

Motivation regarding the Thornton Sport Precinct

As recommended in the meeting on 17 July 2019, the TRRA and SSEF were not able to find a suitable time to meet but a list of organizations in Thornton was submitted to SSEF via email – refer Annexure 1

The TRRA would like to re-iterate that currently Thornton residents have NO access to ALL facilities in Thornton.

Leasing to private entities:

1. The Thornton sports facilities are controlled by an external private party namely Santos who has exclusive use of the soccer field. When not in use the grounds are locked up and not available for use by residents.
2. Community involvement has not been encouraged by Santos and changes made to the facilities has not benefitted the Thornton community in any way as they insist on Thornton residents joining their club to make use of the sports facilities whereas the Thornton Sports club wishes to function as a separate entity.
3. The applicant is in essence an extension of Engen Santos who have leased part of the Thornton Sports Fields and during that time, has shown a total disregard towards the Thornton community
4. The lease is on a month to month basis yet to date they have still not made the grounds available to the community despite various commitments to do so.
5. Engen Santos FC has consistently been in breach of their lease which states that the community should have reasonable access, with City officials failing to take action, as was their duty
6. The current lease to Engen Santos FC does not address the sporting needs of the Thornton community as soccer is the only sport that is offered.
7. The Thornton sports club hosts multiple sporting codes but have no fields available in the area.
8. Engen Santos FC already have sporting facilities elsewhere, which can be utilized
9. Santos has not made any social or professional investment in the Thornton community, neither have they contributed nor helped to build or enhance the Thornton community thereby demonstrating a serious lack of understanding and interest of the needs of the community
10. Sharing the fields is not an option as the attitude of Santos towards the Thornton community is unlikely to change
11. Given that the demographic of Thornton has changed and a number of children now live in Thornton and attend various educational facilities in the area, public land should no longer be leased.
12. We have been deprived for approx. 20 years
13. Over the years, the numerous requests from the ward councillor and others to cancel the lease due to an ongoing refusal by Engen Santos FC despite warnings, to comply with conditions of their lease, have been ignored by the City
14. Depriving the community of Thornton of the primary use of the Thornton Sports Fields which was established for the use of the Thornton Community fails to uphold the City as a Caring City

15. As a Ratepayers organisation, we question the City's forward planning or thinking with regards to the Conradie Development as this Development, which will have more residents than the whole of Thornton will place an additional burden on our infrastructure as they will come to this neighbourhood in search of facilities.
16. Thornton community facilities have been allocated by Council to third parties who are not residents of Thornton without consulting with TRRA. EG Scouts Hall
17. Any recommendation to support Santos, does not comply with **section 8.3.3 of the Sport and Recreation Policy Framework (Annexure 2)** and will require the delegated Authority Director: Property Management to have the authority to deviate from a Council Approved Policy
18. In **compliance with section 8.3.3 of the Sports and Recreation Policy Framework** Thornton Ratepayers recommend that the Thornton Sports fields be made available to the Thornton Community and the Community based Thornton Sports Club as was the intention when the Thornton Sports Fields were created.
19. The decisions and recommendations made by the City, in our opinion, shows a clear biasness towards other groups without taking into account the needs of the Thornton community

Based on the above, we the Thornton Ratepayers Association wish to reaffirm our position with regards to Thornton Sports Precinct, as stipulated in **Annexure 5, (figure A,B,C,D)** that we do not support any lease of community land to an outside party, as in this case "**Engen Santos**". Our position is thus that we the Thornton Ratepayers want full access to the land.

Sale of land:

1. The Community cannot be deprived of the already limited facilities
2. In terms of the original layout for Thornton the land was zoned for community facilities and it should remain as such
3. The ongoing dispute has resulted in the Bowling club building being in a state of neglect and unusable.
4. We are inundated with requests from the community looking for venues to lease for functions **Annexure 7**
5. We are of the opinion that the City must adhere to their facilities policy
6. The growing densification of the Thornton community requires a structured approach to how future community needs will be addressed as the allocation of facilities could result in long term legal implications.

