



Chapman's Peak Neighbourhood Watch Annual General Meeting 2022

Chairman's Report

Good evening everyone and thank-you for attending!

It is good to see people's faces at an AGM again! This has got to be one of the best turn-outs we have had for a while. Thank you, everyone who has made the effort to be here!

On a Positive Note

I would like to pause and reflect on that for a moment, because to me it seems somewhat miraculous that over the past 20 years that I have been living here, despite our country's generally shambolic downhill slide, almost every aspect of my life at home in Noordhoek, has got better. The roads are better, and speed-controlled, with pedestrian walkways and beautiful verges, the beach is significantly cleaner than it was (I can remember on a single community clean-up morning filling a whole waste container), the Common is well-cared for, natural areas are looked after, this building has been transformed from a derelict semi-ruin into a thriving Community Centre, we have seen the development of generally really nice restaurants and other local businesses, and even residential properties in a way that I think, has enhanced, more than ruined the atmosphere and, perhaps it has even become a little bit safer!

I emphasise all of this because I think it is important to stress how the incredible efforts of those in this community who really understand what being part of a community really involves, have totally transformed life for all of us. So before I go through our Committee for 2022 to introduce and thank each one of them, I would also like to pay tribute to the really exceptional human beings who give their time to so many other organisations in our area, such as the NRPA, NEAG, The NRA, On The Verge, Noordhoeked, Toadnuts, and various others that really do work synergistically to make this such a special place! This is much appreciated, and I don't think many people really understand the value of what you do.

There is something of weird paradox that starts to happen when one becomes involved in this kind of work: You learn that it **is** possible to change the things around you for the better - but also that this is not going to happen if there is no one to do it. So, you start to get involved and that does reap benefits, motivating you further and making more opportunities for improvement obvious to you. Conversely those not involved, barely notice changes that by nature, are slow and incremental.

So, by making life more comfortable for everyone, those who are not involved, become less likely to volunteer, stuck in a comfort zone where what were significant improvements are simply taken for granted, so they seldom realise these involve the efforts of others, nor their value, unless they are lost. This of course results in more and more work for a few, who eventually shift from being enormously positive and energetic, to burned out and frustrated.

It would also be remiss not to note the slide we are in as a country, and probably more globally as well. If there was ever a time when we need to be thinking globally and acting locally to pull together as a community, that time is now. More than ever before, we are going to need each other!

So, I think it important that, as Community Organisations we keep thinking about this dilemma and how we resolve it. To me there are probably three key themes:

- Publicising what we do, constantly trying to grow our membership, and making it clear to everyone how much we stand to lose if these organisations fail.
- Developing strategies to operate in intelligent ways that utilise available assets (such as skill-sets, financial capacity and communication networks) to maximise the impact of any volunteer time.
- Constantly working on bringing in volunteers by identifying small roles in new and existing projects with the aim of increasing the overall number of people actively involved in at least some aspect of what we do.

As important of course, is the recognition that must be given to those who have remained committed year-in and year-out, and in this respect, I would like to thank our Committee Members:

John Parker	Chairman / Newsletter
Patrick Wright	Vice Chairman/Website /ADT DBS Rep
Geoff Young	Treasurer
Craig Botha	Rapid Response Team / Radios
Lynne Hogan	Community Connectors
Karen MacIntyre	Membership Database / NCC/Radios
Tessa Oliver	CP Fire Unit
Rob Mousley	Communications/Incidents

We need to thank two individuals Patrick Wright and Karen MacIntyre, whom we felt actually needed to be singled out for the insane amount of work they do in looking after all of us. So we thought we would give either of you a small token of our appreciation and say a huge thank-you for all that you have been doing.

First of all to Patrick Wright: To be honest I don't think there would be a CPNW without Patrick! He runs the camera network and it's really impressive roll-out, he looks after our website and manages much of the social media, he is a key-player in the radio-network, he is point-person in terms of Security Company Liaison and he probably does more informal patrolling than the rest of the neighbourhood put together, In addition to this he is active in NRPA and constantly thinking about more ways to make this place even better. Patrick, you are a true hero to this community and an example to us all! Thank you.

Secondly to Karen MacIntyre: As if pausing to look at what a great ongoing success this community centre has been is not enough of a tribute to Karen, she also regularly volunteers herself to doing the hell-work of trying to keep our databases updated as well as and tracking down every last two-way radio on our network, making sure they are operational and have updated licenses. With residents constantly coming and going and radios long-lost in dusty cupboards, these are not small tasks and put together with the Community Centre responsibilities easily starts to look like a full-time job! Thank you Karen, your dedication is humbling!

Now, with an eye on sustainability and leadership, I would like to thank everyone on the committee for your willingness to make yourselves available for another year. However, we would love to have some new members on the Committee if anyone is willing to stand (thank you Sean), and we would also like to encourage interested members to come along to meetings. We try to keep these as short as possible and generally meet once per month on a Monday evening.

