

Northpine City Improvement District

Public Safety and Security meeting

MINUTES

25 May 2023

Northpine Primary School, Northpine



Agenda of Meeting

1. Opening and Welcome - Mr. Lindsay Schereka
2. Purpose of the meeting - Mr. Mark Smith
3. Overview of Traffic in Northpine - Alderman Grant Twigg
4. Kraaifontein Community Police Forum - Sergeant Collins
5. Law Enforcement - Regional Inspector Lourens
6. SJC Roles and responsibilities - Mr. Derek Minnaar
7. Q&A

1. Opening and Welcome

Mr. Lindsay Schereka welcomes all that have attended and informs that the number of residents in attendance can be counted on one hand. A special thanks to all role players; Alderman Grant Twigg; Sergeant Collins; Regional Inspector Lourens and SJC our service provider.

2. Purpose of the meeting

Mr. Mark Smith presents and informs that their fridge magnets with the control room number and emergency numbers available on the magnets.

All incidents to be reported to control room and whereby we find that residents place incidents on Facebook and is not logged to the control room. Elements that break in or steal are on Facebook themselves and can see what has been posted.

In terms of the control room and its monitoring will be presented by Mr. Derek Minnaar on how incidents are handled daily.

We have noted during March 2023 there has been an increase of theft of floodlights; vehicle stolen and recovered the same evening. In terms of public safety officers finding suspicious person/s with back packs and bags the suspicious person is brought to the control room with images of items within the back packs are taken as well as image of suspicious person and address. This is to ensure that every reported case could possibly be linked to the suspicious person and the items.

To all residents we still need to ensure that our properties are secured as well as vehicles equipped with an alarm system that is in working order.

The statistics placed within the presentation is not SAPS data and is data from the control room when incidents are reported.

3. Overview of Traffic – Alderman Grant Twigg

Alderman Grant Twigg thanks the NCID and asks that all residents go through the necessary processes in order to see results. The traffic in Northpine and in the evenings are hectic, Council is currently busy with the process with Transport and Road so that we can better the flow of traffic. There is a suggestion that was made to transport. The suggestion is to have a extra lane to the left as you come out of Northpine and at Okavango to double up the right turn with the middle lane proceeding towards the right to ease flow of traffic. Northpine is not the only area that is struggling with traffic but affects flow from Scottsdene, Wallacedene and Northpine.

With regard to reporting to the NCID when C3 notifications are done residents can also request Law Enforcement, Metro Police there are various complaint routes that can be followed. Informs that when complaints arise residents post on Facebook whereby there are alternative routes that can be followed in order to lodge a complaint.

4. Kraaifontein SAPS – Sergeant Collins

Sergeant Collins sector commander for Sector 1. Sector 1 includes Northpine; Bernadino Heights; Watsonia Park; Scottsdene; Summerville and Protea Pines. In general questions arise as to how many SAPS Vehicles there are? There is one sector 1 complaint vehicle, which is responsible for complaints and patrols. Two CPU (Crime Prevention Unit) vehicles, more responsible to react i.e. gang related etc.. To further the statistics, regular meetings take place with the CID usually once a month to cover the months of crime. Unfortunately, there are certain times in a month whereby SAPS can release the crime and that is when the Minister releases the crime. Discussions regarding crime in the area the focus points are the days of the week the crime is committed; has it been reported to SAPS; the times of the incidents and the type of crime. Figures are not provided to the CID but guidelines based on the areas that need to be focused on.

If no cases are opened no pattern of the areas can be identified. SAPS system works in such way that when cases are opened for a certain area the system then generates a pattern, time, date, the type of crimes most common. Hotspots are also flagged; SAPS system then generates a time where the SAPS vehicle needs to be. Each shift at SAPS is provided with a patrol sheet where the sector van needs to be. Most don't report incidents which creates a problem for SAPS.

Joint operations took place with VCP (Vehicle Check Point) its SAPS way of creating safety. Operations take place during Easter, Festive seasons etc...

5. Law Enforcement – Regional Inspector Lourens

Regional Inspector Lourens presently acting Chief for area North. Work very much combined with the CID, Metro Police etc. For Northpine area thank you to the CID; complaints have dropped significantly. Odd complaints pertaining to the congestion of traffic which has been brought to Law Enforcement attention, Regional Inspector Lourens received a complaint regarding a Law Enforcement Officer that is currently under investigation. Thank you to the community that have complained about the Law Enforcement officer, current disciplinary action is underway.

Changes are at the engineers for lanes and traffic signals to be improved to relieve traffic congestion. Loadshedding is taking a lot of Law Enforcement time as officers need to be deployed in certain areas that have become crucial such as Okavango Bridge. All intersections cannot be reached due to the manpower.

COVID was one of the worst things that could have happened but got a good change from getting to know your neighbours where communities stand together. Reporting line for immediate response to Law Enforcement is 107 / 021 480 7700 which gets despatched immediately to the officers.

6. SJC – Mr. Derek Minnaar

Mr. Derek Minnaar informed through presentation, that the compliment on site is 5 x Grade C male officers (day); 6 x Grade C male officers (night); controller in the control room; one x driver and one additional armed response vehicle free of charge in the area. All Public safety officers are PSIRA registered. The times of patrols are Monday to Sunday from 06h00am to 18h00pm and 18h00pm – 06h00am.

The following equipment is on site 10 x GPS radios; guide the Public safety officers to ensure that patrols are done with a point system in place where Public safety officers clock the points of patrol. GPS shows where patrols take place and a panic button on the radio should the Public safety officer be in danger this button is pressed.

Presentation has been made available for review on the NCID website www.northpinecid.co.za

Each Public safety officer (public safety officer) route has been displayed and informed to the residents.

