

Lephalale Municipality

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HERITAGE SITE FOR SELEKA COMMUNITY...



In his quest to preserve and honour the Heritage of the Seleka chieftaincy, Lephalale Local Mayor, Cllr, Jack Maeko, launched the Mayoral Sectoral Traditional Outreach Programme at Seleka on the 09 March 2017.



The programme is the first of its kind and through the Mayor's facilitation, representatives from various businesses committed to support the Mayor's request of building a house that will restore the dignity of the chieftaincy of Seleka and will be the Heritage Site where future generations will see as a symbol of history. The delegation led by the honourable Mayor and Kgoshi Seleka, preceded to the identified site to do a Sod Turning Ceremony that marked the commencement of the construction of the House.

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HERITAGE SITE FOR SELEKA COMMUNITY...

Some of the companies that will take part in building the Seleka Heritage Site are: Mabule Rail & Infrastructure, Foursight & IT, Mokgotho Building Construction, N231 Plant & Transport and Lehutjo Security.

The Mayor said it is very important to preserve the Heritage of Black communities as a reflection of the identity of a Nation and a connection to the past “Every heritage has a story to tell and need to actively be preserved so that they do not fall in to disrepair. Heritage sites need to be protected from incursion, in the same fashion that natural preserves need to be protected from human encroachment. History is important, it brings us all together and this is a cornerstone of nationhood that should be protected by every country and culture”.



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Ga-Monyeki sports complex almost ready!!



As part of Lephalale Municipality Council's responsibility of monitoring and assessing projects within the Municipality, Local Mayor, Cllr Jack Maeko, accompanied by councillors conducted a site visit of the upgrading of Ga-Monyeki Sports Complex project on 02 March 2017. The oversight visit was an opportunity for the delegation to witness the facility's design features, material and also a chance to engage with the contractor on challenges in the project.

The projects which started on 22 April 2016 is expected to be completed at the end of this year. The project has created 78 job opportunities for local residents and the contractor, Bakgalaka Holdings has empowered local SMME's.

The project which is at 85% completion stage has already covered infield shaping, demolition of old change rooms and completed new rooms, Admin block brickwork completed, entrance gate building done to floor slab level, stadium infield completed and currently lying artificial turf, inside parking at 95% completion and access road paving at 90%. The Mayor, held a discussion with the contractor and all employees to discuss and address challenges at the project. He urged all parties to work together in harmony to ensure that the complex is completed in time.



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Community issues addressed...

Following the temporary closure of BABCOCK Company last week, Lephalale Local Municipality Mayor, Cllr Jack Maeko, held a feedback session with the community of Leseding on the 22 March 2017.

The community of Leseding requested the Mayor's intervention on a number of issues ranging from recruitment processes, SMME empowerment to CSI project by BABCOCK Company. BABCOCK is one of Eskom's contractors which started operating in Lephalale in 2015. Babcock is responsible for the construction of transmission power lines that will assist with the transmission of power generated from Medupi in to the National grid.

As a result of a series of meetings between BABCOCK, Eskom and the Mayor, an agreement which addressed all concerns raised by the community was reached. The Mayor announced a list of available SMME projects which are gate installation, backfilling, cement supply, mixed concrete supply, toilets supply, bush clearing, transport, diesel supply and security. He encouraged local SMME's to participate when tenders are advertised.

The number of local employees which was 46 out of more than 200 employees on site will be increased. A total number of 60 local residents were selected and have been taken for medical tests, those who qualify will be employed. Another 30 were selected to be trained in various skills and upon completion they will all be absorbed by the company.

In response, excited community members welcomed the Mayor's intervention and appreciated the outcome of the engagements which they said is a clear sign that the Mayor prioritises poverty eradication, unemployment and economic development.

The only outstanding issue is the company's contribution towards CSI project. The Mayor referred it back to the company so that they can revise the funds which were set aside for CSI and come up with a better offer which will benefit the local residents.



OFFICE OF MEC FOR SAFETY

VISITS BORDER POSTS

The office of Limpopo MEC for Transport, Safety, Security and Liaison led by HOD Nelly Nchabeng alongside Lephalale Local Municipality Councilors visited the Stockpoort and Groblersbridge port of entry on the 10th of February 2017, the main reason for the visit was to assess the status of Limpopo-Botswana Waterberg District entry ports to hear the challenges the Port of Entry faces and also to see what the Department can do to assist to strengthen the Ports of Entries, while getting an overview focusing on challenges and successes during the 2016/2017 festive holidays.

