

BETTYS BAY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

2017 REPORT

It gives me great pleasure to report on the activities of the organisation for the past year.

1. Registration

The BBNW received accreditation from the Western Cape Government - Department of Community Safety (DOCS) on the 27th March 2017. The BBNW is represented on the Joint Operations Committee, which is chaired by the Station Commander of the Kleinmond SAPS. According to legislation the BBNW is also represented on the local Community Police Forum (CPF)

2. Members

We have a total of 583 residents/home owners on our data base compared to approximately 3000 stands in Bettys Bay. We have split the town into 7 areas with a total of 9 Wardens, who are currently in the process of identifying permanent residents and holiday homes.

3. Operations

The Operational group who regularly partake in operations numbers only 14. Training sessions were held by DOCS and our internal training programme was also developed.

The Operational Group have conducted regular operations throughout the year and have also responded to medical, fire and other emergencies.

It is very difficult to measure how many potential burglaries we have prevented through the year. The crime statistics as reported by SAPS and the security companies reveal that very few burglaries, if any, occur while we are on active patrol. In many instances burglaries occur after we have stood down.

4. Finance

At the end of the financial year (October 2017) we had R95 544 in the bank. The income for this period was derived primarily from donations received from residents for which we are extremely grateful. In addition we raised funds at a golf competition at Kleinmond Golf Club as well as the fun walk and swim. A donation was received from the Bettys Bay Ratepayers.

A total of R38 346 was spent during the year on night vision equipment, magnetic boards and radio equipment.

5. Looking ahead

This is the more important part of the report as everything up to now is history. The majority of our operations are based on being highly visible throughout Bettys Bay and thereby be a deterrent to criminals. This strategy has limitations in that we do not have sufficient people to provide continuous cover during the night. The choices we have to make are summarised below:

- Continue with what we have been doing
- Recruit significantly more people to do continuous cover
- Use technology (cameras) to enhance our effectiveness

It is my honest belief that we must install cameras and continue to do patrol with as many members as we can gather.

The installation cost of a camera system varies depending on the type and quantity of cameras installed. The monthly monitoring cost of a camera system is R8500 ex vat and herein lies the challenge that we as a community must fund.

A separate meeting will be arranged in the New Year to give a detailed presentation to residents at which SAPS and the camera supplier will be present.

May I take this opportunity to publicly thank all the people who have given of their time to enable us as an organisation to make a difference to Bettys Bay.

Bill Steyn

19th December 2017

