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1. Introduction

To say we are halfway through the year is to state the obvious, however it does mean a number of things for the Hessequa Municipality.

- It is the end of the 25/26 financial year, and a lot of effort was spent by the municipality to try and get outstanding projects completed.
- We also are at the beginning of the 26/27 financial year, which is unfortunately when we are subjected to all the rates and taxes increases. However, with the new financial year there are also new projects to look out for:
 - Road improvements at Melkhoutfontein to make it safer for pedestrians and vehicles at the new housing development and the ever-expanding industrial area
 - Upgrading of the intersection at Orchid Street
- Now we also start to prepare for the 27/28 budget and must give serious thought as to what we want to bring to the HM attention for that financial year.

To spice up the newsletter a bit, we have added a little something at the end of the newsletter.

2. Landelike Gebruik Kennisgewings

Die volgende [skakel](#) op ons webtuiste sal u neem na 'n lys van publieke kennisgewings rakende Stilbaai en omgewing vir

- Hersonerings van eiendom,
- Bougrense afwykings en
- Nuwe besigheidsaansoeke

wat gepubliseer is die afgelope drie maande. Dit sal u 'n idee gee wat dalk in Stilbaai kan plaasvind. Die aansoeke is/was vir kommentaar en waar die Stilbaai Gemeenskapsforum dit nodige geag het, het ons kommentaar gelewer. Die datum vir kommentaar het in sommige gevalle reeds verval, maar tog gee dit 'n insig t.o.v. moontlike ontwikkelings.



3. Dune Rehabilitation.

The SCF has recently commenced a dune rehabilitation program on the pathway on the west side of the Goukou river.

The dunes in this area are badly eroded due to storm sea erosion and the ongoing challenges of people walking down the dunes rather than utilizing the provided staircases.

The dune stabilization process in the picture is just the start of this process on the dune closest to the staircase at the Fonteintjie staircase.

This dune has been chosen to attempt to rectify this entire dune from collapsing which would result in the staircase collapsing.

Poles have been planted and wire drawn between the poles at the base of the dune and cuttings and branches have been packed against the wire in order to initiate the stabilization process.

The plan is to plant endemic plants and shrubs on the dune to assist with the stabilization process. Poles have been planted at the top of the dune against the pathway with cross members and signs will be erected to restrict access down the dune thus reducing erosion.



4. Westelike Verbypad en Aansluitings

4.1 Westelike Verbypad

- Die pad word in 3 fases gebou ooreenkomstig die ontwikkeling wat langs die roete beplan word.
- Fase 1: Vanaf Hoofweg-Wes by “Under Milkwood” tot by die verlenging van Kerkstraat. Konstruksie het reeds begin en voltooiing word beplan wanneer die 1ste 100 erwe by Platteboschkloof ontwikkel is, moontlik reeds teen einde 2027. Aansluiting by Hoofweg-Wes is voorlopig met ‘n gewone stopstraat - ander opsies word oorweeg vir wanneer al drie fases voltooi word en is afhanklik van goedkeuring deur die Provinsie.
- Fase 2: Gedeelte vanaf Jongensfonteinpad tot by Fleur de Vie ontwikkeling. Aanvang van konstruksie en voltooiing afhanklik van beplande ontwikkelings langs die gedeelte.
- Fase 3: Koppeling van Fase 1 en Fase 2. Voltooiing hang af van die vordering met beplande ontwikkelings langs die roete.
- Die pad word hoofsaaklik deur die ontwikkelaars gefinansier met ‘n gedeelte (20%) deur die Munisipaliteit.
- Magtiging in terme van die Omgewingsimpak-studie vir die voltooiing van die pad is verleng tot 2035, maar kan verder verleng word na gelang van die vordering met ontwikkelings langs die roete.





4.2 Aansluitings met Hoofweg-Wes

Alhoewel die tipe aansluiting nog nie vasgestel is nie, word die opgradering van die volgende interseksies beplan:

- Orchidstraat (Verskuiwing van pompstasie om plek te skep vir die opgradering reeds in aanvang)
- Westelike verbypad aansluiting by Under Milkwood
- Orchid Str / Under Milkwood
- Main / Versveldstraat
- Main / Keurboom / Ebenhaeser / Voortrekker
- Buitekantstraat / Thys Vissiestraat
- Main / Jongensfonteinpad

Verkeersirkels is HM se voorkeur vir die interseksies, maar die finale besluit daaroor lê by die Provinsiale Paaie Departement aangesien dit 'n Provinsiale pad is.

