

PENNINGTON COMMUNITY WATCH



PENNINGTON COMMUNITY WATCH NPO
Registration number 290-808 NPO

Community Policing Forum

AGM at the Methodist Church, Pennington
Drive, corner of Gumtree Road.
Thursday 25th May 2023 18:00h.

MINUTES

1. Welcome

Chairman Ruan Lotter welcomed all members, non-members, SAPS & the various security companies. The turnout as usual, could be better. Counted +/- 60 people.

Apologies: we appreciate it that people send their apologies.

Received by WhatsApp and other: Alan Suter, Stefan & Heidi, Clive Melville, Suzi King, Andy Helberg, B. Duncan, Dave & Maureen, Hendry Carr, Jenny Osborne, Willem & Wanda, Tiny & Lia, Lt.Col. Moodley, Col. Ruiters.

Thanks to Previous PCW committee members:

The chairman thanked Steve & Jayne Leech for many years of loyal and dedicated service: big applause for both!

He also thanked Rob Golden, who assisted with the registration of the NPO, Riaan Leipoldt, still with duties and on the response team and Silvano Borea, as interim chairman, also still with duties and on the response team. Big applause for all.

Committee Introduction: W/O Deena Govender - SAPS Liaison, Ruan Lotter - chairman, Corney Tosen - vice chairman, Roy Spooner – treasurer, Aukje van der Wal - secretary, Juan du Toit, Eugene Dabner, Jade Sinclair -newly elected,

2. Minutes of previous AGM

3. Matters Arising from previous AGM

SAPS Reservists utilising PCW bakkie. This is not allowed, the bakkie is now used by Pieter from Gladiator, as extra vehicle in Pennington. Thanks to Col. Ruiters for making sure the reservists have their own response vehicle on most days. This is a great improvement on the previous year. On days that the SAPS vehicle is not available, we collect the reservists from 'the Base' to attend to the incidents.

Treasurer to be nominated due to the growth of PCW. Roy Spooner was elected as the PCW treasurer.

PCW NPO to be registered: Thanks to Rob Golden and Silvano Borea, we are now officially registered as an NPO.

A brief discussion has been had with South Coast Fibre and they are happy to support PCW in the camera project. We have identified key areas to install the cameras, which are monitored by Gladiator.

4. SAPS Members Introductions

W/O D Govender, Sgt Khanyile, Const Myesa, Const Mbhele, Const Jali, Const Sibiya, Const Gumbi, Const Khuluse and Const Mhlawuli. We salute our brave men and ladies 'in blue' for keeping us safe. Big applause for all.

5. SAPS Feedback

W/O Deena Govender talked about the arrests that were made and that we had no break-ins since then. He also stated that we should stay alert. Because of the high joblessness we have higher crime rates.

He thanked the committee for sustaining the PCW initiative and thanked security companies who work with PCW and SAPS to bring the crime down. We must sustain what we have! He then delivered a message from Col. Ruiters to thank PCW for their achievements and Ruiters's wishes to PCW, to go from strength to strength.

6. Response Team Introduction

Cornie Tosen, Juan du Toit, Eugene Dabner, Roy Spooner, Silvano Borea, Riaan Leipoldt, Shaun Willcock, Andy Young, Wicus Bezuidenhout, Niekie, Ruan Lotter, Gladiator, Ithuba and Jenson.

Special thanks to our Patrol Captains: dayshift Steve Stead and nightshift Jade Sinclair. Jade asked for volunteers for the night and day shifts.

Security companies' introduction: Gladiator, Ithuba and Jenson: various success stories can be attributed to our security companies.

Our community can sleep easy knowing we have such a dedicated team of security companies roaming our streets 24 hrs/day.

Various pictures of responses and recovered items are shown on the screen.

Two criminals arrested:

1. The 'hole puncher', apprehended by Jenson Security and arrested by SAPS.
2. PCW sting operations gathered valuable intel that was handed to SAPS that led to the successful arrest of a suspect.

These two criminals were linked to approximately 30 break-ins, when their break-in patterns were compared. FANTASTIC JOB!!!