7. Community – Questions and Answers

- I. Are there certain hotspots in the area that can be mentioned?

There are hotspots in the area that have been identified and monitored closely by the Public safety officer.

- II. The incidents that have been reflected and displayed on the presentation, day or night time?

It can be reported that it is day and night, no set time of occurrence.

- III. What happened to the segways?

The Segways and bicycles started becoming a problem with the amount of repairs that it had to undergo. The maintenance of the bicycles and segways started becoming expensive.

- IV. There was an incident last year whereby the Hawks arrested someone with drugs been transported. The community needs more information as to was this a delivery gone wrong? Was the drugs for someone to sell in the area? Or was the vehicle used to drive through Northpine as an escape but came from a different area and intention was to go to another area?

The NCID is a top-up service and the Hawks are not obligated to share stats with us. We will never know the exact incident and all information as Hawks did not want to disclose any information.

- V. If contact is made to the control room what happens with this incident when it is reported?

Should it be a complaint for loud music, the control room makes contact with Law Enforcement to assist. All community members need to bear in mind that the NCID is a top-up service and will respond and assist. Residents of Northpine still need to report theft etc. to SAPS and obtain a Case number.

All footage from the control room is not given to any resident, the only person/s able to view footage is the investigating officer who would then be provided with the footage.

- VI. Frequent suspicious person/s walking in Burtondale upon reviewing footage no foot patrols are seen other than SAPS patrolling in Burtondale.

The patrol vehicle patrols Burtondale and can confirm that patrols are done as mentioned through presentation.

- VII. Is Kraaifontein CPF active?

The structure is there and Kraaifontein CPF is active.

- VIII. Compound area needs to be looked at there are a lot of children walking in and out of the compound to purchase drugs, can the children not be monitored?

We do not have any jurisdiction as to who comes in and out of the Compound area and Sunnyway.

- IX. Two years ago, there was a request put in for an additional speed hump to be placed in Howard Drive, nothing has since been done?

Alderman Grant Twigg informed that City is inundated with requests for speedhumps and is completed as the requests come in.

- X. Reported blocked drains in Catalan Close it was cleared but no filled, the call had been logged to City but still no one has come out.

Lets report to the City of Cape Town to action and assist in removing the sand blocking the drain.

- XI. Proposal for the walk through next to the Apostolic church to be bought by the residents next to the walk through to purchase, nothing happened?

The process was followed. The gentleman who advised he would purchase the walk through completed and followed the process required. Alderman Twigg will follow-up how far the process is. This seems to be the problem where there are two or three residents linked to a passage one applies but the others do not does create a problem.

- XII. Suggestion to Regional Inspector Lourens do we have a programme where we can maybe train up volunteers to assist in the interim until the traffic situation is alleviated?

Regional Inspector Lourens Law Enforcement has an auxiliary programme and Traffic has a school attendance. Auxiliary programme has a requirement that you need to be part of a neighbourhood watch, training is also provided. The only requirement is that you work 16 hours a month, a uniform is received, and a vehicle assigned to the staff. At the moment in order to register would be on the EPWP system at nearest sub-council. In area North there are currently 28 Auxiliary members this will be placed on the website and Facebook.

- XIII. Do not have a problem with SJC and cannot complain about patrols solution for Public safety officers can wear comfortable shoes and what is the cut-off age of the public safety officers?

There is one old guy that has been there from the start. Please bear in mind that everything comes with a cost we would love to get more guys visible. Arrears R 1.1 million of residents are not paying; CoCT pays 90% of what must be paid to the CID and holds back a 3% retention for bad debt.

- XIV. Can the statistics reflected be made available?

The statistics will be made available on the website.

- XV. The cleaning people that clean the streets do they tender for what they doing as they not doing that?

The people cleaning the area tender for sweeping the verges; roads and pavements. A schedule has been provided to the team from the NCID end to assist them in which streets to be cleaned and cleared. The schedule is provided to the teams each morning and is monitored on a daily basis. City of Cape Town is also in the area cleaning whereby the teams are also provided with a schedule. There are currently three cleaning teams in the area.

- XVI. When the Northpine Technical High School was built it was said that there would be parking made available, people are now parking in the street making it difficult to pass through?

We need to have respect when speaking to one another in the meeting. The traffic congestion would need to be taken up with the school and is the school's responsibility to alleviate the traffic in Oregon way.

- XVII. Parking is an issue at Northpine Primary creche as well. One incident occurred whereby the taxi drivers started fighting with each other and NCID was called to assist.

Should the fighting occur once again Law Enforcement to be contacted to assist and address.

- XVIII. The spaza shops in Northpine are becoming a problem?

Phone Law Enforcement to ensure that the shops have been registered and have been approved to run a shop from the house.

- XIX. Northpine is one of the cleanest areas that has been seen. The area that gives Northpine the impression of being dirty is the bottle store as it is always dirty? What can be done? The roads and

engineering department have they ever considered opening Ponderosa way to Kruispad, if it was implemented it would reduce the amount of congestion.

Ald. Twigg informed that there are discussions of opening the road from Ponderosa to Kruispad to deviate traffic. Not sure when this would be implemented.

XX. The developments happening in Sunnway there is no road out towards the new development all this traffic will be coming into Northpine. Been in contact with Law Enforcement what I've heard was very depressing as there was only one vehicle available due to calls logged due to Compound partying happening Sunday morning to the evening? Law Enforcement would close case and inform no loud music takes place.

Ald. Twigg - there have been sessions with the planning but will be followed up with regard to the development at the compound area.

Mr. Mark Smith thanks all for attendance and hopes that we could continue to work together as a community.

Meeting adjourned 20h39pm