

## **MAYOR THAMAGA MEETS TRADITIONAL LEADERS**

The newly elected Mayor of Blouberg Local Municipality, Her Worship Cllr Maria Thamaga is dedicated to fostering a strong relationship between the municipality and all stakeholders in the area.

The Mayor believes that all municipal stakeholders need to join hands with the municipality in order to bring development and move Blouberg forward.

Traditional leaders; Kgoshi Seakamela SA, Kgoshi Mamadi AT and Kgoshi Leboho KO and their royal councils today, met the Mayor as part of her meet and greet initiatives to formally introduce the new leadership of the municipality and thank the traditional leaders for their active roles in ensuring that their subjects exercise their democratic rights during local government elections and for affording them the opportunity to govern the municipality.

Accompanied by Council Speaker, Cllr Blanco Boloka, Chief Whip, Cllr Johanna Rangata, Executive Committee Members Cllr Robert Makobela, Cllr Prince Motswabe, Cllr Dan Mosena, Cllr Agnes Raseruthe and Cllr Tlouamma the team visited the Seakamela, Mamadi and Kibi royal households.

Giving the purpose of the session, the Speaker Cllr Blanco Boloka indicated that, the new leadership would have met the traditional authorities immediately after the inauguration ceremony of the new Council, however that couldn't be the case due to councillors training programme.

Addressing the session Mayor Thamaga indicated that, traditional leaders played a crucial role in the liberation of the people. She further indicated that, Blouberg Local Municipality respects traditional leaders and as the new leadership, it was the right thing to do, to first introduce themselves to traditional authorities as the municipality exists because of the communities which are under magoshi.

"Our government respects traditional leaders, the relationship between Blouberg Local Municipality and our traditional leaders has always been a good one.

As the country held local government elections last month, the municipality has new leadership and we are here to formally introduce ourselves to you.

We are a municipality because of your subjects that we serve. Thank you for giving us the communities. Feel free to visit office of the Mayor, my phone and office will always be open for you and communities to access me. Myself together with the collective leadership of the municipality we are here to attend to you and the challenges faced by your respective communities. As a municipality, we should join hands with you, work with traditional leaders to develop and move Blouberg forward".

The traditional leaders gave Mayor Thamaga and her team; Political Management Team (PMT) and the Executive Committee a warm welcome and pledged their support.

"Our responsibility as traditional leaders is to work for our communities together with the municipality, not fight the leadership.

The governing party placed her in this mayor ship position because she's well deserving of it, she is the right person to run the municipality. She has been serving our communities for over a twenty-years with hard work, passion and dedication said Kgoshi Seakamela.

"We have seen your good work to communities all these years Mayor.

We call for unity within PMT and EXCO and the entire council of Blouberg, you have a common goal as a council, which is delivering services to the people, let the team spirit always prevail and let God be the centre of everything and there will be good results. Said Kgoshi Mamadi AT.

"We have been working well with the municipality, and we are ready to work with the the new leadership in ensuring that our people get services. We are happy to be led by a woman, we know Cllr Thamaga, with her good track record and the collective leadership, we are certain that, there will be development in Blouberg. We are ready to work with the new leadership to improve the livelihoods of our communities" said Kgoshi Leboho KO.

Mayor Thamaga concluded her meet and greet session by visiting Headman Makgopo's household at Mokwena Glenfernis to resolved the issue of low-cost housing allocation.