Based on the above we the Thornton Ratepayers Association again wish to reaffirm our stance with regards to the sale of Community Facilities and Community Land. We do not support the sale of a Community facility or Land. We do however support the lease of this facility to the Thornton Islamic Society as stipulated in **Annexure 6, (figure A,B,C,D)**

Summary Statement

1. The Thornton community is currently deprived of safe sports and recreation spaces (p.6 Sport Policy) and the current situation does not meet the community needs (p.7 Sports Policy) Nor does the CTCC engage
2. Efforts to reach an amicable working arrangement between Santos, the Thornton Sports club and the Thornton Ratepayers Association and Thornton Islamic Society has dead-locked.
3. At the moment the Thornton Community has no say in the management of the Thornton Sport facilities as per the Sports Policy statement p. 10 (Annexure 3). It is proposed that the current sports deadlock be defused by the appointment of a FMC as per the Sports policy p. 20 (Annexure 4). Hopefully a sustainable partnership can be developed from this forum for the community.
4. Despite more than 250 objections from Thornton residents to the CoCT against the lease to Santos, the CoCT was still biased towards Santos 5.
5. The collection of rates makes up nearly 25% of the City's entire budget. I'm glad to report that Thornton has an excellent record when it comes to the collection of rates. It has been reported that we stood around the ninety odd percent, which is considered excellent. Our question to the City, as a community is what are we getting back in return?
6. One of the City's pillars is "Caring City" – This is clearly a contravention against one of the main Pillars being a Caring City - What message is the City giving to our community and young people?
7. In compliance with section 8.3.3 of the Sports and Recreation Policy Framework Thornton Ratepayers recommend that the Thornton Sports Precinct be made available to the Thornton Community and the Community based Thornton Sports Club as was the intention when this facility were created

Basic Assumptions on which this document is based:

1. The Thornton community has a right to use their own facilities.
2. The exclusion of the Thornton Community in decisions that impact on sports facilities is unacceptable.
3. No sale of any grounds until the impasse re access to sports facilities has been satisfactorily resolved.

Proposed Solution

Thornton should operate the same as other areas in the Ward and in Cape Town where sports facilities are neither leased to private entities nor sold but is managed by CoCT



TRRA Chairman

14/08/2019

Date

Annexure 1: Correspondence with CTCC

from **Abdullah Solomons** as@geomer.co.za Aug 9, 2019, 11:03am
:
to: Gregory Alkana Gregory.Alkana@capetown.gov.za
cc: Thornton Ratepayer & Resident Assoc thorntonrpa@gmail.com; Gregg Alkana gregoryalkana@gmail.com;
Randall Reid reidtechcc@gmail.com; Jozua Hugo hugot@icon.co.za; Nigel Hankey nigelwbhankey@gmail.com;
Leon Hopkins leonhopkins1808@gmail.com; muneeb allen muneeballens4@gmail.com;
Mervyn Fanciscus mervyntrpa@gmail.com; June Hendricks jhendricks20@gmail.com

Hi Gregg,

Many thanks for the response, we will revert.

All the best,

Abdullah Solomons

Office: +27 21 426 5334

Mobile: +27 72 998 1759

From: Gregory Alkana <Gregory.Alkana@capetown.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, August 1, 2019 09:32
To: Abdullah Solomons <as@geomer.co.za>
Cc: Thornton Ratepayer & Resident Assoc <thorntonrpa@gmail.com>; Gregg Alkana <gregoryalkana@gmail.com>; Randall Reid (reidtechcc@gmail.com) <reidtechcc@gmail.com>; hugot@icon.co.za; Nigel Hankey (nigelwbhankey@gmail.com) <nigelwbhankey@gmail.com>; Leon Hopkins (leonhopkins1808@gmail.com) <leonhopkins1808@gmail.com>; muneeb allen (muneeballens4@gmail.com) <muneeballens4@gmail.com>; 'Mervyn Fanciscus' (mervyntrpa@gmail.com) <mervyntrpa@gmail.com>; June Hendricks (jhendricks20@gmail.com) <jhendricks20@gmail.com>
Subject: FW: SSEF Follow-Up

Hi,

Our Community comprise of the following, to mention a few:-

- Neighbourhood watch
- SOS Village
- 3 x homes for the aged
- +/- 7 Various Church organizations
- Thornton sports comprising of various sporting codes
- Provision to be made for the Conradie Development which will be completed in 3 years and will have a population, similar to the size of Thornton
- Cape Technicon
- Thornton Primary Schools
- Provision to be made for our kids

Please advise how you intend to provide facilities to the above groupings

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Abdullah Solomons** <as@geomer.co.za>

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2019, 08:44

Subject: RE: SSEF Follow-Up

To: Gregg Alkana <gregoryalkana@gmail.com>, Venessa - TRRA Secretary <thorntonrpa@gmail.com>, Randall Reid <reidtechcc@gmail.com>, Jozua Hugo <hugot@icon.co.za>, Nigel Hankey <nigelwbhankey@gmail.com>, Leon Hopkins <leonhopkins1808@gmail.com>, muneeb allen <muneeballens4@gmail.com>, Mervyn Franciscus <mervyntrpa@gmail.com>, June Hendricks <jhendricks20@gmail.com>

Hi Greg,

Thanks for the response.

