ONRUS VERMONT SRA NEWSLETTER - 1ST QUARTER 2022

Good day homeowners/ratepayers of Onrus and Vermont, I am proud to update you on the progress that your OVSRA has made to date and to inform you of our future plans. Whilst members of your SRA as well as the General Manager, Meredith Thornton, have had various interactive meetings with individuals and smaller groups, I deem it appropriate to address the community as well.

The OVSRA got off to a frustrating slow start since our inception on 1 July 2021. It took time to register the non-profit company, find a suitable office from which we could operate, finalise the Operational and Financial Agreements with the Overstrand Municipality, to obtain quotes from service providers to monitor our cameras, service our cameras, arrange a patrol vehicle, obtain our first payment from Overstrand Municipality, advertise, interview and appoint a General Manager to run the day-to-day business of the company.

Where do we stand today?

1. Safety and Security

- We have 16 cameras spread throughout the public area of Onrus and Vermont.
- These cameras are monitored on a 24/7 basis at our control room facility, which we share with HPP. We have our own full-time Fidelity ADT controllers that do this monitoring.
- At that facility we have installed two large camera monitors and a network video recorder that is able to accommodate 16 more cameras in the future.
- We have a patrol vehicle that operates exclusively in Ward 13 on a 24/7 basis. The various elements of our safety and security network are integrated by means of a radio network that ensures a quick response to reported incidents. Our patrol vehicle and armed response officers are contracted from Fidelity ADT as funding, insurance and certification constraints do not allow us to have our own vehicle and security staff (a dedicated OVSRA vehicle, staff, radios, uniforms etc. will cost more than R900,000 p.a.)
- We have interviewed and appointed (via Fidelity ADT) three foot patrollers (two of whom are patrolling the coastal path, green belts and public open areas for twelve hours daily, while the third is taking time off). These patrollers are qualified security officers but are also being trained in environmental knowledge and awareness, thus they are called enviro-patrollers.
- During the past five months the OVSRA, together with Protection Services, SAPS, Alfa Afriforum Buurtwag, OnVerWag Neighbourhood Watch, Fidelity ADT and Cam Live Vision have reacted to over 200 incidents in public open space. Some of these incidents resulted in the:
  - Apprehension/arrests of copper thieves, house breakers, trespassers and people in possession of dangerous weapons or house-breaking tools
  - Apprehension and removal of several people under the influence of drugs and alcohol
  - Escorting numerous suspicious people out of the area
  - Recovery of stolen property (bicycles, sports equipments, bedding, tools etc.)
  - Removal of people illegally setting up shelters in public open spaces
  - Provision of video evidence of suspects or crimes in progress to the relevant authorities

2. **Urban Management**

- Caring for our environment is a top priority.
- We have been involved in and shared the cost with the Onrus Ratepayers and Homeowners Association for clearing the area at Davies Pool and Bosplasie, Bond Street and Roome Street Parks, as well as repairing irrigation in the Roome Street Park.
- We have shared the cost of clearing a pathway in one of the green belts with the Vermont Ratepayers and Environmental Association.
- We have requested that the Overstrand Municipality urgently clear the area between the Onrus Cemetery and the municipal electricity department of alien vegetation.
- We have requested that the Overstrand Municipality repair the fence along the R43 in the same area.

3. **Finances**

3.1 The annual income from levies received via the Overstrand Municipality is as follows:

Original Budget R1,851,000
*Forecast R1,666,170

*income from levies is lower than budget

3.2 Monthly income/expenses:

	Forecast
Income from levies	R138,848
**Expenses	R134,402
Surplus/Deficit	R 4,446

**excluding depreciation

What are our plans for the next few months?

1. Finalise Service Level Agreements with various service providers. Even though the services such as camera monitoring, armed response and foot patrollers have been contractually agreed upon we need to document specific performance criteria whereby we will measure their services.

2. Increase the number of cameras to include specific areas which were identified and replace existing cameras that are outdated or not equipped with modern technology (Capital expenditure).