Die opgradering van die interseksies sal saamval met die vordering wat gemaak word met die Westelike verbypad.

Hierdie foto's toon aan waar al die aansluitings is:



Main / Orchid



Main / Under Milkwood



Main / Jongensfontein



Main / Keurboom / Ebenhaeser



Main / Buitekant



Main / Versfeld



Main / Ebenhaeser / Voortrekker



Main / Thys Vissie



5. Pathway on Western Side of the Goukou River

From the rundown gravel pathway to a paved highway!

We need to salute Clifton Donald for his never say die attitude in getting this upgrade done.

With community funding and support an eyesore was transformed into a beautiful pathway.

Hopefully this will set the trend as the rest is slowly upgraded to this standard.



6. Extension of No Wake Zone on Goukou River

In the same manner that the road traffic has increased in Stilbaai the river boating traffic has increased.

Due to various safety concerns from the water sport community, an application to move the No Wake Zone to north of the bridge was presented to the estuary managers.

The proposed move of the No Wake Zone was approved and will be implemented with immediate effect.

Signs will be erected at the launching jetty advising of the No Wake Zone.

All boats will be required to idle from the jetty to the bridge before skiing can take place.





7. Hessequa Begroting 2026 / 2027

7.1 Inleiding

Die Stilbaai Gemeenskapsforum (SGF) hou jaarliks die opstel en uitvoering van die munisipale begroting met arendsoë dop en is tevrede dat vanjaar 'n goeie begroting opgestel is.

7.2 Kapitaalebegroting

Die kapitaalebegroting bedra R175,369,762. Hiervan gaan R99m uit eie fondse befonds word en R55m uit toelaes van die provinsiale en nasionale owerhede.

Die munisipaliteit het in die afgelope boekjaar geen lenings aangegaan nie en beoog om in die nuwe boekjaar R20miljoen te leen om sy kapitaalprojekte te finansier. Daar word tans fluks afbetaal aan bestaande lenings en aan die einde van die huidige boekjaar word daar beoog dat dit net oor die R98miljoen sal bedra.

Van die grootste kapitaalprojekte plaaslik is die volgende:

- Stilbaai nuwe rioolpompstasie (R3m)
- Opgradering van Hoofweg-Wes (R3m)
- Orchidlaan se aansluiting (R2m).
- Jongensfontein nuwe water reservoir (R4m)
- Fase 1 van die omskakeling van die Eskom elektrisiteitslyn na 'n Hessequa lyn (R2m).

Verskillende departemente het ook begrotings vir die instandhouding van bates.

7.3 Bedryfsbegroting

Volgens die Nasionale Tesourie se voorskrifte mag 'n munisipaliteit nie vir 'n tekort begroot nie.

- Die totale inkomste waarvoor begroot word is R882 391 564 miljoen en die uitgawe is R881 766 438 miljoen.
- Personeel uitgawes bedra 32.9% van die totale uitgawes. (Raadslede se toelaes is minder as 1% en by bg. berekening ingesluit). Dit is van die laagste, indien nie die laagste nie, van die 257 munisipaliteite in die land.
- Dit beteken dat net meer as twee derdes van die uitgawes aan dienslewering gespandeer kan word.
- Hessequa Munisipaliteit het 577 amptenare, 35 volttydse arbeiders en 235 deelttydse arbeiders.
- Vier nuwe poste word in die nuwe boekjaar geskep waarvan twee in die sekuriteitsafdeling - 'n afdeling wat die publiek gedurig vra versterk moet word.

Salarisse en lone word nasionaal vasgestel en die munisipaliteit is verplig om die 4,75% verhoging wat onderhandel is deur SALGA (South African Local Government Association) te betaal.

Die Nasionale tesourie skryf aan munisipaliteite voor dat hulle inkomste vir elektrisiteit en water onderskeidelik alle uitgawes daaraan moet dek. Die inkomste uit eiendomsbelasting word aangewend om al die ander uitgawes te dek.



7.4 Tariewe

- 'n Verhoging van eiendomsbelasting en tariewe op water en riool is op 4,5% vasgestel.
- Dit is aanvaarbaar, omdat die inflasiekoers waarskynlik in die nabye toekoms gaan styg.
- 'n Munisipaliteit mag nie gedurende 'n boekjaar tariewe verhoog nie.
- Die munisipaliteit handhaaf 'n goeie insamelingskoers van 97% van alle rekenings uitgestuur. Dit beteken dat eiendomsbelasting net 17.7% van die totale inkomste bedra juis omdat al die rekenings vir al die dienste so goed ingevorder word. Dit is verreweg van die beste syfers in die land.

