municipality built five pre-schools at Motadi, Motlana, Borgnafarm, Devilliersdale and Slaaphoek which have already been handed over to the respective communities. A budget has been set aside for the construction of five

crèches in the current financial year (2015/2016).

On the other hand the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) Director for Mineral Regulations, Vinesh Devchanda, Members of Executive Committee from Blouberg Local Municipality and General Manager of De Beers, Venetia Mine, Ludwig von Maltitz officially opened the Grootpan Community Crèche in the Grootpan Village and conducted the sod turning signifying the start of construction at the Sias Village Crèche.

De Beers offered R2.2 million to help transform the Grootpan Community Crèche from a small mud structure with primitive outside ablutions to a modern Early Childhood Development Centre

boasting a borehole, septic tank, and specialist furniture and playground facilities. The Centre will house 60 children between the ages of four to six. The project forms part of Venetia Mine's Social and Labour Plan (SLP) and the partnership between De Beers and the Blouberg local Municipality focus together on creating sustainable Early Development Centres aligned to the municipality's holistic approach to education in the region.

In the spirit of community development, the majority of labourers and artisans involved in the project were sourced from the local community as are the three Early Childhood Development Coordinators currently employed at the crèche. In his speech De Beers, Venetia Mine General Manager, Ludwig von Maltitz touched



Blouberg Mayor Cllr. Sammy Selamolela literally opens the doors of learning assisted by the principal Mme Morongwa Moyo.

on the importance of public-private partnerships and said, “As members of the Blouberg Community, it gives De Beers Venetia Mine great pleasure to contribute to the shaping of young

lives. As we entrust this facility to the community of Grootpan and the Blouberg Local Municipality we are humbled by the vast potential of the youth of our great country. De Beers is committed to ensuring that the diamonds mined at our Venetia operation do good in the communities of Blouberg and Musina and we are confident that the Grootpan Community Crèche will contribute positively to equipping young children with the tools of life to be independent and to in later life able to shape their future. The facility and most importantly the care givers will provide a safe environment, and with single mind look to the wellbeing and early childhood development of many children to come.”

“It is projects such as this one that make me proud to be a South African. As the regulator we are constantly in search of benchmark projects and companies who are an example of 'business doing things right' and that is exactly what Venetia Mine has shown today” said DMR Director for Mineral Resources, Vinesh Devchanda.



The immaculate view of the Motadi Crèche



Veteran Councillor Ntlema Abram and Mme Morongwa Moyo accept keys for the crèche on behalf of the Motadi community.

# BLOUBERG COUNCIL REACHES OUT TO MOKWENA

Blouberg Municipality had its 4th Ordinary Council meeting for the year 2015 on the 31st of July at Mokwena Glen Fernis, the home of the new Ward 13 Cllr. Mmangwako Jonathan Sekgoloane. Residents from various villages in the ward filled the marquee tent erected at Kola Leboho Secondary School to capacity to welcome their new leader, raise their service delivery issues with the municipal leadership and above all, listen to the municipality' state of affairs.

The Council meeting kicked off by Mayor Sammy Selamolela's presentation of the reports on Annual Institutional Performance plan, draft 2015/2016 IDP /Budget process plan and funding for good spending among others.

Given the opportunity to interact with their leaders residents welcomed and wished their new councilor well in his new journey. Residents called on Cllr Sekgoloane to consult with them and hear their day to day challenges in the ward and make sure that the lives of the community members are improved. Ward 13 comprises of 7 villages namely Mokwena(Glefernis) Mokwena(Edwinsdale),Burgerrucht, Maphoto, Lovely, Setoking and Motlana.

However water problems in some villages in the ward, bad roads condition spoilt what could have become a day full of praises.