Ideally, a great starting point would be to receive the requested information (“a brief about each institution, and their needs/ support required”).

Is that ok?

Regards,

Abdullah Solomons

Office: +27 21 426 5334

Mobile: +27 72 998 1759

From: Gregg Alkana <gregoryalkana@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, July 29, 2019 08:37

To: Abdullah Solomons <as@geomer.co.za>; Venessa - TRRA Secretary <thorntonrpa@gmail.com>; Randall Reid <reidtechcc@gmail.com>; Jozua Hugo <hugot@icon.co.za>; Nigel Hankey <nigelwbhankey@gmail.com>; Leon Hopkins <leonhopkins1808@gmail.com>; muneeb allen <muneeballens4@gmail.com>; Mervyn Franciscus <mervyntrpa@gmail.com>; June Hendricks <jhendricks20@gmail.com>

Subject: Fwd: SSEF Follow-Up

Hi Abdullah,

Following up on your last email and upon further discussions with our team, we are unfortunately not able to meet as per your request on the 13th August.

We are however able to meet during the course of this week. We suggest that you send another representative in your absence.

Gregg Alkana

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Abdullah Solomons** <as@geomer.co.za>

Date: Sat, 27 Jul 2019, 17:15

Subject: RE: SSEF Follow-Up

To: Gregg Alkana <gregoryalkana@gmail.com>

Cc: Heidi Hector <heidihector@afrihost.co.za>, Thornton Sports Club <thorntonsportsclub@gmail.com>, Randall Reid <reidtechcc@gmail.com>, Venessa - TRRA Secretary <thorntonrpa@gmail.com>

Dear Greg,

Thanks for taking my call on Wednesday, 24 July 2019.

As discussed:

1. We would be grateful if each of the institutions could provide a brief about the institution, and their needs/ support required.
2. I will then table the above to our board, and this will give us a clearer insight as to how we can work together and assist.
3. Happy for the Islamic Society to be part of all discussions/ engagements.
4. I am unfortunately in Europe for the next 2 weeks (I return on Monday, 12 August), and suggest we meet on Tuesday, 13 August 2019 (we would be grateful if we could receive the information as per point 1 prior to then) should that be suitable for all.

All the best,

Abdullah Solomons

Office: +27 21 426 5334

Mobile: +27 72 998 1759

From: Gregg Alkana <gregoryalkana@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2019 13:36

To: Abdullah Solomons <as@geomer.co.za>

Cc: Heidi Hector <heidihector@afrihost.co.za>; Thornton Sports Club <thorntonsportsclub@gmail.com>; Randall Reid <reidtechcc@gmail.com>; Venessa - TRRA Secretary <thorntonrpa@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: SSEF Follow-Up

Hi Abdullah,

Following up on last night's email, we the Thornton Ratepayers is of the opinion that Thornton Islamic Society, should also be part of this discussion, as they are an integral part of our Community, and should therefore be included in this meeting scheduled for next week

Regards

On Tue, 23 Jul 2019, 20:55 Gregg Alkana, <gregoryalkana@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi Abdullah,

Thank you so much for the invitation.

We met as a committee tonight to discuss your request for us to meet. We are unfortunately not able to meet as soon as tomorrow. Is it perhaps possible for us to meet next week Wednesday 31st July?

We can meet at the Bowling club in Thornton at 7pm.

Let us know if this is convenient for you

Regards

Gregg alkana

On Tue, 23 Jul 2019, 09:21 Abdullah Solomons, <as@geomer.co.za> wrote:

Good morning,

With an intention to assist the respective organizations within the Thornton Community, we will be grateful if you could provide us with a brief about the institutions (including the needs of the organizations).

As a Santos Sports and Educational Foundation (SSEF) board member, I will then table the above needs with the board which will provide us with more clarity as to how we can potential assist and work together.

Would it be possible for us to meet this Wednesday, 24 July at a suitable venue in Thornton?

