



# THE PAMUN POST

## PAMUN VERWELKOM NUWE BESTUUR



Die munisipaliteit is verheug om die nuwe munisipale bestuurder, adv. Thys Giliomee, en Direkteur van Tegnieuse Dienste, mnr Zolile Nongene, op die munisipale bestuur te verwelkom.



Adv. Giliomee sal vanaf 16 April as permanente munisipale bestuurder dien. Mnr Nongene is 'n bekende gesig by ons en ons is dankbaar om hom op die span terug te hê. Beide lede bring waardevolle kundigheid na hulle rolle en ons sien uit daarna om gehalte diens voort te sit.

## VERLENG: MUNISIPALE SKULDBETALINGSKEMA

Die 40%-kortingbetaling-aansporingskema vir die betaling van u uitstaande Munisipale skuld voor Junie 2024 is VERLENG tot 30 JUNIE 2025.

Wat dit vir jou beteken:

- Betaal 60% van wat jy skuld
- Die munisipaliteit sal die res afskryf
- Gratis omskakeling na voorafbetaalde elektrisiteit en watermeters

Wie kan aansoek doen:

Inwoners, kerke, besighede en boere.  
Vir meer inligting: Prins Albert: 023 541 1552  
Klaarstroom: 060 524 2074  
Leeu-Gamka: 023 521 2836

## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Dear Residents of Prince Albert, Leeu-Gamka and Klaarstroom,

I am delighted to introduce our first community newsletter to you! This publication belongs to all of us and we welcome your feedback and ideas. Your voice is important in shaping our future direction.

As we move beyond the first quarter of 2025, I'm proud of what our community has accomplished together. Recent highlights include the graduation of twenty young women and men as Peace Officers and Traffic Wardens; this is a significant investment in our future security. We've also celebrated our municipal workers who have dedicated 35 years of service. Their commitment continues to drive our progress and inspires excellence in all we do.

Our community engagement has flourished with both new and familiar faces. From spending time with the children of Slimlappies to hosting the Western Cape Minister of Agriculture, Economic Development and Tourism, we're building meaningful connections. We're also strengthening our partnership with SAPS and its new District Cluster Commander to enhance our town's security.

Addressing infrastructure challenges is a priority. We've raised the recent power outages with Eskom and are exploring long-term sustainable solutions, including the possibility of a solar plant to provide more reliable, affordable and green power.

Please participate in our IDP and Budget public participation process during April. You can provide input on priorities such as water, roads, power stability and housing. Let's keep working together as we build a more community-focused municipality.

Warm regards

*Linda Jaquet*  
Executive Mayor





## DÍ TOEWYDING LANGDIENS SERTIFIKATE TOEGEKEN

Die munisipaliteit het in 'n hartlike gebaar van waardering vir die toewyding van sy werknemers gevier deur langdiensertifikate toe te ken tydens die Algemene Raadsvergadering van 11 Maart. Die personeellede is erken vir jare se diens wat hulle aan die munisipaliteit en inwoners van Prins Albert gewy het in hulle waardevolle rolle in die lewering van noodsaaklike dienste.

Mnr Nicolaas Tala, Algemene Werker – Parke en Rekreasie, het erkenning ontvang vir sy 35 jaar diens in die munisipaliteit. Mnr Tala sê hy geniet sy werk en dat hy altyd met baie respek hanteer word deur sy kollegas. "Hulle noem my oom," sê hy, sy waardering vir dit duidelik sigbaar in sy breë glimlag. Vir hom is dit 'n vreugde om Prins Albert te help skoon en netjies hou.

Selwyn Goliath, Toesighouer/Drywer Sanitasie en Netwerk Instandhouding, en Christiaan Minnaar, Senior Water Proseskontroleerder, het beide erkenning ontvang vir 20 jaar se diens. Nicole Wicomb, Administrateur: Tegniese Ondersteuning, het haar sertifikaat ontvang vir 15 jaar diens.

## HIERDIE LAPPIES IS SLIM!



Die uiters talentvolle videografis, Alexis Scholtz, het 'n treffende dokumentêr oor Slimlappies saamgestel met die doel om volhoubare fondse te bekom. Fondse word benodig vir die voorbereiding van bestaande leesprogramme, komplementerende opvoedkunde en sportprogramme. Die video is Donderdagaand, 6 Maart 2025 aan die kinders, ouers en vriende van Slimlappies bekendgestel. Vir meer inligting kontak gerus vir Thana by 082 5757 204, of Annemi by 083 2616 326, of besoek hulle in persoon by die Splitterz gebou in Magrieta Prinsloo Straat.

