
SUMMARY OF GSI GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 20 APRIL 2023

1. The Groenkloof Safety Initiative (“GSI”) is a CIPC registered non-profit company founded by a team of Groenkloof residents with the singular goal of improving safety and security in the section of Groenkloof, West of Florence Ribeiro Avenue and South of George Storrar Drive, an area known as the Groenkloof Village (*“the Village”*).
2. The GSI applied for and implemented the City of Tshwane approved monitored access measures to displace crime from the Village. Since 2017 this strategy has been effective with serious crime virtually disappearing, until an increase in serious crime from November 2022 to date. It is still relatively low if compared to the areas around us, but it is unacceptable.
3. Displacement of crime requires measures that make a neighbourhood less attractive for criminal activity compared to similar other areas. The GSI believes the increase in security initiatives in the surrounding neighbourhoods is a cause for the increase in serious crime in the Village.
4. We need to increase security measures and the GSI needs to address several challenges to restore safety in the Village. The following initiatives are underway:
 - 4.1. Enhanced monitored access into the Village.

- 4.2. Improved communication with security related communication restricted to vetted, contributing members only.
- 4.3. Streamlined administration to make it easier for residents to join the GSI and perform routine member administration.
- 4.4. Restore financial sustainability of the GSI to ensure the GSI remains able to provide security services to the residents.

A. Enhanced monitored access

- 5. The Village's safety measures depend on identifying suspicious vehicles and flagging these for intervention. The following actions will improve ability of security guards to monitor vehicles entering the village.
 - 5.1. GSI members' vehicles display stickers enabling guards to easily identify vehicles that require scrutiny.
 - 5.2. Contributing members' vehicles will be registered on the number plate recognition cameras. Boom opens automatically for contributing GSI members' vehicles enabling guards to focus on identifying suspicious vehicles. Automatic opening of booms for identified vehicles facilitates rapid traffic flow.
 - 5.3. Two step access verification devices have been installed at the Village entrance booms.
 - 5.3.1. These require a guard to open the boom with a second

access button, when a driver activates the normal access button. For this purpose, the guards now stand on the boom islands. If a guard need to leave his post, for instance to go to the bathroom, the system can temporarily be deactivated.

5.3.2. The improved process forces the guards to better focus on the vehicles accessing the Village and to assess vehicles for suspicious elements.

5.3.3. The two step access verification that has been installed at the Village entrance booms for a couple of weeks now has rendered excellent results. Guard engagement increased significantly without any negative impact on traffic.

5.3.4. Remember, no one can be refused access. The two-step process just allows a little more time for the guard to identify a suspicious vehicle and to alert the armed response vehicle, if necessary.

B. Improved communication

6. The GSI is in the process of digitising all processes and communication. A website listing GSI information and communication was launched at www.GSIgroenkloof.co.za. All membership forms and other information can be obtained from the website and completed digitally.

7. Paxton is the administrator responsible for GSI member administration and billing. Confusion about the party responsible for joining of members and responding to administrative queries caused delays and frustration. Paxton has made a dedicated resource available, namely Mrs Mariette Wessels. She can be contacted during office hours at:(012) 365 3320 and property@pcpc.co.za . For security related issues, the Village security manager the GSI employs can be contacted, namely Graham de Lange at 0663046611 and villagemanager@bwise.co.za

8. From the first week of May 2023, GSI WhatsApp communication will be via two groups with distinct purposes. The existing consolidated GSI Security Alerts group will be converted to the GSI General Communication Group.

8.1. GSI General Communication Group

- 8.1.1. Restricted communication (only admins to post).
- 8.1.2. Voluntary participation by any interested party.
- 8.1.3. General communication and announcements on GSI matters.

8.2. GSI Members Security Group

- 8.2.1. Access strictly to vetted contributing members only
- 8.2.2. Reporting of security matters

8.2.3. Contributing members only

8.2.4. Members can post

8.2.5. Strict rules

C. Streamlined administration

9. The GSI is in the process of cleaning up its membership lists to remove all legacy members and ensure an effective monthly billing process. Current administrative inefficiency creates challenges with member engagement to ensure continuous contributions.

10. GSI members have been equally frustrated by low service levels from Paxton as the GSI's administrator. The GSI has formally engaged with Paxton on how to improve service levels and a dedicated Paxton resource will be made available to manage queries.

11. Revised digital processes via the GSI website (GSIgroenkloof.co.za) will accelerate and improve all processes pertaining to GSI membership.

D. Financial sustainability

12. Securing the Village costs the GSI approximately R315,000 a month. The GSI funds these expenses through the loyal support of contributing members who give the GSI R900 per household per month. For their

monthly contribution, members enjoy the following.

- 12.1. Safe neighbourhood;
 - 12.2. Knowledge that they are doing the right thing;
 - 12.3. Vehicle registration on number plate recognition cameras for fast tracked access to the Village
 - 12.4. Membership board to display in front of property.
 - 12.5. Vehicle stickers to identify cars of contributing GSI members
 - 12.6. Armed Response to burglar alarms and panic signals
 - 12.7. Meet and Greet service for safe home arrivals.
-
13. The services provided by the GSI are currently not sustainable. 30% of residents do not contribute. The GSI suffers a monthly deficit of approximately R15,000 excluding provisions for capital expenditure and planned maintenance.

 14. GSI expenses rose significantly over the last few years with no increase to membership contributions. Increased costs include a Government enforced increase in security industry security wages, increasing GSI expenses by approximately R17,500 per month and continuous increases in electricity costs from Eskom among others.

 15. For the GSI to remain sustainable and for it to continue to provide

monitored access and other security services to the Village, membership contributions need to increase to R1,100 per household per month. The increase in membership fees will be effective 1 July 2023.

16. Additionally, it is crucial that all GSI members actively engage with their fellow residents to encourage GSI membership and contribution. As a community initiative, the GSI is only sustainable if enough residents contribute towards community safety.
17. Any resident that is unable to afford the monthly contribution of R1,100 should contact the GSI to discuss a reduced monthly contribution. We need to create an environment in which all residents pay towards keeping the Village safe.
18. New membership boards have been printed to replace the previous boards which are due for replacement due to wear and tear. All contributing members will receive a new board. Deliveries of the new boards will commence by 1 May 2023.