On water issues residents specifically

indicated as a matter of urgency the need to;

- fix water reticulation to enable supply to reach all portions of Glenfernis.
  - Ward Councilor to visit tribunals to address water challenges.
  - The Capricorn District Municipality to appoint volunteer pump operators on permanent basis. Erect water catchments to resolve storm water challenge in the ward.
  - Fix water reticulation to enable supply to reach all portions of Burgerrecht.
  - Connect Kola Leboho Secondary School to the pipeline crossing inside their yard.
- On roads and transport residents specifically requested the municipality to;
- Remove excessive sand and re-gravel internal streets of Burgerrecht, De Vrede-Lovely access route be re-graveled.
  - Upgrading of Lovely Bridge was requisite, Mokwena-Burgerrecht access route be re-graveled and
  - Installation of directional boards was essential in Ward 13.

Residents had all their questions answered by the then caretaker Councilor and Economic Development and Planning chairperson Cllr Adeline Morapedi and the Mayor; Cllr. Sammy Selamolela.

On the issue of bad access road between Mokwena and Burgerrucht

Cllr Morapedi indicated that the road is being re-gravelled but the sandy condition in the area makes it difficult for the streets to remain in good condition for a longer period.

She indicated the municipality will assist in re-gravelling the roads, clearing community sport field and assist with the establishment of a school garden at Kola Leboho High as requested by member of the school governing body.

The Mayor indicated that together with the Chairperson of the Council Cllr. Maria Thamaga they have taken a decision to have the ordinary council meeting at Mokwena village to hand and officially introduce the new councilor to the community

The Mayor acknowledged that water is a serious problem in Blouberg. In response to this thorny issue, the Mayor took full responsibility, by making an undertaking to, through the Infrastructure Development department engage the Capricorn District Municipality (Water Service Authority) to assist in resolving water crisis in the ward especially the incomplete projects.

He mentioned that the municipality is currently meeting mining and other big companies among other stakeholders to discuss issues of job placements and skilling as part of private-state partnership.

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# DIEPSLOOT, SILVERMINE, MONGALO, GIDEON AND MOTADI EXTENSIONS ELECTRIFIED

Residents of Silvermine, Mongalo, Gideon and Motadi extensions have been connected to the National grid. Residents of Silvermine and Diepsloot extensions have had joy of switching on electricity for the first time yesterday thanks to Blouberg Municipality. On the 20th of August 2015 residents from the respective villages celebrated the official switching on of their electrification projects by Blouberg Municipality Mayor, Cllr Sammy Selamolela.

Residents thanked Blouberg Municipality for electrifying their villages. Giving a keynote address, Mayor Selamolela indicated that the switching on of electricity is the continuation of the programme by African National Congress led

government to improve the lives of its people.

He said after acquiring the license to carry out electrification projects back in 2001, the Blouberg Municipality came up with operation "Leswiswi o kotsing" an initiative aimed at fast tracking the provision of electricity and ever since; the municipality together with power utility Eskom's focused programme of lighting out darkness worked very hard and with speed to insure that this basic service is provided to the citizens Blouberg.

The Mayor also reminded the needy families to register their names on the municipal data base for indigents to receive free basics electricity (those classified as indigents based on their

monthly income will qualify for free basic electricity).

At Diepsloot, the symbolic electricity switch-on took place at a destitute home of Salome Swele, and the same happened to Marakalala family at Silvermine .

The Mayor also donated electricity kettles, stove and irons to the two families as start up.

Meanwhile on the 17th of July Cllr Sammy Selamolela officially switched-on electricity at Motadi and Gideon villages respectively. ESKOM carried out electrification projects at Lethaleng , Madibana, Kobe, Ditatsu and Vergelegen.(2014/2015)

The electrification of 178 households at 17(Simpson,Sias,Arrie and Grootpan) is currently on practical completion.

A call is always made by the Blouberg Municipality to residents, to report criminal activities such as cable theft in their areas. The Mayor advised residents to buy electricity and warned against tempering with electricity meter boxes (bridging) as offenders risk their electricity being disconnected and fine imposed.