## JOINING FORCES

### WE WELCOME OUR NEW PEACE OFFICERS

Twenty young men and women from Prince Albert, Leeu-Gamka and Klaarstroom recently completed their training in the Peace Officer and Traffic Warden Programme, funded by the Western Cape Department of Police Oversight and Community Safety, with the training offered by the City of Cape Town's Metro Police Academy. They received their certificates during a graduation ceremony at Hoërskool Zwartberg on 11 March 2025.

Among the guests were Minister of Police Oversight and Community Safety, Anroux Marais, Executive Mayor, Linda Jaquet, Deputy Mayor, Sidney Koonthea, Cllr Neville Claassen and a very proud community of family and friends.

"This initiative is a good example of what can be achieved when different spheres of government work together with a shared vision," said Mayor Jaquet. "We want to ensure that our residents live in a safe and well-governed environment where law and order are upheld, and where crime prevention is effective."

Mayor Jaquet expressed her gratitude to Minister Marais for the life-changing opportunity afforded these twenty young men and women and then addressed the group. "Today you take on a responsibility that goes beyond simply enforcing regulations. You are now role models, peacebuilders, and community champions. The uniform you wear signifies trust, and with that comes the expectation that you will serve with integrity, fairness, and compassion."



The group will all receive a full year of practical work experience to apply what they have learned and make a meaningful impact in the community's lives. The Mayor thanked the families of the graduates for their support and urged the residents in all three towns to continue supporting these young people now starting a new chapter in their lives.

Building on this community-centred approach, we are strengthening partnerships with existing law enforcement. We acknowledge the valuable work of Captain Carina Vosloo, who has been serving as Station Commander at SAPS Prince Albert for the past several months and are committed to building a strong working relationship with her team.

We recently held a productive meeting with Captain Vosloo and the new District Cluster Commander, Brigadier Francois de Wet, who joined via speaker phone. Prince Albert is known as a friendly and safe town—and we aim to enhance this reputation.

Community participation is essential to our success. Each resident plays a vital role by taking responsibility for personal safety and looking out for others. Stay aware of your surroundings, note anything suspicious, and report concerns immediately to your local SAPS station.



# ESKOM

## WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON WITH OUR POWER?

Bruce Ingram, Electrical Engineer with input from Michael Tukani  
(Prince Albert Municipality)

We continue to experience challenges with our electricity supply. Here is why, and what is being done to improve the situation. Our electrical supply comes from Eskom via a 130-kilometer line called Farmers Line 2, starting in Leeu Gamka. The "T" off along this line to PA is 50 kilometres from Leeu Gamka. This line powers over 30 users, including our town. The catch? If something goes wrong anywhere along this entire feeder, it can knock out power for everyone, including PA. Due to the rugged terrain along the route, identifying the cause of faults can be challenging and time consuming.

### Failures within Eskom's area of responsibility

From 1 September 2024 to 12 February 2025, we had 14 Eskom outages, lasting anywhere from 10 seconds to nearly 6 hours. Here's what's been causing them:

- Environmental factors: Lightning strikes, fires, strong winds, etc.
- Vandalism and theft: Damage caused by criminal activities.
- Aging infrastructure: Worn-out equipment and structures.

### Failures within the municipality's area of responsibility

Electricity supply failures under the municipality can be grouped into two categories:

- Short-duration faults: Caused by tree branches touching power lines during high winds or rain. These faults are typically resolved by re-energizing the relevant breakers. About 20 such trips occurred mainly in the South End over the last six months, primarily due to aging infrastructure, established trees touching power lines and weather
- Long-duration outages: These are outages requiring repairs, have occurred six times since October 2024. They lasted between 25 minutes and six hours and were caused by:
  - Planned maintenance shutdowns.
  - Damage to overhead cables from weather or birds.

### Preventative maintenance recommendations

To minimise outages and improve reliability, Eskom is implementing the following measures:

- Enhanced security: Funding is required to install high-security fencing around critical equipment (reclosers\* 5592 and 380) to deter vandalism
- Pole replacement: Eskom is requesting funds for a rock drilling truck to replace damaged poles along Leeu Gamka F3. This investment will stabilise the supply network.
- Recloser elevation: Efforts are ongoing to elevate reclosers\* and control boxes to protect against theft and vandalism.