3. Improve our communication with the public both in writing as well as verbally.

4. Add signage to identify our office location and patrollers.

5. Certificates of Appreciation in recognition of co-operation and support received from an individual or by an organisation to the OVSRA will be introduced.

6. The OVSRA arranged an organisational-level meeting with all the stakeholders of the area. Following this successful meeting we plan follow-up meetings to ensure that overlapping functions are identified and agreement is reached on how such functions must be handled in the future.

7. The foot patrollers that are deployed will be trained to be aware of environmental issues thus not only focusing on security and safety but to be aware of and report on alien vegetation that must be removed, damage on footpaths and roads, areas that require cleaning etc.

8. Special attention has been given to the problem with people begging, drinking etc. opposite the Onrus Trading Post. Protection Services has been approached and additional patrols will be done in the area. We will also include this as an agenda item at the Ward Committee meetings so that it receives additional attention.

9. We are well aware of the issue of casual work seekers in the vicinity of the Rheezicht Center and will continue to engage with Overstrand Municipality for a workable solution. We have suggested that a booking platform be created that vets, registers and recommends individuals available for employment in the Hermanus area, thus greatly reducing the need for work seekers to stand on the street all day waiting for work, but that they instead receive a job notification via text/phone.

10. A number of individuals have expressed their willingness to sponsor additional cameras at identified strategic areas. We are following up on each of these generous offerings of fellow home owners and welcome any other contributions from the community. IN AN EFFORT TO SECURE ENOUGH FUNDING TO ENHANCE THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF OUR AREA, A DOCUMENT OUTLINING THE DETAILS OF OUR FUTURE REQUIREMENTS IS AVAILABLE.

11. From time to time we experience incidents of vandalism e.g. stop signs that are removed and flags that are stolen from the beach area. Once our cameras are covering all the required public spaces allowing us to identify these perpetrators we will act in the appropriate manner. In the event that minors are involved we will motivate for their parents to be held responsible and for the perpetrators to do community service!

In conclusion

Your SRA is determined and committed to ensure that our area is safe and well kept. Your SRA Board and Management will not be distracted by negative comments of individuals, especially not on social media, as we can only assume that those individuals are not fully aware of the work that your SRA is doing. To this end we will ensure that our communication is improved and invite members to be in contact with us if they require more information.

Kind regards
Anton du Preez
Chair OVSRA

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ONRUS VERMONT SAG NUUSBRIEF 1STE KWARTAAL 2022

Goeiedag huiseienaars/belastingbetalers van Onrus en Vermont, ek is trots om julle op hoogte te hou van die vordering wat julle OVSAG tot op datum gemaak het en om julle in te lig oor ons toekomsplanne. Terwyl lede van jou SAG sowel as die Algemene Bestuurder, Meredith Thornton, verskeie interaktiewe vergaderings met individue en kleiner groepe gehad het, ag ek dit gepas om ook die gemeenskap te adresseer.

Die OVSAG het 'n frustrerende stadige begin gehad sedert ons ontstaan op 1 Julie 2021. Dit het tyd geneem om die nie-winsgewende maatskappy te registreer, 'n geskikte kantoor te vind waaruit ons kan werk, die operasionele en finansiële ooreenkomste met die Overstrand Munisipaliteit te finaliseer, om kwotasies van diensverskaffers te bekom om ons kameras te monitor, ons kameras te diens, 'n patrollievoertuig te reël, ons eerste betaling van Overstrand Munisipaliteit te verkry, te adverteer en onderhoude te voer vir die aanstelling van ‘n Algemene Bestuurder wat die dag tot dag besigheid van die maatskappy moet bestuur.

Waar staan ons vandag?