Operation Leswiswi o kotsing in full swing as witnessed by the Mayor and EXCO members as well as Cllr. Mashalane and Ward Committee member James Setati.



BLOUBERG MUNICIPALITY UPHOLDS

# MANDELA'S LEGACY

Every year on the 18th of July South Africans and the international community at large honour former President and universal icon, the late Nelson Mandela through the Nelson Mandela International Day.

This is an annual international day of humanitarian action in celebration of Nelson Mandela's life and legacy. It is a catalyst to encourage everyone to change the world through voluntary work.

Throughout his life time, Nelson Mandela spent 67 years of his life advancing the struggle for the liberation of all South Africans black and white from political, social and economic spectrums.

"During my lifetime I have dedicated myself to

this struggle of the African people. I have fought against white domination, and I have fought against black domination. I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to achieve. But if needs be, it an ideal for which I am prepared to die."

Blouberg Municipality joined the world in celebrating Mandela's life and legacy. For pre-Mandela Day celebration the Mayor, His Worship Cllr Sammy Selamolela together with the Council of Blouberg on the 17th of July did well for the community of Motadi and Gideon in a bid to uphold Mandela's legacy.

The Mayor switched -on the electrification project for the community of Motadi and Gideon extensions respectively ensuring that these residents dump candles and paraffin lamps. He also handed over electrical appliances; a stove, kettle and iron to two needy families in those two villages as start up.

The 18th of July, Mandela's birthday saw the Mayor as volunteer-in -chief, Speaker Cllr Maria Thamaga , Chief Whip Cllr Derrick Seduma as well as Capricorn District Municipality Member of the Mayoral Committee Cllr. Patricia Mahlo, painting the house of Johannes Mahladiisa at Mampote and the Bahananoa Tribal office at Thalaane village. The team also visited Mongalo and energized their village extension.

On the other hand hundreds of community members converged at Ben Seraki Sport Complex to join in the main Mandela Day celebration programme. The programme was linked with the official

opening of Ben Seraki Sport Complex as well as a sod-turning ceremony which marked commencement of the complex's phase three project. It will comprise the construction of a grand stand among other things on the scope.

The Mayor and the guests also cut the cake to mark Mandela's birthday. Delivering the keynote address, the Mayor gave a brief lecture on Mandela's life in the struggle for the total emancipation of the people and the reason for the gathering. Upon handing over the new sport complex to the community Cllr Selamolela indicated that the municipality had completed a similar project at Eldorado village in Ward 16. He said the ruling party, the African National Congress (ANC) had given him the mandate to unite the communities and fast track the delivery of services. He also presented the new contractor for the next phase the sport complex. On behalf of the

*Continues to next page.*

community Kgoshikgolo Maleboho N.I of the Bahananoa Tribal Office thanked the municipality for the beautiful sport complex. The day was filled with entertainment such as sport, indigenous games and traditional dance.

Blouberg Municipality concluded Mandela month by painting a center for the aged at De Vrede village in ward 15. The Mayor also

handed over a washing machine and replaced old doors at the centre. De Vrede Old Age cares for 80 elderly people from the village.

Meanwhile on the 2nd of August 2015 the Capricorn District Municipality (CDM) handed over food parcels, mattresses and blankets to two destitute families in Blouberg. The entourage led by CDM and

Blouberg Municipality Chief Whips Councillors Calvin Masoga and Derrick Seduma respectively visited a child headed family at Taabosch in ward 18 cared for by Johanna Maropeng, the eldest of the children. The family consists of eight orphans who lived in a shack after their house was demolished by a natural disaster.

The team also did the

same to pensioner, Mr Phillip Mpya who was a victim of disaster that occurred in 2001. The district municipality also submitted the names of the families to the Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) and requested that they be provided with RDP houses as soon as possible.



Mayor Selamolela officially hand over Ben Seraki Sport Complex to Kgoshi Maleboho N.I. on behalf of the community.