The main users of the Stockport Port of Entry (PoE) are mainly tourists, ordinary Botswana national coming to Lephalale for visits/attend funerals/economic reasons which operates from 06H00- 18H00 on a daily basis from Monday to Sunday.

Some of the challenges raised by the Stockport PoE were that there is no proper office for the Department of Home Affairs (DoHA) with officials working in the counter area of the PoE, no room for SAPS to interview suspected illegal and undocumented foreigners, shortage of staff for DoHA amongst others.



Meanwhile in Groblersbridge (PoE) there are challenges of parking space which is not adequate especially during peak season with space getting fully occupied quickly, medical facility where injured and sick staff members or commuters are forced to wait for an Ambulance from Witpoort hospital in order to receive medical attention, a cargo scanner was also mentioned as a need in order to effectively expedited processing of containers, shortage of staff in all the departments and smuggling of illegal foreigners in and off the republic amongst others.

Some of the remedial measures as identified by the Port Managers at Groblersbridge are that a re-development of the port be done, sufficient parking space be provided, have Cargo trucks recovery capability and scanner be available, intercom with speakers placed at strategic points, pounding facility to keep detained vehicles and medical facility to offer expedited service.

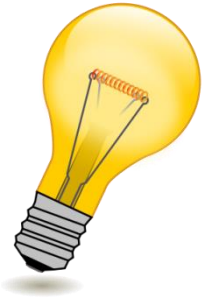
In her Welcome Address Lephalale Local Municipality Speaker, Reggie Molokomme said that there HOD needs to send a message to the MEC that there is stability in Lephalale Municipality, and unlike other Municipalities, the council is working well together to take service to the people.

HoD Nelly Nchabeng said that she will take all the reports that was gathered to the MEC of Safety, Nandi Ndalane to ensure that remedial action is taken before the commencement of the Easter festive holidays.



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ELECTRICITY FOR VILLAGES



Lephalale Municipality Acting Mayor, Cllr Alpheus Thulare, kick started a three day programme of introducing contractors to six villages(Hlagalakwena, Reabetswe, Senoela, Botlalnong, Ga-Mocheko and Moong) on Monday 13 February 2016. As part of the municipality's programmes to deliver quality services and improve the lives of rural communities, the contractors will electrify more than 500 households respectively. Traditional Authority representatives welcomed the more than 50 temporary jobs that will be available for local community for the duration of the project.

The acting Mayor, appealed to the communities to work together with the appointed project steering committees and community liaison officers in order to ensure that there are not disruptions to the project. The Mayor also urged the communities to adhere to environmental and safety precautions to avoid accidents which may lead to a delay of the project which is scheduled to be completed at the end of March.



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ELECTRICITY AWARENESS IN SELEKA

Lephalale Local Municipality alongside Eskom, held a safety awareness campaign with the community of Ga-Seleka 4, on Saturday 25 of February 2017, at Captain Thulare Stadium. The awareness campaign comes after the residents of Seleka 4 households being recently electrified.

The campaign was to help and educate the community on how to use power safely, help the community to become energy efficient and save money and also give them tips on how they can report those who have illegal connections around them.

“Electricity theft kills and injures many innocent children and toddlers every year. Illegal connections are extremely dangerous because incorrect wiring is used, and the wires running across floors, pathways or streets are often not insulated” said Eskom Electrician Mr Ramoshaba.



He also added that people and animals are at risk of death or serious injuries if they come into contact with these wires. In most instances, it is young children who are the innocent victims of illegal connections.

Community members were also taught how to save electricity in and around their homes, such as using the geyser, refrigerators, showers, cooking and ironing amongst other things.



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LLM celebrates TOP performing Schools

Several Schools in the Lephalale area shined at the Local Municipality 2016 Matric awards ceremony which was held at Seleka Community Hall on Wednesday 25 January.

Two schools which stood out were Dimpe Secondary School in Kiti and Seoketseng in Mmaletswai which both produced 100% pass rate. Despite challenges such as lack of resources and shortage of teachers, the students excelled in their matric examinations.

In his keynote address, Lephalale Local Municipality Mayor, Moloko Jack Maeko said that “We have assembled here to acknowledge and award excellence. But before we even start with awards, one must state it categorically clear that the achievements recorded by our schools are not what were expected but despite this, it is important to recognize the gains and improvement that schools have made.”

