

**GENERAL PUBLIC MEETING OF THE SOMERSET WEST CPF
IN THE SOMERSET WEST LIBRARY HALL
ON 15 FEBRUARY 2011 AT 19H00**

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies: Col MA Williams, Col Lento, Mr J Brown, Mrs A Robertson (SAPS cluster meeting in Khayelitsha).

Mr T van Minnen, CPF Treasurer, chaired the meeting and Col Plaatjies represented SAPS.

2. CRIME OVERVIEW

Capt S Jones who has been transferred to Somerset West, and has taken over from WO Fleischman, addressed the meeting:

House robberies a problem in Sector 2 specifically Heldervue and Steynsrust as well as farms for month to date. Crime has increased in Sector 2 for the last 3 months. Sector 1 has had business robberies especially in the CBD and at post office and malls. Sectors 1 and 2 have a big problem with theft out of motor vehicles. There was a decrease in property crime for the months of January and February compared to last year. Robberies aggravated and common increased 47 percent.

Mr T van Minnen explained the different terms:

Burglary - you never met the person.

Robbery - if you met the person.

Robbery aggravated is when you have an altercation with said person.

Mr B Barnes asked what sort of crime had occurred at malls. Capt Jones advised that mostly theft of, and out of vehicles had been reported, and usually over weekends. This was also prevalent at the Post Office and Checkers. Cars mostly stolen outside Post Office.

Mr J Kleyn advised the meeting that House Robberies had picked up and that 4 cases had occurred in or near Helderberg College between 1 - 12 Feb. Mr T van Minnen explained percentages and how they worked.

Sgt N Thyssen reported on Rural Safety as follows:

305 Farm visits, 35 A arrests, 27 B arrests and 234 persons searched.

Many awareness campaigns were arranged in various areas. Sir Lowry's Pass is where most violent crimes occur. Most of the crime comes from rural areas, but that crime in these areas has been minimised since July. There had been no House Robberies in rural areas.

3. FINANCES - Mr T van Minnen

1. Dept of community safety for forms filled in R1000-00
2. Investec deposit of R 300-00
2. Victim support received R 200-00
3. In bank R2536-43
4. of which Victim support owns R655.80 and R301.90 is cash on hand

4. COMMUNITY

Mr T van Minnen advised the meeting that the CPF is facilitating and financing a play park for children with HIV. This task has been taken on by Mrs B van Minnen. She has found a sponsor and will oversee the project. Children with HIV have to spend the whole day, once a month, waiting for tests and to receive medication. This play park will in a small way alleviate their boredom. Currently she is waiting for the various quotes to come in before commencing with the building of this park.

5. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mrs J Findlay - Is there any indication on response time to calling in a burglary?

Mr T van Minnen advised that response time is logged from time of call to them giving feedback to control and when they have arrived at site. If you feel too long was taken you can log a complaint. What we should do is figure out which sector you live in, go to CPF website and find your specific sector van's number. There should be 2 sector vans per sector. You could get a faster response if you call the sector van. What a lot of people do, is they call 10111 which goes to Khayelitsha therefore a delay of 10 min before your sector van is called. It is advisable to put the Sector vans and the police stations number onto one's cellphone. The security companies call 10111. One should not rely on them to call SAPS. SAPS is your primary security provider, their job is to catch the perpetrator. The Security company's primary focus is to catch the robber in your home and look after your home. Current reaction time if 10111 is called is 3 min but could be longer.

Mrs Kruger: Had a break-in at her house and called 850 1310 from 09h20 several calls ---- SAPS only arrived @ 16h50. Col Plaatjies will follow up.

Mrs S Webster: a robbery was discovered in Hillcrest, the home owner waited 1.5 hours for SAPS to arrive on the previous Friday. She believes that he may have called 10111 and possibly also the local station. On arriving in the area she wondered where the SAPS vehicles were after this incident had occurred. Col Plaatjies informed us that SAPS work out a route for each patrol van in certain sectors. Each vehicle is fitted with a tracker system. SAPS may have been patrolling the perimeters of the area where Mrs Webster had been travelling.

NHW - a member asked how she finds out which Sector she lives in. She was directed to the CPF website. J Kleyn encouraged all to join their local Neighbourhood Watch.

Mr B Barnes question - how do SAPS find addresses? Col Plaatjies advised that mostly knowledge of area came into play. No SAPS vehicle has a GPS. Some members have GPS on their cells. Members of shifts stay working in specific sectors - they don't move to different Sectors. The SAPS members have always given good directions to Col Plaatjies and the members know all the escape routes.

Dates to diarise:

Sector 1 public meeting 17 February 18h30 at SAPS

Sector 2 public meeting 21 February 19h00 at SAPS

Sector 3 public meeting 24 February 18h30 at SAPS

Mr T van Minnen advised that at the next meeting the CPF will endeavour to get Law Enforcement, Metro, Traffic and Correctional Services to attend.

The meeting ended at 19h55.

Next meeting will be on 19 April 2011 at 19h00.

Tony van Minnen (treasurer) on behalf of
Johnny Brown
(Chairman)