

# PENNINGTON COMMUNITY WATCH



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### COMMUNITY POLICING FORUM

24<sup>th</sup> April 2021 9:00 AM - PENNINGTON RELTON HALL

#### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- **Welcome & Apologies**

Steve welcomed all, an extremely poor turn-out to the 2021 AGM.

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 Roy Spooner and seconded by Louis van Wyk.

- **Matters Arising**

1. SAP's have limited vehicle available resulting in the SAP's reservist's inability to get to Pennington to help us keep the crime down. This risk was identified a couple of years ago and with that the need to purchase a vehicle for the SAP's reservists to use in Pennington.
2. SAP's Legal team to advise on the use of the PCW Vehicle awaiting feedback, thank you to Silvano Borea for liaising with the SAP'S Legal team regarding this issue.
3. Donations received from Pennington residents for the purchase of the vehicle as well as Fund Raising and the sale of the Cameras to Gladiator security.
4. PCW Committee has other solutions if the SAP'S reservists are not allowed to use the PCW vehicle.
5. Response Team - dedicated 10 members respond to incidents. - Steven Leech; Roy Spooner; Louis van Wyk; Riaan Leiopoldt; Silvano Borea; Mel Fiford; Dawid Calitz; Juan Du Toit; Andy Young; Matthew Marnitz. These are all volunteers who give of their time to respond.
6. PCW is functioning like a business from bringing in about R200 000.00 per annum to approximately R800 000.00 per annum now.
7. With the growth of PCW, it calls to employing a Treasurer part-time. The PCW Committee is looking for an experience bookkeeper who has experience on SAGE Pastel, Link-serv.

- **Nominations - Elections**

Election of New Committee Member - Matthew Marnitz.

- **Address by W/O Deena Govender SAP'S liaison**

W/O Deena Govender addressed the attendees, thanking the community of Pennington for getting the PCW initiative going and keeping it going so strongly. Really appreciate what PCW does as if PCW were not available then everything would collapse. 6 years now and the PCW has gone from strength to strength.

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

The SAP'S reservists are always available in Pennington. Pennington had major problems with crime, but this has decreased tremendously in Pennington as a direct 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.

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 SAP'S for this year is months with zero crime. Deena Govender 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 SAP'S Reservists who leave their family's and look after other families while they are patrolling.

Thanks SAP'S 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 SAP'S members in Scottburgh are envious of the SAP'S Reservists.

To Pennington PCW, the Committee, the volunteers, and the SAP'S Reservists thanks to all of you, and hope the PCW goes from strength to strength.

Well done to Pennington Residents, the Security Companies, PCW if you do not do what you are doing then nobody will do it.

This is a partnership between SAP'S and residents.

- **Statistics**

- Silvano Borea presented the statistics and slides for the 2020/2021 year. From December 2020 to March 2021 of the 8 reported incidents to date 4 were from Gated Estates.
- 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 of 2019/2020 - 1711 and 2020/2021 - 1405. Trend is downwards with crime.
- Street Groups - 10
- Street Group members - 1195 - addition of Sezela
- Facebook members - 375
- Patrol volunteers - 34
- Initial signups - 2015/2016 - 177; 2016/2017 - 158; 2017/2018 - 265; 2018/2019 - 331; 2019/220 - 360; 2020/2021 - 375
- PCW Contributors (paid up members) - 375
- We need upwards of 450 members another 75.

- **Financials**

- The chairman Steven Leech presented the audited financials.
- Income and Expenditure Report for PCW March 2019 – March 2020
- Income and Expenditure Report for PCW March 2020 – March 2021
- Cash on Hand as of 4 March 2021 – R115 755.
- **Chairman's report**
  - The Chairman thanked the following :-
  - Deena Govender who always there 24/7, always gives support.
  - The SAP'S, The Detectives, The Constables, and the SAP'S Reservists who respond to calls within 3 minutes.
  - Committee members without whom the PCW would not be possible. The stalwarts – Jayne Leech, Roy Spooner, Louis van Wyk, Silvano Borea, Riaan Leipoldt. 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.
  - Cameras – the SNIPR cameras were sold to Gladiator Security.
    - a) Cost to upgrade +\_ R100 000.
    - b) Insurance & SNIPR licence R3500 per month.
    - c) Outdated as did not pick up “no number plates”, picked up number plates that were similar to reported stolen vehicle number plates, cannot pick up numbers at night if looking for a vehicle.
    - d) Gladiator will be putting up new cameras as well as PCW's cameras along the R102 and they will be monitored 24/7 in the control room.
    - e) PCW will still have access.
    - f) Some of the money was used to buy bush cameras to put up in “hot spots”.
  - Other PCW Services – Food drives; ill residents; cars in ditches; tree felling; road repairs; traffic control; responding to MVA's.
  - PCW cell to call if an emergency, will then relay by Radio to Response team including SAP's reservists who will respond immediately.
  - Report other incidents on the WhatsApp groups.
  - To all the PCW members whatever your contribution, these stats would not be possible without your contributions.
  - Three Security companies attended the meeting – Gladiator, National and Janson's, and PCW appreciate their assistance in Pennington.
  - To Relton Hall for allowing the use of their Hall.
  - 3 members of the PCW committee met with Sezela residents to show them what PCW does and how they can start a community watch in Sezela.
  - Whatsapp protocol – The chairman once again went over the whatsapp protocol for the whatsapp groups.

- **Closing**

- The PCW is committed to remain as a business but like all businesses the PCW needs cash to survive.
- We need more members.
- We need younger members to patrol and be elected on to the committee.
- More Pennington Residents need to commit to become members.

Meeting closed at – 10:30am

Next meeting – to be announced.

### **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 SAP'S or your armed response company.
- **In an emergency you can call**
  - SAP'S Scottburgh Charge office **039 978 9916** they are in radio contact with the SAP'S reservists
  - Your security companies
  - The PCW cell number **063 474 5012 (PCW CELL)** and we can relay the message to our SAP'S reservists who patrol 24/7
- Over many years we have built and strengthened our relationships with SAP'S and other security service providers. We are extremely happy to have some members of SAP'S 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.