

Council meeting

16th January, 2014

This being the first meeting for the new year, may I take the opportunity to wish all the councillors, executive secretary and staff a healthy, serene, busy and successful 2014 !

Events

Gala Concert

On 29/12 a Gala Concert was held at the MCC on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the setting up of Local Councils. The Parliamentary secretary responsible for Local Councils, Hon H Herrera announced that shortly radical changes are going to be announced.

Madliena Chapel

On 5th January the Madliena Chapel was officially re opened after restoration works were carried out. For this occasion His Excellency The Archbishop of Malta said Holy Mass.

A large number of people turned out for the occasion. I wish to express my sincere congratulations to all those involved with the restoration works and the organisation of the event, particularly Mrs M A Abela.

Bins in Triq il- Qasam

Finally the bins have been removed.

Works in progress

Outdoor Gym

Gnien F X Ebejer

The six machines have been installed, however works came to a halt because the cement foundation was not laid well enough and hence the rubber tiles could not be installed. Simon the contractor promised that works will be finalised by today. Once this is completed the tiles will be laid. I have already been in contact with the Parliamentary secretary for sports, and it is being suggested that the opening will be made on a Friday or Saturday – we will aim for the 31st January or 1st February.

I suggest that for the opening we will invite the sports organisations that are now representing the community to attend and make use of the machines. I also suggest that we notify and invite residents.

St Andrews garden

The machines have been installed, tiles and all. Some protective material must be left to settle for a few weeks.

Triq il-Qasam

Works in triq il-Qasam have resumed and seem to be progressing well. The pavements on both sides of the road from Corner Food Store up to triq is Sejjiegh have been completed, whereas the parking area on one side of the road has been completed. At this rate there exists a possibility that tarmac will start being laid next week.

Triq il-Qasam 'Tiled area'

We may encounter problems with the completion of the 'tiled area' for two reasons :

First – MEPA have not yet approved the UIF funds required to finance the embellishment and the committee will not be meeting before mid February !

Secondly – WSC have started works related to the digging of a hole which will serve as an 'air vent' until the interconnector tunnel is completed. These works should have taken 2 days. However today I have been informed that works had be to stopped because drainage is seeping and they cannot proceed before repair works to the drainage system is done !! never a dull moment !

We must now chase WSC so as to see what the extent of the damage is and when they plan to carry out the works.

Triq l-Inginier

Resurfacing works are at a halt. WSC have informed us that they will only be paying for the cost of the tarmac that covers the area of the trench and the Council will have to fork out the rest. This is indeed very bad news for the Council since these costs originally had to be paid for by funds allocated by Central Govt. These works had originally been delayed on account of works which had to be carried out by WSC. Initially WSC had given us the impression that they would be paying for the whole resurfacing costs. They have now retracted from this offer.

Works are at a halt because during a meeting held about 3 weeks ago, WSC informed us that within 2 days they were going to obtain lower prices than those offered by Road Servicing Ltd for the laying of the tarmac. To date they have not contacted us.

These delays are causing residents a great inconvenience. We need to settle the issue without any further delay.

Sleeping Policeman

Triq il-Keffa

A resident who has a garage in Triq il-Keffa has asked me to re instal the sleeping policeman close to Triq V Menville. This had been removed because of the bad state of that part of the road.

Madliena Road

To inform the contractor so as to go ahead and construct the planned three sleeping policemen without further delay

Pedidalwett

To decide where the two sleeping policemen in Pedidalwett should be built.

Forthcoming meetings

Tuesday 21st – Local Councils grouped in the North Area are invited to attend a Cabinet Meeting which is going to be held in Mellieha at 10am. Our Council has been invited to put forward its claims

I suggest that we mention the following issues ;

Road works

Tunnel in triq is Swieqi + entry and exits

Police station/security

Regional Centre for Culture and the Arts

Civic Centre

Wednesday 22nd we have a meeting with the Hon Joe Mizzi re requirements in the locality.

Thursday 23rd we have a meeting at Transport Malta re clamping etc.

Wednesday 29th we have a meeting with Ms Marie B Psaila re setting up of services for the mature people.

Noel Muscat

16/01/14