7. Incidents

Silvano presented the incident stats.

He started with saying that we had 243 burglaries in 2008 and in 45 burglaries 2023 and that PCW is able to bring down crime in Pennington because of its paying members. We respond to many cases: awareness and visible presence.

154 suspicious people/vehicles.

70 incidents of Community Assistance: fire, medical problems, cars in ditches.

We are grateful for a constant presence.

Stay vigilant and report suspicious vehicles and persons.

8. Financials 2022-2023

A huge thank you to Aukje van der Wal who has kept the PCW checks and balance sheets to the "T". We had a clean report from the auditors. The Audit Report is shown on screen and Aukje explained the financial sheet.

9. Chairman's Report

- Now 485 members: ask your friends and neighbours to become a PCW member.

- The "Base": community project.

PCW identified the challenges SAPS reservists faced on a daily basis. SAPS reservists now have a Base where they can operate from. Thanks to all involved PCW members and volunteers, The Shed, Tidy towns, P&G Construction, Khathi Contractors and Kwela Electrical.

- PCW Camera project presented by Committee member Cornie.

Phase 1: "FOR THE COMMUNITY BY THE COMMUNITY"

33 Cameras on 15 poles. are funded from the monthly member income (R65590). The cameras are located in various hotspots.

3 Cameras still to be installed at the R102/Barracuda crossing. Then Phase 1 is completed. Thanks to the PCW members for paying the monthly fees. Thanks to you we have these cameras. Thanks to the dedicated NCAM team who put in the cameras.

BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING, phase 2: Roll out to the community.

Households are now able to have PCW cameras installed. You and your neighbours can share the costs to have cameras in your street. Benefits: 24hr surveillance by Gladiator, access to live footage on your cell phones. The more cameras we install the better. PCW will give a free quote to interested parties, payment options can be arranged: 3 or 6 months to pay off, by signed debit order. Initial installation cost + monthly IR monitoring & R85 per camera.

Future: protecting Pennington

Operation Lockdown Pennington: We all watch social media and we see what is happening! Intel suggest that S.A. is in for a rollercoaster ride over the next 18 months. Looting that could lead to a state of anarchy. The only way to ensure our town does not become another statistic is to lock it down. PCW is making it the top priority and will be engaging with various role players and organizations to strengthen our resistance.

- PCW have joined forces • SAPS Scottburgh (Existing) • CPF Scottburgh (New) • Park Ryne Community Watch (New) • Scottburgh Community Watch (New) • Freeland Park Community Watch (New) • Umzinto Taxi association (Existing) •

There are active WhatsApp groups with all of the above crime prevention entities on it. PCW can't share all information they have, but will share information which is important for Pennington residents. Please help us keeping us safe! and don't share this info.

PCW response plan

Vote of thanks for the previous response call in November 2022: Thanks to the regular responders and to the new volunteers, the ladies supplying refreshments, SAPS' assistance, taxi associations, local residents for their interest and friendly faces during the operation.

Response plan of action for further development, explained by Eugene:

With the 'Malema March' we had lots of volunteers to stand watch for 24 hours (and extended by 12 hours). It takes time to build a good structure with willing responders, SAPS and security companies.

!!! Look at what you can do yourself as prevention/risk control in and around your house. Put effort into it. Buy spare things that you may need.

10. Nominations – Elections

Nominations and election of the PCW Committee: The nominations for new committee members were open to the public. We are pleased to announce that we have a newly elected member on board the PCW committee: Jade Sinclair. Jade is the captain of the nightshift patrol team. Welcome Jade! The nominations are accepted.

Floor open for Questions and remarks:

Remark: thank you to the PCW committee.

Question: do members receive the financials and minutes? Minutes will be shared on Facebook, WhatsApp groups and on the website, finances can be looked into at the secretary's office.

Remark: thank you to SAPS, Pieter (Gladiator) and PCW patrollers for the excellent service from all! They are our heroes.

11. Closing

Thanks to all for attending, be safe and take care!