“We know we can perform better than the 2016 class, calling on all our educators, learners, parents, SGB’s and all role players to commit themselves to nothing less than eighty percent (80 %) pass this year 2017” said the Mayor.



Teachers Union, SADTU, appreciated the role played by the Municipality in improving the state of education in the area. This year 19 deserving students who performed well were awarded with bursaries from the Mayoral Bursary Fund to further their studies in higher education, for courses aligned with the development of Lephalale



LLM Moloko Jack Maeko with learners who achieved sports accolades at different schooling levels.

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Back to school campaign

Lephalale Local Municipality councillors embarked on a Back to school campaign when the official 2017 schooling term opened on the 11th of January 2017. The aim of the visits was to check the status-co of the schools, the readiness and challenges that each school faces.

The team was divided into four groups which visited schools in Ellisras Circuit, Phalala North and South Circuits. Lephalale Local Municipality Mayor, Moloko Jack Maeko and Education Portfolio Councillor, Francina Mabasa led the team that went to Matshwara , Morakolo, Bahlalerwa Secondary Schools and Tshukudu Primary School all in Shongoane.

Some of the challenges identified were ill-discipline from leaners, lack of participation from parents and SGBs members, shortage of teachers, substance abuse shortage of admin staff, and absenteeism.

Addressing the learners of Batlhalerwa Secondary school in Ga-Monyeki, Cllr Francina Mabasa advised that the school should have a code of conduct which leaners should adhere to and also encouraged the learners to focus on their education so that to better their lives in future.

The schools pleaded with the Municipality to make an intervention to liquor outlets owners not to sell alcohol to students, because some of the learners consume alcohol at schools.

The Mayor, Moloko Jack Maeko highlighted the importance of education, adding that leaners must work well with teachers to attain positive results.

“You need to respect your teachers and know why you are coming to school. If you pass well we have the Mayoral bursary that will help you to further your studies, you need to be dedicated and have determination”.



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Community welcomes contractors with open arms!

The Community of Dipompong/Motsweding, kiti, Martinique and Nikara in Mokuruanyane welcomed Rivigan Contractor, with open arms when they were introduced to the community by Lephalale Local Municipality Mayor, Moloko Jack Maeko on Wednesday 11 January 2017. The contractor will install/connect 400 households that don't have electricity in the area.

Speaking to the community, the Mayor said that he understands the frustration and the dismay of living in an area or house that does not have electricity. Maeko also made an appeal to the community at large and those that will be employed to work on the project to co-operate with the contractor so that the project can be finished well in time without any disputes of any sorts.



Communities of Thabo Mbeki and Lerupurupung, welcomed with excitement the introduction of two contractors for the Thabo Mbeki/Lerupurupung Sewer Network and Thabo Mbeki Water Supply by Lephalale Local Mayor, Cllr Jack Maeko, on Thursday, 26 January 2017. The Mabule Rail jointly with Amawakawaka Projects & Ennuel Trading will be responsible for the installation of Sewer pipes, connecting all households in the area to the sewer network and the construction of waste water treatment work, while the Nandzu Trade & General Projects will be responsible for the upgrading of the current water system in Thabo Mbeki.

More than sixty job opportunities will be created for the duration of the projects.

In his remarks, the Mayor, said delivering services to communities translates to honouring all struggle icons who fought for the freedom of this country. He urged the community to have a spirit of unity and work with the contractors to ensure the completion of the projects in time. He said "For the first time the people of Thabo Mbeki, will have flushing toilets and this will restore dignity to the previously disadvantaged community members".



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Builder's workshop a Success

As part of aligning with the growth of Lephalale, Developers, contractors, architects, draughts persons, Town Planners and individuals who are involved in the development of Lephalale were invited to the 2nd Lephalale Municipality builder's workshop on the 15th of March at the Mogol Functions hall.

The purpose of the workshop was to ensure maximum effectiveness of the Building Inspectorate and town planning workforce in terms of speedy delivery, by meeting the set turnaround time for building plan circulation and approval. The event was also aimed at ensuring that the public, client and applicants are aware of what is expected of them when submitting building plans to comply with conditions set out.

In her presentations the Municipality's, Manager for Land Use and Spatial Planning, Catchlife Mutshavi, outlined all necessities before applicants can start building, what to do after the plan has been approved, who is responsible for building inspections and the necessary documents to be submitted prior to the issuing of a Certificate of Occupancy.

Various institutions like NRCS, ITC-SA, NHBRC and SAGGA gave valuable presentations regarding different aspects of building work.



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