I now deliver the Chair's Report, with input from committee members speaking to the different sections:

Database and Membership

We currently have 421 residences on our database which includes 26 cottages/flats (secondary residences) on one property. In effect this means that we have 395 Erven on the database. The reason for the drop in numbers is people leaving the area and new people not signing up. If we get to hear of someone leaving we do try and make contact with the new owners. Some are more than happy to join whilst others don't respond to the mails despite sending an information sheet detailing what CPNW does in and around the area. This is another area that we could really use some help with, and this is the kind of help that is ideally suited to someone who does not need to see themselves at all skilled in anything to do with security!!

Crime Report

I must confess that I was a little surprised when we got to this year's final totals. In the enthusiasm of my recruitment letter, I missed a significant of more petty crimes, information about which trickles. So I apologise for misrepresenting the stats in that letter, when I believed we were in for a similar number to last year! The trend however remains very positive and I do also believe that many of the minor crimes we now record, were seldom reported in earlier years.

So, sad to say, with a total of 21 incidents, (compared to 8 in 2020 and 13 in 2021) numbers are up and that is never a good thing. It is of course no surprise given the national crime situation and something we might have to expect, no matter what we do.

Also very disturbing were 2 further incidents of Home Invasions:

These both took place in Monkey Valley, with houses accessed from Chapmans Peak Drive and this remains a vulnerability in the area that needs attention.

The big increase in numbers is due to both property theft, of things like gates, equipment, and batteries, to more petty theft, mainly related to copper. I think this is to be expected with growing poverty and the general crime rate in the country and it is important to try to curtail it immediately as we know this tends to herald more serious crime.

Better news is of at least three arrests, and a further three incidents where property was retrieved. Also of concern is Avondrust Farm, with 6 incidents. We are pleased to see an improved service from Deep Blue Security on the farm and hope this improves what is a very vulnerable

Cameras – Licence Plate Recognition (LPR)

- We currently have 10 Cameras in place – including all entrances to Chapman's Peak
- One new LPR camera has been installed at Beach Parking entrance
- Farm Village camera being repaired, three out of date cameras being replaced at Silvermine intersection.
- Avon1 camera relocated to cover NCC and direct connection to fibre
- Uses iTrack and Navic software to identify suspect vehicles via a local and central database
- Messages sent via email and Telegram when a suspect vehicle enters the area.
- Very Effective in reducing vehicle-based crime in our area.

Cameras - Overview

- We currently have 10 CPNW CCTV cameras covering the southern boundary.

- Most of these cameras are 'hosted' by residents who provide electricity and internet. A big thank you to these hosts!
- We are also steadily expanding the network to private CCTV cameras that have the suitable hardware to be included into our systems.
- 6 of the overview cameras are constantly monitored by Deep Blue – all have Acusense camera analytics so that unusual movements trigger alerts and we have recorded several incidents, one the night before the AGM, where people in our streets at unusual hours, have been spotted, and a vehicle alerted which has responded and escorted the person out of the area.
- 5 of the LPR cameras also record overview pictures
- The Beach parking area is covered by 4 cameras
- The Community Centre is covered
- 10 Cameras on Avondrust Vlei farm are monitored by Deep Blue (privately funded)
- We still have another 5 cameras with Acusense in stock.
- Our immediate plans are to expand this network by:
 - 2 cameras to complete the southern and western boundaries – HOSTS??
 - The start of a process to cover Northern boundary

Camera Project Volunteers Needed!

- This is, we believe a key strategy that is already taking crime prevention in our area to another level.
- As demonstrated by the significant reduction in vehicle-borne crime since the LPR system has been in place, we believe we can achieve similar results for other incursions using camera systems, particularly with infra-red and analytic capabilities that trigger patrolling in areas where intruders are detected.
- So, our vision is to extend this system, initially arounds our perimeter, but eventually to every street in the area
- For this to keep developing we will need significant teams of volunteers for:
 - Maintenance of Camera Sites
 - Planning New Coverage
 - Recruitment of Hosts
 - Coordinating Purchase and Installation
 - LPR System Management and Monitoring
 - Overview System Management and Monitoring

Community Connectors

- These are small groups of immediate neighbours connected together in a small network (usually on WhatsApp).
- The idea of these groups is that they are less formal, small and adaptable to local needs. Some use the group for all manner of things, whilst others keep it purely for security.
- NEIGHBOURS!! – Ultimately we believe that this is one of our most powerful ways of promoting safety. Simply knowing that help is just across the fence is enormously reassuring!
- Each group is then connected to the CPNW Committee via a single coordinator.
- We have 24 Connector WhatsApp groups at present.
- Ideally we need 40-50 groups so that groups are not too large
- Contact Lynne Hogan to join a group or start one