1. Veiligheid en Sekuriteit

- Ons het 16 kameras wat verspreid is oor die openbare area van Onrus en Vermont.
- Hierdie kameras word 24/7 gemonitor by ons beheerkamerfasiliteit, wat ons met HPP deel. Ons het ons eie voltydse Fidelity ADT-beheerders wat hierdie monitering doen.
- By daardie fasiliteit het ons twee groot kameramonitors en 'n netwerkvideo-opnemer geïnstalleer wat in die toekoms nog 16 kameras kan akkommodeer.
- Ons het 'n patrollievoertuig wat eksklusief in Wyk 13 op 'n 24/7 basis werk. Die verskillende elemente van ons veiligheids- en sekuriteitsnetwerk word geïntegreer deur middel van 'n radionetwerk wat 'n vinnige reaksie op aangemelde voorvalle verseker. Ons patrollievoertuig en gewapende reaksie beamptes is gekontrakteer van Fidelity ADT aangesien befondsing, versekering en sertifiseringsbeperkings ons nie toelaat om ons eie voertuig en sekuriteitspersoneel te hê nie ('n toegewyde OVSAG voertuig, personeel, radios, uniforms ens. sal meer as R900,000 p.a. kos)
- Ons het onderhoude gevoer en drie voetpatrolleerders (via Fidelity ADT) aangestel (waarvan twee die kuspaadjie, groen gordels en openbare oop gebiede daagliks vir twaalf uur patrolleer, terwyl die derde tyd afvat). Hierdie patrolleerders is gekwalifiseerde sekuriteitsbeamptes, maar word ook opgelei in omgewingskennis en -bewustheid, dus word hulle omgewingspatrolleerders genoem.
- Gedurende die afgelope vyf maande het die OVSAG, saam met Beskermingsdienste, SAPD, Alfa Afriforum Buurtwag, OnVerWag Buurtwag, Fidelity ADT en Cam Live Vision op meer as 200 voorvalle in openbare oop ruimtes gereageer. Sommige van hierdie voorvalle het gelei tot die:
  - Aanhouding/inhegtenisneming van koperdiewe, huisinbrake, betreders en mense in besit van gevaarlike wapens of gereedskap
  - Aanhouding en verwydering van verskeie mense onder die invloed van dwelms en alkohol
  - Verwydering van talle verdagte mense uit die gebied
  - Herwinning van gesteelde eiendom (fietse, sporttoerusting, beddegoed, gereedskap ens.)
  - Verwydering van mense wat onwettige skuilings in openbare oop ruimtes oprig
  - Voorsiening van videobewyse van verdagtes of misdade aan die betrokke owerhede

2. Omgewingsbestuur

- Omgee vir ons omgewing is 'n topprioriteit.
- Ons was betrokke by en het die koste gedeel met die Onrus Belastingbetalers- en Huiseienaarsvereniging vir die skoonmaak van die areas by Davies Pool en Bosplasie, Bondstraat en Roomestraatparke, asook die herstel van besproeiing in die Roomestraatpark.
- Ons het die koste van die skoonmaak van 'n paadjie in een van die groen gordels met die Vermont Belastingbetalers en Omgewingsvereniging gedeel.
- Ons het versoek dat die Overstrand Munisipaliteit die area tussen die Onrus Begraafplaas en die munisipale elektrisiteitsafdeling dringend van uitheemse plantegroei skoonmaak.
- Ons het versoek dat die Overstrand Munisipaliteit die heining langs die R43 in dieselfde area herstel.

3. Finansies

3.1 Die jaarlikse inkomste uit heffings ontvang via die Overstrand Munisipaliteit is soos volg:

Oorspronklike begroting R1,851,000
*Vooruitskatting R1,666,170

* inkomste uit heffings is laer as die begroting

3.2 Maandlikse inkomste/uitgawes:

	Vooruitskatting
Inkomste uit heffings	R138,848
**Uitgawes	R134,402
Oorskot/tekort	R 4,446

**waardevermindering uitgesluit

Wat is ons planne vir die volgende paar maande?

