

Local Council Meeting

19th November, 2013

29.11.13 – meeting with the Hon Franco Mercieca – document attached

07.12.13 – laqa Kunsilliera Dolmen Hotel

10.12.13 – local plan – meeting with mepa

12.12.13 – meeting with shop owners in Swieqi Rd

17.12.13 – meeting with Mr Carmel Muscat from Transport Malta

19.12.13 – meeting with WSC officials re Triq l-Inginier

Works in progress

Triq il-Qasam – works are progressing nicely. The pavement and parking area at the lower end of triq il-Qasam have been completed. Works are in progress on the stretch of the pavement from triq il-Keffa to triq il – Qantar. The pavement near Corner Food Store has been widened. It may serve its purpose in triq is Sidra, however it is somewhat short in triq il Qasam on account of the culverts. I suggest that we instal bollards so as to obstruct parking that will be too close to the corner.

Planting of trees – two trees have been planted in the traffic island that was built in triq il-Wizna and another two were planted on the pavement in front of the new block of flats built by Satariano.

I propose that in triq il-Qasam one tree will be planted in the corner of every road that is a one way, thus, triq l-Imghazel, triq it Tiben and triq il-Faxxina.

Re tiling of part of triq il-Qasam – we have been given a sample of tiles that may be used. There are three colours, two shades of grey and red tiles. I suggest that all three colours be used and a design be created. I have asked the architect to propose a design. I am still not informed whether MEPA have accepted our application to finance this embellishment through UIF funds.

Substandard tarmac – today the substandard tarmac that had been laid in triq il-Qasam had to be replaced.

Outdoor Gym

Works have started. The soil has been removed and the cement foundation was being laid today and will continue tomorrow. Unfortunately works delayed due to inclement weather and due to the fact that the contractor was busy with works on the Madliena Chapel. There is a possibility that j g Cassar will not be able to proceed with the installation due to their Christmas shut down.

Triq tal Franciz – blocked access in triq tal Franciz corner with V Menville

Unfortunately not a lot of progress has been made. MEPA have issued an 'enforcement notice'. However I am informed that the developers have refused the receipt of the registered letter. I need to see what stronger action can be taken by the local council.

Triq it – Terz

Even in this case not too much progress has been made. The architect responsible at Transport Malta advised me to either write to the present owners or take up the matter with the Lands Department. I informed her that I will definitely not write to the present owners because there may be owners who are not involved in the matter in the sense that the property that they are living in may have changed hands. We contacted the Lands Department and they contend that Transport Malta should resolve the issue. Once again council has to decide what stronger and more effective action may be taken. I repeat that in order to improve the traffic flow in Swieqi and relieve triq il-Keffa from the overload that it has presently, it is imperative that these two roads (Franciz and Terz) become fully functional.

I am trying to set up a meeting with the minister of transport and infrastructure, the Hon J Mizzi so as to discuss these issues , and others, with him.

Points for discussion – the civic centre

Progress re Social services being offered in the locality

Gieh is Swieqi

UIF funds re triq il-Qasam

Noel Muscat

19.12.13

Swieqi Local Council

Meeting with the Hon Franco Mercieca

Parliamentary Secretary for the

Rights of the Disabled and Active Ageing

29th November, 2013

Introduction

Swieqi is a relatively modern town, which is experiencing its second phase of growth.

Over the last forty five years the locality's population has exploded from a mere few hundreds to well over nine thousand people, and we expect the population of the locality to keep on growing at a steady rate due to the fact that houses are being pulled down at regular intervals and they are being replaced by flats.

Although the population in the locality could be considered as a relatively young one, we cannot ignore the fact that the very first residents who ventured to come and live in the locality have now reached what we could consider as a mature age and that they may need some assistance.

Social Assistance

Swieqi does not benefit from any direct social help from the state in any way. We have no social housing, no social schooling, no old peoples' homes, no police station and whatever other social services are offered by the state.

It is our opinion that the time has come when some essential services should be introduced, especially in favour of our senior citizens. During the last months we have introduced the services of the 'berga' and we have also offered free immunisation services. Within the next two weeks we should be introducing a customer care service offered by Department for Social Services.

The council also offers cultural outings on a regular basis.

Disability

The Council does not have any information of how many residents suffer from some form of disability and who these people are. It is the Council's intention to form a data base so as to be able to address the situation better.

Even in this area we are eager to team up with your ministry so as to find ways and means how we could work together so as to do all that is possible to ease the suffering and hardship that the people have to face on a daily basis

We have recently installed two swings that may be used by children who suffer from some disability.

However we are of the opinion that the time has come for us to offer our mature residents a better and more holistic service that satisfies the requirements of our residents.

Conclusion

And that is precisely why we are turning to you Hon Mercieca, so that with your endeavour, enthusiasm and knowledge you will help us offer services which will help our mature residents and people with a disability to live a better and more active life.

We wish to work closely with you and to introduce services that will benefit our locals.

May be our Council may be used so as to create a pilot project through which innovative services may be introduced.

May I take this occasion to thank you for accepting to meet us, and I hereby invite you to visit our Council and locality.

Noel Muscat

Mayor