Have a great week.

Regards,

Abdullah Solomons

Office: +27 21 426 5334

Mobile: +27 72 998 1759

Annexure 2: Sports Policy

<http://resource.capetown.gov.za/documentcentre/Documents/Bylaws%20and%20policies/Sport%20and%20Recreation%20Policy%20Framework%202015%20-%20%28Policy%20number%2043752%29%20approved%20on%2028%20January%202016.pdf>

8.3 Type of facilities

- 8.3.1 The City believes that all types of facilities are important, from a neighbourhood sports field to a regional multipurpose sports centre.
- 8.3.2 The Policy on the Provision of Sport and Recreation Infrastructure will set out the basis on which each type of facility will be provided. This will be informed by the Cape Town 2032 Social Facilities Plan.
- 8.3.3 The types of facilities provided should respond to an existing community need or want, and resources within the community. The City should invest in developing profiles that represent the diversity found within each community and their recreation preferences.
- 8.3.4 The Resorts Management and Development Policy shall set out the development of resorts which form a special category of recreational facilities.

Annexure 3 : Sport Policy: Emphasis on community engagement re facility use

<http://resource.capetown.gov.za/documentcentre/Documents/Bylaws%20and%20policies/Sport%20and%20Recreation%20Policy%20Framework%202015%20-%20%28Policy%20number%2043752%29%20approved%20on%2028%20January%202016.pdf>

4.3 Integrated Development Plan, 2012-2017

The Policy framework is aligned with the City's Integrated Development Plan (IDP).

The strategic focus areas (or 'pillars') that inform the policy are:

The Caring City: One of the main objectives of this focus area is to provide reasonable access to social services for those who need it. It has a clear focus on reaching and creating opportunities for the marginalised and vulnerable sectors of society through the delivery of Sport and Recreation services.

An Inclusive City: This pillar aims to provide facilities that make citizens feel at home. Hence, there is a focus on the engagement of communities in the planning, provision and management of facilities as well as the provision of programmes. Through the promotion of recreation programs that focus on social cohesion and building bridges between communities, this policy framework aims to give effect to this vision.

4.4 Social Development Strategy, 2013

Annexure 4: Sports Policy : MFMC

<http://resource.capetown.gov.za/documentcentre/Documents/Bylaws%20and%20policies/Sport%20and%20Recreation%20Policy%20Framework%202015%20-%20%28Policy%20number%2043752%29%20approved%20on%2028%20January%202016.pdf>

- 6.3. The external role players relevant to the implementation of the policy framework are summarised as follows:
- 6.3.1. Formal sports sector responsible for formal sports competitions and development of their sports through fixtures and training in the respective codes of sport such as:
 - 6.3.1.1 Amateur Sports Clubs;
 - 6.3.1.2 Professional Sports Clubs;
 - 6.3.1.3 National Sports Federations;
 - 6.3.1.4 Provincial Sports Federations;
 - 6.3.1.5 Local Sports Federations;
 - 6.3.1.6 Local Sports Clubs.
 - 6.3.2 Informal Sport and Recreation Communities, NGOs, CBOs that use City facilities and participate in provision of programmes.
 - 6.3.3 Local Coordinating structures including Municipal Facility Management Committees (MFMCs), District Sports Councils as well as the City Sports Forum.
 - 6.3.4 Private sector businesses and organisations who engage through partnerships, collaborations and sponsorships with the City.
-

Annexure 5 – Full access to Thornton Community



Annexure 6 – Not in support of the Sale of land



Annexure 7 – Sample of requests for venues



Derrileen Marais ▶ The Official
THORNTON Page ...

21 Apr at 13:48 • 🌐

**Who do i contact to
rent a hall in
thorton for a 21st**



Jolandie Weir ▶ The Official
THORNTON Page ...

27 May at 18:14 • 🌐

Im wondering if someone can recommend a cost effective venue to host childrens art class from once a month in either Thornton or Pinelands. Thanks — 🌟 looking for recommendations.



Anushqa Mulder ▶ **The Official THORNTON Page** ...

03 Feb 2018 · 🌐

Hi is there any hall for R2000 or less to hire in April please ?



Like



Comment



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Ilyana Traut ▶ **The Official THORNTON Page** ...

04 Nov 2016 · 🌐

Can anybody tell me perhaps who I can speak to about renting either the hall by the bowling green or perhaps the scout hall as a venue.



Like



Comment



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