1. Finaliseer Diensvlakooreenkomste met verskeie diensverskaffers. Selfs al is daar kontraktueel ooreengekom op dienste soos kameramonitering, gewapende reaksie en voetpatrolleerders, moet ons spesifieke prestasiekriteria dokumenteer waarmee ons hul dienste sal evalueer.

2. Vermeerder die aantal kameras om spesifieke areas in te sluit wat geïdentifiseer is en vervang bestaande kameras wat verouderd is, of nie toegerus is met moderne tegnologie nie (Kapitaalbesteding).

3. Verbeter ons kommunikasie met die publiek beide skriftelik sowel as mondelings.

4. Bring naamborde aan by ons kantoor en om patrolleerders te identifiseer.

5. Sertifikate van waardering ter erkenning van die samewerking en ondersteuning van die OVSAG deur individue en organisasies sal bekendgestel word.

6. Die OVSAG het 'n vergadering met al die rolspelers in die area gereël. Hierdie suksesvolle vergadering sal opgevolg word om te verseker dat oorvleuelende funksies geïdentifiseer word, en ooreenkoms bereik word oor die wyse waarop sulke funksies in die toekoms gehanteer sal word.

7. Die voetpatrolleerders sal opgelei word om bewus te wees van omgewingskwessies en dus nie net op sekuriteit en veiligheid fokus nie, maar om bewus te wees van en verslag te doen oor aspekte soos uitheemse plantegroei wat verwyder moet word, skade aan voetpaadjies en paaie, gebiede wat skoongemaak moet word, ens.

8. Spesiale aandag word gegee aan die probleem met mense wat bedel, drink ens. oorkant die Onrus Handelspos. Beskermingsdienste is genader en bykomende patrollies sal in die gebied ontplooi word. Ons sal dit ook as agendapunt insluit by die Wykskomiteevergaderings.

9. Ons is deeglik bewus van toevallige werksoekers in die omgewing van die Rheezicht-sentrum en sal voortgaan om met Overstrand Munisipaliteit in gesprek te tree vir 'n werkbare oplossing. Ons het voorgestel dat 'n besprekingsplatform geskep word wat gekeurde, geregistreerde individue aanbeveel vir werk in die Hermanus-omgewing. Sodoende sal die behoefte verminder vir werksoekers om heeldag op straat te staan en vir werk te wag, maar dat hulle eerder per sms/foon in kennis gestel word van beskikbare werk.

10. 'n Aantal individue het hul bereidwilligheid uitgespreek om bykomende kameras op geïdentifiseerde strategiese gebiede te befonds. Ons volg elkeen van hierdie ruim aanbiedinge van mede-huiseienaars op en verwelkom enige ander bydraes van die gemeenskap. IN 'N POGING OM GENOEG FINANSIERING TE VERSEKER OM DIE VEILIGHEID EN SEKURITEIT VAN ONS OMGEWING TE VERBETER, ‘N DOKUMENT IS BESKIKBAAR WAT DIE BESONDERHEDE VAN ONS TOEKOMSTIGE VEREISTES UITEENSIT.

11. Ons ervaar van tyd tot tyd voorvalle van vandalisme bv. stoptekens wat verwyder word en vlae wat van die strandgebied gesteel word. Sodra ons kameras al die vereiste openbare ruimtes dek sodat ons

hierdie oortreders kan identifiseer, sal ons op die gepaste wyse optree. Indien minderjariges betrokke is, sal ons motiveer dat hul ouers verantwoordelik gehou word en dat die oortreders gemeenskapsdiens doen!

Ter afsluiting

Ons SAG is vasbeslote en toegewyd om te verseker dat ons area veilig en goed onderhou word. Ons SAG Direksie en Bestuur sal nie ontsenu word deur negatiewe kommentaar van individue wat hulle wend tot sosiale media nie. Ons kan net aanvaar dat daardie individue nie ten volle bewus is van die werk wat u SAG doen nie. Ons sal verseker dat ons kommunikasie verbeter en nooi lede om met ons kontak te maak indien hulle meer inligting verlang.

Vriendelike groete
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