



PENNINGTON COMMUNITY WATCH

COMMUNITY POLICING FORUM

09th May 2019 5:30 PM - PENNINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- **Welcome & Apologies**

Steve welcomed all, a poor turn-out than previous AGM's.

Apologies Received via Facebook, street groups, and attending community members.

- **Minutes Previous AGM**

Minutes were put onto Facebook and onto Website.

Minutes were accepted by Lou Jacobs and seconded by Dave Arnison.

- **Matters Arising**

No matters arising.

- **Nominations - Elections**

Election of New Committee Member - Roy Spooner

- **Introduction of SAP members**

The chairman introduced the SAP reservists who attended the AGM and thanked them for their contribution to the success of the PCW.

- **Address by Colonel Ruiters**

Colonel Ruiters addressed the attendees, thanking the community of Pennington for getting the PCW initiative going and keeping it going so strongly. To start any initiative is easy, but sustaining it is hard. He thanked all the paying PCW members. Really appreciate what PCW does as if PCW was not available then everything would collapse. 4 years now and the PCW has gone from strength to strength.

Colonel Ruiters must answer to crime at a National level.

Criminals have now shifted their focus because of the patrols of both the SAPS reservists and the PCW Patrol volunteers and are now targeting the Gated Estates.

PCW has great input in this area. SAP's are always available in Pennington. There was a spike in the Umdoni area in the last financial year, but at the beginning of this quarter crime had decreased dramatically in Pennington directly as a result of the PCW and patrolling SAP's members.

Need the community's help on the ground, The Pennington Community Watch Concept is helping SAP's and it is working and if everyone could do what Pennington was doing, we would be able to bring crime down all over. We don't need to just point fingers at SAP's we need to assist as well. Scottburgh SAPS are waiting for new vehicles.

The housebreaking's that do occur are from criminals from surrounding areas. House Robberies are criminals from Durban. Luckily, we have had no Shop Robberies in Pennington and these criminals mostly come from Durban.

The stats are early for this year, but we don't want a repeat of last years spike in crime. A lot of vehicles are recovered when they are taken.

Report suspicious vehicles and SAP's or PCW will respond.

They have dedicated detectives to solves crimes. It is everyone's responsibility to protect our communities.

The focus for the PCW and SAPS for this year is months with zero crime.

The Colonel thanks the Committee and the Volunteer Patrol Members for the support and the countless hours and time spent on the PCW, be it at meetings or patrolling the streets of Pennington. Especially the SAPS Reservists who leave their family's and look after other families while they are patrolling.

Thanks SAPS members and reservists for their dedication and support, they are always at everyone's call at a moment's notice. They are a fantastic bunch of guys and girls, and even the SAPS members in Scottburgh are envious of the SAPS Reservists.

To Pennington PCW, the Committee, the Volunteers and the SAPS Reservists thanks to all of you, and hope the PCW goes from strength to strength.

● **Statistics**

- Marcel Verleur presented the statistics and slides for the 2018 / 2019 year.
- Crime has decreased substantially due to the visible policing and Police reservists 24/7. It is a huge crime deterrent.
- Comparisons between first Police reservists 2016/2017 and whole of 2017 until December 2017 and then for 2018 when we could have Reservists 24/7 and the introduction of the Bicycle bobbies. Trend is downwards with crime.
- Street Groups 9
- Street Group members - 821 - addition of Pennvalley & Airely / Silver Oaks
- Facebook members - 349
- Patrol volunteers - 40
- Initial signups - 2015/2016 - 177; 2016/2017 - 158; 2017/2018 - 265;
- PCW Contributors (paid up members) - 331 up from ± 66 last year
- We need upwards of 400 members another 70

● **Financials**

- Dave Arnison presented the financials.
- Income and Expenditure Report for PCW March 2018 - March 2019
- Cash on Hand as at 28 Feb 2019 - R60 012.00
- Proposed Budget 2019 - 2020

● **Chairman's report**

- The Chairman thanked the following :-
- Deena Govender who always there 24/7, always gives support.
- The SAPS, The Detectives, The Constables, the Colonel and the SAPS Reservists who respond to calls within 3 minutes.
- Committee members without whom the PCW would not be possible. The stalwarts - Jayne Leech, Janet Kolle, Marcel Verleur, Dave Arnison and Lou

Jacobs. The PCW has a very good committee who will keep the PCW initiative going strong.

- Patrol Members (Residents) thank you for the early morning patrols, everyone appreciates the dedication.
 - To all the PCW members whatever your contribution, these stats would not be possible without your contributions.
 - To the Methodist Church for allowing the use of their Hall.
 - **WhatsApp protocol**
- **Closing**
 - The PCW is committed to remain as a business but like all businesses the PCW needs cash to survive.
 - We need more members
 - More Pennington Residents need to commit to become members.

Meeting closed at – 18h405

Next meeting – 4th June 2019 – Pennington Library

WhatsApp PROTOCOL

Before posting ask yourself the following questions:

1. is THERE A CRIME CURRENTLY IN PROGRESS in Pennington?
2. Is it PERTINENT TO a crime or possible criminal activity?
3. Is someone in IMMEDIATE danger

If the answer is no to all the ABOVE do not post, SEND IT TO YOUR ADMIN ONE ON ONE and let them decide

- **These groups are NOT chat groups.** They are in place to report suspicious behavior, concerns, crime related information, important community notifications and road traffic situations Affecting THE SAFETY OF residents in our area
- They DO NOT replace SAPS or your armed response company.
- **In an emergency you can call**
 - SAPS Scottburgh Charge office **039 978 9916** they are in radio contact with the SAPS reservists
 - Your security companies
 - The PCW cell number **063 474 5012 (PCW CELL)** and we can relay the message to our SAPS reservists who patrol 24/7
- Over many years we have built and strengthened our relationships with SAPS and other security service providers. We are extremely happy to have some members of SAPS on our groups.
- Content shared on these groups is for group members ONLY. Content from these groups may NOT be shared with any third party unless otherwise specified.

- NO jokes, religious comment, hate speech, racism, politics, vulgar language or UNRELATED topics WILL BE TOLERATED
- Debates, Criticism or disagreements Must be DEALT WITH offline or one on one.
- Forwarded messages concerning events outside Pennington ARE OFTEN NOT ACCURATE WHICH ADDS "NOISE" AND DILUTES THE GROUP'S EFFECTIVENESS. WHEN IN DOUBT DISCUSS WITH ADMIN BEFORE POSTING.
- Please message Group admins privately WITH ANY FEEDBACK, CONCERNS OR SUGGESTIONS.
- Absolutely no advertising will be permitted on these groups. This includes, but is not limited to products, services, security, other Neighborhood Watches and NPOs
- PCW reserves the right to promote and share other activities and events in our area that impacts on crime. This includes community building events, as a strong community is the best deterrent for crime.
- Admins reserve the right to remove members who won't adhere to Admins' instructions or the above.