# ROADS AND PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IN CONJUNCTION WITH BLOUBERG MUNICIPALITY HAND OVER ALLDAYS SIDE WALK PROJECT

142 residents of ward 18 are currently benefitting from the Extended Public Works Programme (EPWP). Blouberg Local Municipality in conjunction with the Department of Roads and Public Works handed over uniform to beneficiaries who will be working on the department's sidewalk project in Alldays. The sidewalk projects construction is well underway in Alldays and Senwabarwana towns respectively.

Caster Mokala from Alldays Phase 2 and Constance Sekgodi from Ga-Mamadi (Taaibosch) said they are very happy to be part of the project. The duo thanked the municipality for considering them when the government brings job opportunities.

EPWP is a government initiative which aims to reduce unemployment and alleviate poverty by creating jobs occupied

with training.

Ward 18 Cllr. Ditshego Kobe indicated that the residents have been complaining about lack of jobs in the area and that she is happy the EPWP project came to rescue the situation. She advised beneficiaries to use the money wisely, for the benefit of their families.

When handing over the project and uniform to the beneficiaries, BLM Chiefwhip Cllr Derrick Seduma said the African National Congress has the programme of creating jobs to better the lives of the poor. He further indicated the project will uproot poverty in the community.



Chief Whip Derrick Seduma, Cllr. Kobe Ditshego and Alldays Satellite Office Manager Mosen Dan hand over protective clothing items to protect employees.



# ALLDAYS STAKEHOLDERS GATHER TO RESOLVE DAY TO DAY SERVICE DELIVERY PROBLEMS

Officials from various institutions:

- Government, parastatas, unions operating in Alldays converged to Blouberg Municipality's Alldays Satellite Office for the intergovernmental relations and private sectors information sharing session. The session is aimed at sharing information among institutions and discuss day to day challenges encountered in their respective working areas. The forum was launch on the 18th of August 2015 by the Alldays Satellite Office Manager Mr Dan Mosena.

Representatives from the South African Police Services, EMS, The Capricorn District Municipality, Department of Social Development, Education and Blouberg Municipality IDP/Administration Manager Mr Masama Jacob, AgriSA , Alldays Boerevereniging and the Trans Agricultural Union were present.

The underground project by Venetia mine resulted to number of people

seeking residence in the vicinity for the purposes of proximity to their work place.

Representatives from the Department of Education indicated a serious need for speed humps leading to Alldays Combined School due to over speeding by some motorists which may put the lives of the learners at risk.

Members of the Alldays SAPS and the Social development service indicated the shortage of staff and the police station which make it difficult for them to carry out duties at times. The need for an office space for social development services in Alldays also came to the fore. Other frustrations raised by members at the forum include the bad road conditions and the non functional of streets lights which they believed contributed to the recent escalation of crime in the are.

In terms of the safety of the children the Alldays Satellite Office manager Mr. Mosena indicated that the construction of side walks is currently

under way to address the safety of residents including that of learners. The forum tasked the Satellite Manager to liaise with relevant departments in a bid to find amicable solution to the challenges raised. The agriculture unions affirmed their support to working with government to make Alldays a better place. The meetings will be arranged on monthly basis to ensure that challenges in the town are resolved at a faster pace.



Alldays Satellite Office Manager: Dan Mosena.



Various stakeholders came together in an effort to foster relations aimed at speeding service delivery.



