

LOCAL COUNCIL MEETING – 29/07/24

MEETINGS HELD / ATTENDED

29.05.24 – INAUGURATION OF NEW ELECTRIC VAN

29.05.24 – MEETING WITH MR MATTHEW TABONE RE INVASIVE PLANT IN TRIQ WIED MEJXU

30.05.24 - SITE MEETING IN TRIQ IL MIZURA

31.05.24 – INAUGURATION OF THE FIRST PHASE OF THE EMBELLISHMENT WORK IN GNIEN MAURICE CARUANA CURRAN

30.06.24 – MEETING WITH PERIT DIETER FALZON TO DISCUSS WORKS IN PROGRESS

12.06.24 – MEETING WITH THE COMMUNITY POLICE

14.06.24 - MEETING WITH PERIT VASSALLO FROM IM RE WATER FLOWING DOWN TRIQ IL PELIKAN

17.06.24 – LOCAL COUNCIL MEETING

20.06.24 – ATTENDED A CONFERENCE ORGANISED BY HER EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC RE ‘THE STATE OF THE COUNTRY’.

24.06.24 – SITE MEETING WITH PERIT FALZON & MR BIANCO IN GNIEN MAURICE CARUANA CURRAN – DISCUSSED OUTSTANDING MATTERS

26.06.24 – ON LINE MEETING RE SLOW STREETS

27.06.24 – MEETING WITH PROJECT GREEN CEO RE PURCHASE OF LAND ADJACENT TO THE LOCAL COUNCIL PREMISES

27.06.24 – MEETING AT WSC – DISCUSSED THE WORKS THAT WERE ABOUT TO BE CARRIED OUT IN VARIOIUS ROADS

04.07.24 – EMBELLISHMENT IBRAG ROAD - MEETING WITH THE TENDER BIDDER

08.07.24 – MEETING WITH IM RE INSTALLATION OF A SPEED CAMERA IN UPPER ST ANDREWS ROAD

08.07.24 – LOCAL COUNCIL MEETING

15.07.24 – MEETING AT REGJUN LVANT – TOGETHER WITH ST JULIANS AND SAN GWANN LOCAL COUNCIL WE DISCUSSED THE POSSIBILITY OF COLLABORATING TOGETHER SO AS TO SAVE AND REHAB WIED GHOMOR

17.07.24 – MEETING RE STREET ADVERTS

18.07.24 – MEETING AT REGJUN LVANT RE GARBAGE PROBLEMS

19.07.24 – CHESS TOURNAMENT ORGANISED BY REGJUN LVANT

22.07.24 – PRESS CONFERENCE RE PURCHASE OF LAND ADJACENT TO THE LOCAL COUNCIL PREMISES

22.07.24 – MEETING WITH MR RAFEL GRIMA, LIBRARIAN AT THE PEMBROKE LOCAL COUNCIL. IN ATTENDANCE THE MAYOR OF PEMBROKE AND COUNCILLOR LUCIA VASSALLO – DISCUSSED THE POSSIBILITY OF COLLABORATING TOGETHER.

22.07.24 – FESTA MADLIENA

22.07.24 – MEETING WITH MR SCHIFO RE TREES IN GNIEN MAURICE CARUANA CURRAN

25.07.24 – MEETING RE BINS PROJECT IN TRIQ IL KEFFA

29.07.24 – MEETING RE GREEN WALL

OTHER MATTERS

OUTGOING COUNCILLORS

Allow me to thank the outgoing councillors, Mr Paul Fenech who served the Local Council with great dedication and input for over 20 years. Before the advent of Local Councils he was instrumental in the setting up of the Swieqi Residents' Association. Mr Alex Chetcuti who served the Local Council for twelve years and who also served on the Madliena Residents' Association, as well as Mr Matthew Bonello who served for two terms. They too worked very hard and they did their utmost to represent residents and the locality's needs.

We heartily thank them for their service and wish them success in their future endeavours

LAND IN THE CORNER MIZURA/KARTOCC

We have been informed that the land in the corner Mizura/Kartocc is public land. We have asked the Lands Department to devolve the land to the Local Council.

XIBER ONE WAY

Residents in triq Ix Xiber have repeatedly contacted us and asked for triq ix Xiber to be turned one way.

I admit that a section of the road, from Siegh to Pulzier, has an overload of traffic and that it is not wide enough to serve as a two way road. Moreover, Public Transport drives through this road frequently.

In order to turn the road one way, we must offer the other way. In my opinion the roads parallel to triq ix Xiber, thus triq il Qawsalla and triq il Pulzier/Vidal are not suitable to accommodate a traffic diversion.

We have asked TM to help us find a solution.

We need to meet up with the residents of triq ix Xiber so as to discuss the way forward.

POLICE STATION / NIGHT DISTURBANCES

Year in year out we keep experiencing the same problems during the summer time, thus :

Night disturbances
Vandalism
Garbage problems.

Notwithstanding the various meetings organised with the Hon Minister for local Councils and the Parliamentary Secretary for Local Councils, the Police, ERA, MTA besides others, the situation worsens every year.

I have absolutely no doubt whatsoever that the problem is caused by some short let apartment and we have been reporting this sine February 2016.

Absolutely nothing was done to curb the problem with the result that this has now resulted in a crises. I report all incidents to the authorities on a daily basis. The reply that i receive is 'silence'.