CPNW Radio Users Network

- A recent survey shows that we have 181 handheld radios in the Chapman's Peak area.
- Despite multiple emails over the last 3 months, there are still 6 of those 181 owners to fill in and return the licence application forms to complete the paperwork. PLEASE DO!
- It must be noted that we need to know if people who own radios are about to leave the area so we can remove our Valley frequencies from them.
- We also need to know if they sell their radio, or give them, to people to whom they have sold their properties, as we need to effect a change of ownership on the licence form.
- It's important that we keep track of where every radio is as we don't want them falling into the wrong hands and compromising the safety of the Valley
- We also have a supporting WhatsApp group that keeps radio users up-to-date with any major developments.

This network is a huge asset to our community and generally is under-utilised but essential to maintain for potential crises.

SOCIAL MEDIA

- Mainstay remains Website and emails in terms of our direct communication and accountability.
- Day to day driven primarily by what people use: currently WhatsApp and FB
- Huge thanks to Patrick, Rob and to a lesser but no less vital degree Craig, for patrolling and moderating these sites
- Alternative systems considered but user uptake is critical
- Policies WRT appropriate use of group; respect for group users; legal considerations; reputation
- Ideally we should be able to keep security groups UN-muted! So DISCIPLINE on these groups is VITAL in terms of only using in emergencies
- Please note that dealing with people who do not respect basic rules of group participation is hugely time consuming for Committee Members!

CPNW Voluntary Fire Unit

- This remains equipped with the necessary equipment and a rudimentary team but it has been some time since we practiced and we could certainly use more volunteers!!
- As we are now entering the height of the fire season, which I am sure was apparent to everyone on the weekend please do take fire precautions!!

Other Initiatives

- It is wonderful to note, that, when the need really arises, we do have neighbours who are ready to step and help and we play a role in coordination and support
- So we are pleased to report that the resident in the increasingly derelict house at the beach is now being very well cared for in Noordhoek Manor, with her assets safely preserved to support her after we acted with concerned neighbours to engage a Social Worker who provided the necessary support. Thank you Lynne, who spearheaded that.
- We still have a bunch of keen dog owners ready to help with tracking tasks, as the K9 group.
- And whilst our Response Team was not called into action this year, we pleasantly surprised at how quickly and readily members responded to a standby activation at the time of the home invasions. Thank you to everyone involved in all of these efforts!!

NCC

I have left this for last as it really is pretty much a separate project, ably managed by Karen and I am sure you will all agree that this has become a huge asset to our whole community!

Importantly, it also brings in significant revenue, which is ploughed right back into its maintenance and improvement as the first priority and then additionally to support our crime prevention measures. Karen:

The Noordhoek Community Centre has had another good year with an increase in bookings for the year currently standing at 25%. The braai area has been re-vamped and is available for people to hire. It is the intention to start a Face Book page for the Community Centre which will give, as accurately as possible, a list of the regular activities taking place and the contact details of the people running the classes. It will just be an information site for people to have a look and see what is going on what days and at what times. It will not be a chat site.

FINANCIAL REPORT



CHAPMANS PEAK NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

For period 1 November to 31 October

	2022	2021
	R	R
OPENING BANK BALANCE	55,676	33,956
INCOME		
Member subscriptions: F-ADT	67,730	61,680
Member subscriptions: Deep Blue	11,295	8,430
Member subscriptions: Direct	11,120	15,530
Total subscription income	90,145	85,640
NCC rentals	174,297	47,665
NCC - transfer from NRPA	-	94,322
Radio sales	6,900	2,700
	271,342	230,327
EXPENDITURE		
Administration fees	-	11,375
Annual duty CIPC	150	150
ARO cash bonuses	10,500	-
Bank charges	2,308	1,846
Cameras: purchases & maintenance	103,549	118,571
Donation - Masi Benefit Trust	11,468	1,250
Insurance	6,776	5,842
NCC expenses	74,411	69,114
NCC braai area	19,500	-
Radio purchases & expenses	7,177	460
	235,839	208,608
CLOSING BANK BALANCE	91,179	55,676

Future Plans – Where we need help

Thanks to those who have responded to our appeal by email and to other here today who have indicated their willingness to get involved.

We have asked everyone to complete a questionnaire so we can have a better idea of how to use you in a way that is both effective and enjoyable!!

We will then approach you individually WRT different initiatives

BUT PLEASE COME TO A MEETING if you are interested! All Committee Meetings are open to all members and take place on the second Monday of each month. We will put a schedule on the website. We would love to see you there!

NEW COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

All Existing Committee members nominated for another year and accepted these nominations.
Additional Committee Member Nominated: Sean Moolenschot.

THANKS AND BRAAI