## CAPITAL PROJECTS PROGRESS REPORT 2015 /16

NAME OF PROJECT	BUDGET	OVERALL PROGRESS
Senwabarwana Internal Streets/Storm Water road Phase 4	R 6 150 000.00	On construction stage- busy with box cutting
Avon Internal Streets Phase 1	R 6 150 000.00	Construction stage
Kromhoek Internal Streets Phase 1	R 6 150 000.00	Construction stage
Indermark Internal Streets Phase 1	R 6 150 000.00	100% complete
Indermark Internal Streets Phase 2	R 6 150 000.00	On construction stage-busy with layer works
Ben Seraki Sports Complex Phase3	R 6 150 000.00	On construction stage-busy with ablation blocks
Kgatlu Creche	R 1 789 462.50	Constructor stage
Indermark Creche	R 1 789 462.50	Constructor stage
Thalane Creche	R 1 789 462.50	Constructor stage
Thorpe Creche	R 1 789 462.50	Evaluation stage for the appointment of constructors
Taai Bosch Waste Project	R 50 000.00	On construction stage
Sias Crèche ( Venetia Mine)	R 2 500 000.00	95% complete –outstanding
Witten Electrification Extension phase4	R 700 000.00	On construction stage
Senwabarwana Internal Streets/Storm Water road Phase 3 (2014/15)	R 6 300 000.00	100% Complete
Laanglagte MPCC(2013-2014)		100% Complete
Inveraan Multipurpose centre (2014/15)	R 6,700,000.00	100% Complete
Electrification of Silvermyn Ext (2014/15)	R 264 000	100% completed – Officially Launched.
Electrification of Diepsloot (2014/15)	R 264 000	100% completed – Official Launched.
Electrification of Ward 17 Ext	R 1 632 000	95% complete – awaiting for closing span

## SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS - 2015 GOVERNANCE

	OCT	NOV	DEC
<b>Council</b>	29		
<b>EXCO</b>	22	26	10
<b>P.Cs</b>	15	19	03
<b>PPP</b>	06		
<b>EDC</b>	06		
<b>Women Caucus</b>	<b>14</b>		
<b>MPAC</b>	15	19	03
<b>W.Cs</b>	01-08		01- 08
<b>MMF</b>			10
<b>CMF</b>	<b>19 - 31</b>		
<b>MCF</b>			11
<b>IPRF</b>			
<b>WCF</b>			
<b>LLF</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>08</b>
<b>LUM</b>	09	06	07
<b>Energy Forum</b>		02	
<b>Housing Forum</b>		02	
<b>CSF</b>		<b>03</b>	
<b>Transport Forum</b>		03	
<b>DMF</b>		04	
<b>WMF</b>		04	
<b>LEDF</b>		02	
<b>Tourism Forum</b>		06	
<b>LCF</b>		06	
<b>WPM</b>		09-18	



Councillor Jonathan Segolwane being officially welcomed to the Council by Council Speaker Cllr. Thamaga Maria and Mayor Sammy Selamolela.



The community also had their voices heard.

Mayor indicated that there is a road maintenance plan in place which will be looked at and make sure that issues raised by the community members pertaining to roads are well taken care of.

Other issues raised include children's safety at Glen Fernis, need for poverty alleviation projects and electrification of Maxwell Park an extension of Edwindsdale village which the Mayor indicated that the municipality will engage power utility ESKOM, which is currently electrifying village extensions which Edwindsdale falls part of.

The Mayor told residents that all challenges have been noted and those that require attention of the government departments and parastals will be forwarded accordingly for their attention. Cllr. Selamolela concluded by saying that the new councilor will avail a plan to meet with tribal authorities and general members of the community in all the seven villages of the ward to among other things resolve service delivery bottle necks

He further called for unity in the ward and thanked the people for coming out to the council meeting in numbers.

**EXCO** (Executive Committee); **P.Cs** (Portfolio Committees); **PPP** (Petitions and Public Participation Committee); **EDC** (Ethics and Disciplinary Committee); **MPAC** (Municipal Public Accounts Committee); **W.Cs** (Ward Committees); **MMF** (Mayor Magoshi Forum); **CMF (Councillors Mantona Forum)**; **MCF** (Mayor/Chairpersons Forum); **IPRF** (Institutional Performance Review Session); **WCF** (Ward Committees Forum); **LUM** (Land Use Management Committee); **DMF** (Disaster Management Forum); **WMF**(Waste Management Forum); **LEDF** (Local Economic Development Forum); **LCF** (Local Communicators Forum); **WPM** (Ward Public Meetings) **CSF (Community Safety Forum)**; **LLF (Local Labour Forum)**

Bouberg Local Municipality Mayor Cllr. Sammy Selamolela has expressed his gratitude to Thobela FM Station Manager Mme Moshongwa Matsena and her team together with Mmaphuti Tjiane ( of House no 55, Thobela fm competition winner) for making history in Blouberg.