The Municipality is also in discussions with Eskom regarding the feasibility of an alternate supply line directly from Leeu Gamka to Prince Albert. This project has an estimated cost of R100 million, and deliberations are ongoing.

### Our Local Efforts

- Tree Trimming: We're working on a deal to prune trees near power lines to stop those short outages. Fewer branches, fewer problems!

### Future plans

- Prince Albert Municipality is exploring the possibility of establishing a solar plant to supplement Eskom's electrical supply.

### Why Solar?

- Keep the lights on even during outages.
- Lower electricity costs for the municipality and its residents.
- Go greener by lowering our carbon footprint.

### This is a big project that may take over two years. Here's what we need to do:

- Arrange Impact Studies (environmental, scenery, etc.)—this could take up to a year.
- Raise funds through grants or partnerships.
- Figure out the best way to make it work for everyone.
- Interface with Eskom, provincial, and national governments.

The municipality will provide regular updates on the progress of this project as well as engaging residents regularly.

\* A recloser functions as a circuit breaker that can automatically reset itself after it has been tripped due to a fault on the power line. When a fault occurs (like a tree branch touching a power line or a lightning strike), the recloser temporarily interrupts power flow to prevent damage to the system. If the fault persists, the recloser will try again several times before remaining open until manually reset.





# Toerisme-vergadering met Minister bring NUWE GELEENTHEDE

Op Vrydag, 28 Februarie 2025, het ons die voorreg gehad om die Wes-Kaapse minister van landbou, ekonomiese ontwikkeling en toerisme, Dr. Ivan Meyer, by ONS Langhuis vir 'n toerisme-vergadering te ontvang. Ons glo hierdie is 'n belangrike mylpaal vir ons munisipaliteit en dorp se toekoms.

Die vergadering het belanghebbendes van ons munisipaliteit se toerisme-sektor bymekaargebring en hulle het die geleentheid gehad om direk met die minister en sleutel provinsiale amptenare in gesprek te tree.

Die minister, sy departementshoof, Jo-ann Johnston, amptenare van Wesgro, ons raadslede en senior munisipale amptenare, sowel as lede van die Prins Albert toerismevereniging (PATA), die Prins Albert-gemeenskapstrust (PACT), en verteenwoordigers van die toerismesektor van Prins Albert, Klarstroom, en Leeu-Gamka het die geleentheid bygewoon.

Minister Meyer het opregte entoesiasme en toewyding tot ons streek se potensiaal getoon, en waardevolle insigte gebied oor provinsiale ondersteuning vir ons plaaslike toerisme-inisiatiewe. Sy bespreking het die belangrikheid van infrastruktuur-stabiliteit ingesluit, veral water- en elektrisiteitsekerheid, wat noodsaaklik is vir die groei van Prins Albert se toerisme sektor.

Die minister se positiewe reaksie op die voorgestelde idees vir 'n hersiening van ons handelsmerk en bemarking, terwyl ons met belanghebbendes saamwerk om toerisme-ontwikkelingsgeleenthede wat geskik is vir ons Munisipaliteit te ondersoek is bemoedigend.

Die minister het Uitvoerende Burgemeester, Linda Jaquet, se versoek volstaan dat die program aangepas word om aanbiedings deur Ingrid Wolfaardt, voorsitter van PACT, Inga Terblanche, voorsitter van PATA, en Karin Henriques, 'n plaaslike bemarking- en handelsmerkskenner, in te sluit.

PATA se aanbieding is vooraf met die Raad bespreek om belyning met ons munisipale prioriteite en die provinsie se strategiese rigting te verseker, wat 'n betekenisvolle gesprek tussen die Minister en ons gemeenskap aangemoedig het.

Minister Meyer het sy ondersteuning vir ons visie vir toerisme uitgespreek en aangedui dat die Wes-Kaapse regering belangstel om saam met verskeie van die voorgestelde projekte te werk. Die bou van hierdie verhoudinge met die provinsiale regering en ander is noodsaaklik vir ons munisipaliteit se ontwikkeling.

Burgemeester Jaquet het gesê die munisipaliteit bly verbind daartoe om nou saam te werk met belanghebbendes in die toerisme-sektor om ons gedeelde visie vir volhoubare toerisme-groei te implementeer wat alle gemeenskappe in ons gebied bevoordeel.



# EXPANDING YOUNG MINDS

## Reading aloud day

24 January was International Education Day, and 5 February celebrated World Read Aloud day. Reading aloud to children is indeed one of the best things we can do for their development and future academic success. Children with a bigger vocabulary understand what they read better, and also learn new information more easily. Young children whose parents read to them five times daily will hear nearly 1.5 million more words by the time they turn five than children whose parents or caregivers don't read to them, according to a study by The Ohio State University.

