

On 31 March the Hoekwil/Touwsranten Community Safety Forum met for the 7th time.

The meeting was facilitated by Capt Morné Heunis, Roslynn Damons and Chandré Gould.

The meeting agreed that the work being done by the Forum is important to the safety and prosperity of our community, and we would welcome more participants from Touwsranten and Hoekwi. People are welcome to attend, even if you would like to just come to a meeting and see how it works.

We are enjoying getting to know each other, and finding opportunities to do practical things to improve our community.



# Updates



In all our meetings we receive updates on the activities of the working groups. We also hear from the SAPS about crime and receive news about any new developments.

## Flea Market



Great progress has been made by the small group of people who have shown commitment to the project. The next flea market will take place on 9 April at the Touwsrante Community Centre.

There are 40 exciting stalls as well as art and a parade by the newly formed Touwsrante drum majorettes. People who have participated in the forum are invited to join the drum majorettes to walk with them from the Seven Passes office (at 8am) through Touwsrante. This will be support and be an opportunity to take part in this exciting event.

Please share information about the market on social media and bring friends and family. Let's come together to make this a success!

**9 April - please share!**



# Updates



## Crime



Crime rates remain very low. There have been a few assaults, and one rape. The rape took place in a family.

There have been cases of domestic violence reported to the police. W/O Boshoff is arranging support for the families affected and involving social crime prevention officers from George to help prevent this from happening again in the same families.

There was a robbery in Begonia street, where someone was robbed of their goods.

We are all encouraged to report cases of crime and violence to the police.

## Neighbourhood Watch

We did not have a representative from the neighbourhood watch at the meeting, but heard from W/O Boshoff that the group is meeting and making progress.

## Seven Passes ECD Centre



The ECD Centre has been delayed but is hoping to open next week.

# Things we wish we could change in our community

We looked at the asset maps that participants in the last meeting created and appreciated them. In pairs we discussed the things that we would like to change in our community.

It would be nice if we could plant more trees near the shops and around the sports field so that when people come to watch sport they can sit in the shade of a tree to enjoy the match

It would be nice to have rubbish bins near the sports field

It would be nice if we could all have more positive thinking habits, and look for what is good before we scratch at what is bad

It would be good if more people did what they say they will do  
– and act rather than just commenting negatively

It would be good if we were all prosperous, and some people did not have to live in poverty

It would be good if there was less alcohol drunk (90% of the cases that come to court are crimes that come from drunkenness)

It would be good, if we had more trust and were not afraid of each other  
– especially across lines of race

Imagine if tik could be a thing of the past and everyone had a job

It would be good if people who saw a fight could say something and intervene before it becomes serious

It would be good if people would drive more slowly and carefully, especially when they drive through Touwsrante on the main road

# About the Forum



We spent some time speaking about the forum and how we can strengthen and improve it. This is what we agreed:

We would like the forum to start getting practical and have a balance between building relationships and doing things together to improve our communities

We will decide at every meeting when the next meeting will be, and will be conscious that not everyone can come to evening meetings during the week. We may need to have some of our meetings over the weekend

We will meet for one and a half hours



We will all bring proposals for a name for the forum to the next meeting



# What we will do



- All the people who attended this meeting will bring a friend or someone they know to the next meeting
- The facilitators were asked to send personal invitations to as many people as possible, and it was said that we would welcome more participation from church leaders, the neighbourhood watch and isiXhosa speaking people
- We will invite our ward councilor to the next meeting to speak with her about the forum and explore how we can work with the municipality to plant trees and improve public spaces in Touwsranten
- We will invite speakers to some of our meetings, to share what they know about things that are important to us
- Anri and Sharon will draw a map of Touwsranten that shows where the public spaces are that we would like to work on
- Nina is going to find out whether we can get a donation of trees from Trees for Africa
- We will invite the ward councilor to the next meeting
- Chandré and W/O Boshoff will write a letter to the traffic department to ask them to address the drag racing that happens in the main street through Touwsranten on the weekends (between 1am and 3am)
- Chandré and Flip will investigate how we could set up an emergency fund for our community



The next meeting is on 4 May at 5h30pm  
at the church in Touwsranten