On the 22nd of August 2015 Thobela FM's popular shows Top 10 and Madibogo- a- gauta ran live from house no 55 at Bull Bull Village as part of the station's on going 55years birthday celebration.

The station had an on-air competition during its birthday in June where listeners residing at House Number 55 were requested to enter the competition through SMS line and indicate why Thobela FM should broadcast from their house (Number 55). Mmaphuti Tjiane entered the competition and won hence the live broadcast from his house.

**1-** Mayor Selamolela delivering a message of appreciation. **2-** Mayor Selamolela congratulates Mmaphuti Tjiane for bringing Thobela FM to Bull **3-** Thobela FM Station Manager Mme Moshongwa Matsena delivering a message of appreciation after Blouberg Municipality partnered with them to make Bull Bull live broadcast a success. **4-** Thobela F.M. presenters; Sebasa Mogale and Nkgadimeng Kekana doing what they do best. **5-** A day full of fun (music and dance). **6-** Mayor Cllr. Selamolela S, Chiefwhip Cllr. Seduma M.D, Finance chairperson Cllr Rehab Masekwameng, Thobela fm station Manager Mme Moshongwa Matsena, Programmes Manager Mme Florina Sebola and Thobela Fm Presenters pose for a photo after a successful broadcast.

# A DAY FULL OF FUN AS THOBELA FM BROADCAST LIVE FROM BULL BULL





# BLOUBERG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

## VISION

A participatory municipality that turns prevailing challenges into opportunities for growth and development through optimal utilization of available resources.

## MISSION

To ensure the delivery of quality services through community participation and the creation of an enabling environment for economic growth and job creation.

### Blouberg Local Municipality Mayor, Cllr Sammy Selamolela Wishes Matriculants Good Luck in their Examinations.



Cllr. Sammy Selamolela  
Mayor.

The time has come for the Class of 2015 to hit the books, do their best and finish their school careers. Matric examinations are a culmination of many years of grooming and preparation for both the learners and educators. There is no secret routine, no magical number of reps and sets, but confidence, belief and hard work on a consistent basis and the desire to succeed. It is our hope that the outcomes will be a glowing showcase of achievement, the result of diligence, dedication and hard work.

It is through education that young people can change the situations they are currently faced with. We can triumph against the tripple challenges facing our country – unemployment, poverty and inequality. Your current circumstances should never determine your future as it is abundantly clear that you worked very hard under difficult conditions with little resources and at times inadequately supported educators. Remember it is only your attitude that can determine your altitude. We hope that this final leg of schooling will be a successful one and that learners will use this

opportunity as a springboard to greater things. It has always been maintained that “no challenge is without the possibility of solution,” words also echoed by our very own world icon Tata Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela who remarked, “You will not be judged on how many times you fall, but on how many times you rise after each fall”. God does not make the hills you have to climb any smaller but God can make the climbing easier. We therefore believe that through His mercy you will manage the tasks at hand. We have no reason to doubt the talents and abilities of our learners to produce good results. That is why we have confidence in every learner and wish them good luck in the upcoming examinations.

With fewer disruptions on learning and teaching in most if not all parts of our municipality this year, we are hopeful and confident that the 2015 matric class will do us proud and sustain the improvement in the results previously recorded. You are also encouraged to give these examinations your ultimate best and not just aim for a pass but for outstanding results that will see you admitted at institutions of higher learning without any struggle. May God smile upon you all and be beside you in this time, helping you when you need it most.