Prince Albert Municipal Library hosted a read aloud morning with Grade R-3 learners from Kweekvallei Kollege and Albert College on 6 February 2025 to celebrate the day and help instill a love of reading in our children. Reinie Smit, John Steyn, Nell Kruger, Charlien van Zyl and myself took turns to entertain the children with stories and poems, complete with character voices and lots of dramatisation. Mr Steyn had the children spellbound with his tale about the "bokkies en die wrede wolf"!

Thank you so much to everyone who made it a fun and memorable experience for our children. In the words of Dr. Seuss: "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."



## HIER VIR DIE GEMEENSKAP

Tydens 'n terugvoeringsvergadering aan wyk 3 op 20 Maart het onder-burgemeester, Sidney Koonthea, die gemeenskap toegesprek op die hoek van Reguit- en Loopstraat en vra van die gehoor geneem. Wykskomiteede van wyk 3 is voorgestel en hulle rolle verduidelik. Raadslid Koonthea het die boodskap baie duidelik oorgedra dat die gemeenskap kan aanspraak maak op goeie en effektiewe dienslewering deur die munisipaliteit. "Ons is hier vir die gemeenskap," het hy gesê, "en die gemeenskap moet dit onthou."

Raadslid Koonthea het verduidelik dat daar weer fondse beskikbaar gestel is deur die munisipaliteit om matriekulante aan te moedig om verder te gaan studeer. Ander belangrike punte soos dienste rekeninge, water lekkasies, vandalisme, behuising en die aansuiweringsbegroting is ook bespreek. Die GOP/begrotingsvergadering vind plaas op 16 April 2025 om 17h00.



# SHAPE YOUR FUTURE

APRIL 2025 IDP & BUDGET PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

The Prince Albert Municipality invites you to our annual Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and Budget public participation events in April. These meetings are the cornerstone of participatory democracy in our municipality, offering residents an opportunity to engage directly with local government.

## Meeting schedule

- **Ward 1, Leeu-Gamka: Monday, 14 April 2025 at 17:00, Leeu-Gamka Community Hall**
- **Ward 2, Klaarstroom: Tuesday, 15 April 2025 at 17:00, Klaarstroom Community Hall**
- **Wards 2, 3, & 4, Prince Albert: Wednesday, 16 April 2025 at 17:00, Sydwell Williams Centre**

## Why your participation matters

By attending, you can:

- Learn about the Municipality's plans and financial priorities for 2025/2026
- Contribute your ideas and highlight the specific needs of your ward
- Influence decisions that will impact your daily life and our collective future

The IDP is our roadmap for delivering services, infrastructure, and development projects. Paired with the Budget, it determines how resources will be allocated to address pressing issues like water supply, road maintenance, electricity, and community facilities.

This is your opportunity to ask questions, raise concerns and collaborate with municipal leaders to build a stronger, more responsive local government. Whether it's advocating for better public facilities, improved safety measures, or sustainable development, your voice can make a difference.

## Be part of the change

Prince Albert Municipality values the active participation of all residents. These meetings are designed to be accessible and inclusive, so everyone from Leeu-Gamka to Klaarstroom to Prince Albert can play a role in shaping our collective future.

This is your opportunity to ask questions, raise concerns, and collaborate with Municipal leaders to build a stronger, responsive local government - your voice makes a difference. Written input can be sent to [rekords@pamun.gov.za](mailto:rekords@pamun.gov.za) by no later than 2 May 2025.

We encourage all residents, government departments, community leaders and organisations to attend the session in your ward. Together let's ensure that the 2025/2026 IDP review and Budget reflect the aspirations and needs of all residents. See you there!

## BELANGRIKE NOMMERS

For any emergencies, service delivery queries and after-hours calls, please phone **082 220 0848**.

For municipal account queries, please phone **023 5411 748 / 457 / 552**.

SAPS Prince Albert **023 541 8000**

We would like to hear from you. Please send your feedback to the editor at [pro@pamun.gov.za](mailto:pro@pamun.gov.za)

Please follow our facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/pamun.gov.za>

Photo credit: Inga Terblanche



[www.pamun.gov.za](http://www.pamun.gov.za)



023 5411 036



23 Church Street, Prince Albert



[rekords@pamun.gov.za](mailto:rekords@pamun.gov.za)