This cannot be tolerated any longer.

Businessmen want to turn Swieqi into an extension of Paceville and if we will not be careful this is exactly what will happen. Residents will be pushed out of the locality and businesses will take over.

Paceville was a quiet residential and summer resort until the mid seventies. Once mass tourism was allowed to invade it transformed into an entertainment and touristic area.

I have written to PA on two occasions so as to ask them to carry out a carrying capacity exercise in the locality. We have not even received an acknowledgement.

We desperately need to have this carrying capacity exercise prepared. We need a balance between residential units and touristic units

During the past two weeks i wrote to the Commissioner of Police at least on four occasions. I informed him about the problems that the locality is facing, and since these problems occur mainly during night time i have

asked him to open the police station during night time. We have not even received an acknowledgement.

The locality's Superintendent informed me that they planned to increase police patrols during the night time / early hours of the morning. This week a resident who lives in the 'thick of it' wrote to the Superintendent to congratulate him for increasing police patrols

ROAD WORKS

Mizura / Keffa

Finally the road works in triq il Mizura and triq il Keffa have been completed.

The temporary one way systems have been reversed.

Hawt / Ghajn / Ktajjen / Horza

It must be noted that this year IM have not carried out any road works in Swieqi. The road works in Mizura were commenced last year and during October/November works were stopped on account of the road work in St Andrews road.

We were promised that road works would be resuming during Q3 of this year. we regularly write to them pushing for road works to resume.

In our opinion Hawt tops the list, with Ghajn/Ktajjen & Horza following suit.

Other roads that need to be rebuilt are :

Part of Triq ix Xiber - from Siegh to Pulzier,

Triq il- Faxxina

Triq il Moletta

Triq l- Ghamad

Triq il Wizna

Triq il Barmil.

With regards to triq il Wizna and triq il Barmil, the local council will be carrying out major patch works. We are waiting for our contractor to confirm when the works can commence.

Water Services Corporation

WSC have started works in triq il Hawt. We are chasing IM to proceed with the road works in triq il Hawt.

Water works should also be carried out in :

Ghajn/Ktajjen
Part of Hemel (Sirk to Gwielaq).
Moletta
Bramel
Dris
Gejza
Fuq il Gonna

We are informed that WSC will carry out road resurfacing works in Bramel, Dris, Gejza and Fuq il Gonna.

EMBELLISHMENT WORKS

Phase 2 of Gnien Maurice Caruana Curran –

A wooden fence has been installed. This replaces the chicken wire that there previously was.

Other planned works include :

Replacing the boundary/retaining wall in triq il Hemel
Replacing the planters on the pavement of triq is Sejjieh
Construction of new arched entrances
Installation of a water fountain

These 'civil' works are at a halt on account of the fact that ERA will not allow us to replace the trees the roots of which have damaged the retaining/boundary wall in Hemel and the pavement in tri is Sejjieh. We have appointed an horticulturist, Mr Schifo, to guide us in this matter.

Embellishment of Ibrag road

We have met the tenderer so as to clarify certain doubts that there were in the tender documents. It is now up to the adjudicating board to decide whether we should go ahead and accept the tender. I suggest that architect Dieter Falzon meets the adjudicating board so as to reply to any queries that the board may have.

Planters

We have three new planters, two in triq il Hemel, one in the corner Spiera/Hemel and another in the corner Hemel/Ronkun and a planter in the corner Mizura/Kartocc.

The gardener has advised that due to the very unfavourable summer weather conditions we should not plant any trees / plants before mid September .

Planters in triq l-Gharbiel.

Something went very wrong with these planters. We have removed most of the plants and we shall be planting new ones next September.

Trees in lower triq il Qasam

In lower triq il Qasam, the section that leads to Swieqi road, there is a 'traffic island' made of cement. We have asked TM to allow us to remove the cement and plant trees.

RE ZONING IN TRIQ IL GIEBJA / TRIQ JOSEF KALLEJA

Notary Justin Fenech has completed the work that was outstanding. Apparently PA are still asking for more information. We have asked them for an urgent meeting.

This re zoning process has taken far too long. Residents living in triq Josef Kalleya have been denied vehicular access into the locality for nearly one whole year and this is unacceptable. Not to mention the severe security problem that there exists in the Giebjja/Gizimin area.

Having said that, i wish to point out that the Local Plan states that steps should be built in the area. It was the local council's initiative to ask for a road to be constructed instead of steps, both for accessibility reasons as well as security reasons. We worked hard to convince architects and IM that a road was doable. However we never dreamt that the process was so laborious and tedious.

I wish to excuse my self with the residents in triq Josef Kalleja and i assure them that we will keep pushing for this project to materialise.

Meanwhile may i suggest that we communicate with the residents on a regular basis and we keep them informed of proceedings. Ideally they appoint one or two representatives with whom we will communicate.

Land adjacent to the LC - objection

SLOW STREETS PROJECT

This project is indeed on a 'slow'. Since we started working on the project, the minster in charge has changed twice and each time we encounter delays.

Hanging of clothes onto a road.- Bye Law

I have asked councillor Dr Miguel Balzan to discuss the possibility of introducing this bye law with the council's lawyer Dr Raphael Fenech Adami

Construction issues

Noel Muscat

29.07.24
