

# HOUSING ISSUE - UPDATE

Ward 2 Forum Document File: 2017/03/009



**ward 2 forum**  
SERVING THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER

**Ward 2 Forum Team**  
24 March 2017

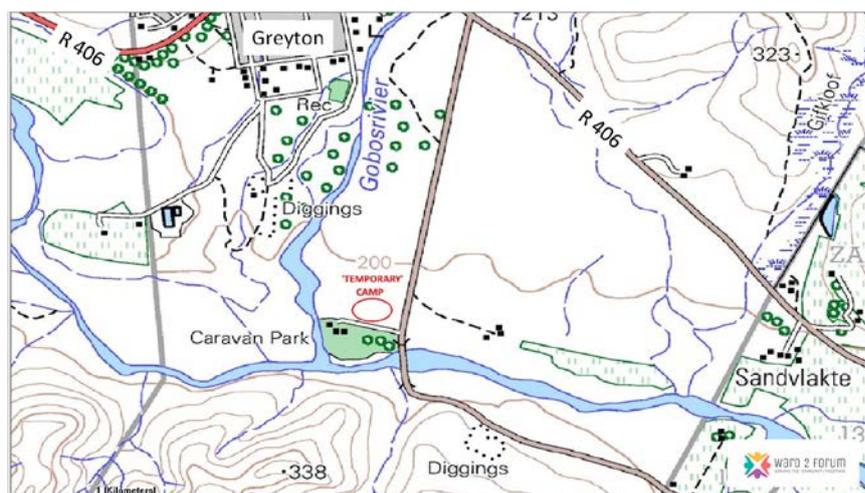
## HOUSING ISSUE UPDATE

Finally, some sensibility - last night a meeting was held involving some of the stakeholders to determine a way forward. Albeit under the guidance of the newly appointed commissioner Chris Nissen from the **Human Rights Commission** to mediate & arbitrate between the various parties involved.



### **Madiba Park – Boschmanskloof**

As anticipated, the meeting was at times heated and emotional as various individuals voiced opinions and uncertainty of the way forward. At the meeting, a steering committee was formed constituting representatives of various stakeholders to meet (under the chair of the commissioner) as a matter of urgency in a bid to take to process forward.



Whilst the TWK municipality reiterated the urgency of the matter and asked for an expedient resolution of the existing impasse it was clear that a solution would be hard to find in the short term. The temporary tented village created at the Loerkop Camp Site will have to be resolved as a matter of urgency; an alternative site is being sought by TWKM. The concern is that relocation to a more suitable site has already been postponed on 3 separate occasions.



### ***Loerkop Camp Site - Greyton***

#### **Comment:**

Whilst we are fully supportive of the process and current initiative to find a workable resolution to the housing issue in the Ward 2 area we are mindful of the numerous constraints, legal and practical ramifications that are to be resolved to ensure a viable and long term resolution.

The meeting last night mainly addressed the current symptoms of the challenges faced by the community of Ward 2 and the local authority in charge of the area. If the scope and mandate of the Commission does not include issues that have led to the current impasse then it cannot resolve and address the root of the problems being faced.

The glaring omission at last night's meeting was the non-representation from the organised agricultural sector in the Ward 2 area.

This again highlights the concern that the Ward 2 Forum has been expressing since 2008 – that if we do not unite the community to include all sectors of society and industry it will be extremely difficult to resolve the current crises.

Further concern is that there are three distinct issues that need separate resolution. However, in the current process, they are clumped together as one.

1. Local Housing crisis & need.
2. Land tenure and transformation process of Farm 39
3. Migrant labour and agricultural growth in the area.

It would therefore be imperative that the following are included in the any further strategy to find workable solutions to the problems that currently exist:

1. Formal Agricultural sector to be involved
2. Rural Development Strategy to be sought
3. Local Economic Strategy to be provided
4. Infrastructure development (Sewage, water, solid waste etc.)
5. Land tenure & Transformation process finalisation for Farm 39
6. Legal framework within TRANCAA (Act 9 & Act 94 of 1998)

The Ward 2 Forum will endeavour to keep the community abreast of developments and the way forward as this unfolds.

Should you require further information please contact the Ward 2 Forum Team on [info@ward2forum.org](mailto:info@ward2forum.org)

*Ward 2 Forum*

On behalf of Ward 2 Forum