7.5 Elektrisiteit

- Die Nasionale Energiereguleerder (NERSA) het 'n verhoging van 9,01% goedgekeur wat munisipaliteite alreeds vanaf 1 April 2026 vir die aankoop van elektrisiteit moet betaal.
- Die Munisipaliteit gaan die verhoging met 2% subsidieer uit die besparing wat die nuwe sonplaas op Riversdal meebring en alle eienaars sal dus 7,01% meer vir elektrisiteit betaal vanaf 1 Julie.
- Die sonpaneelprojek bestaan uit 19 000 sonpanele en sal binnekort in volle werking wees. Die provinsie het R173,7m bygedra en die munisipaliteit R40m uit eie fondse om dit op te rig.

7.6 Deernis-verligting

- Hessequa Munisipaliteit het ongeveer 4600 deernis huishoudings.
- Hulle ontvang maandeliks 50kw elektrisiteit, 6kl water gratis asook gratis riool en vullisverwydering. Hulle betaal ook nie eiendomsbelasting nie mits die huis wat hulle besit nie meer as R85 0000 werd is nie.
- Die totale koste hieraan verbonde word gedra deur 'n toekenning aan die munisipaliteit van die Nasionale Regering, genaamd die billikheidstoelae (equitable share).

7.7 Ten Slotte

Alhoewel die stygings vanjaar billik is, sal die Munisipaliteit vorentoe moet waak dat munisipale dienste nie onbekostigbaar vir die gemiddelde inwoner is nie. Eweneens sal belastingbetalers tevrede moet wees met die dienste soos tans gelever, want groter eise het finansiële gevolge.



8. Solar System or Not?

When planning to do a solar installation, is it worthwhile to consider exporting excess electricity to Hessequa Municipality in accordance with their Small-Scale Embedded Generation (SSEG)

We compare the financial viability of SSEG for a typical permanent residence household (single phase supply) in Still Bay for the following scenarios:

- a. Scenario Base Case. Conventional tariff, fixed monthly cost of R893.31.
- b. Scenario A. Pre-paid tariff, no solar, fixed monthly cost of R446.65.
- c. Scenario B. Prepaid with Solar System, no export electricity to the HM, fixed monthly cost of R446.65.
- d. Scenario C. Prepaid, Solar System and Export, fixed monthly cost of R446.65.

Assumptions:

- Tariffs are for the 2026/2027 financial year
- Circuit Breaker Size is 33 – 63 Amps
- Average consumption: 655 kWh/month
- Import tariff: R3.12/kWh;
- Export credit: R1.24/kWh.
- Solar system: 8 kWh producing on average 34kWh /day or +-1030kWh/month
- 10 kWh battery allowing self-consumption of 60-80% assume 70%
- Bidirectional meter cost: +- R6,500 once-off.

Under Hessequa rules, **annual export credits are effectively capped in Rand value by annual imports or consumption as billed from the grid.** Export credits can roll over monthly but only for the financial year therefore preventing consumers from using the municipality as a "bank" for large excess generation.

In a solar PV system, **self-consumption** is the proportion of the electricity generated by your solar panels that is **used directly by your home or business**, rather than being exported to the grid. A more detailed explanation can be found [here](#).



Primary Inputs		Calculated or Assumed Values	
Monthly kWh Usage	655	Current Monthly Fixed Charge	R893.31
Solar Self-consumption %	70%	Import Energy Cost R/kWh	R3.12
Circuit Breaker Size for Scenarios	33-63A	8kWh System kWh generated per Day	34
Solar System Cost	R105,000	8kWh System per Month - kWh	1034
		Export Energy Tariff R/kWh	R1.24

Comparison Table					
Item	Calculation Example	Base Case Conventional 33-63A No Solar	Scenario A Prepaid 33-63A No Solar	Scenario B Prepaid 33-63A With Solar No Export	Scenario C Prepaid 33-63A With Solar and Export
Actual Consumption (kWh/month)	From Input	655	655	655	655
Solar Self-consumption %	From Input			70%	70%
Solar used on-site (kWh/month)	655 x 70%			458.5	458.5
Grid imports (kWh/month)	655 - Solar Used Onsite	655	655	197	197
Exports (kWh/month)	1034 - 458.5	-	-		576
Import energy cost (R/month)	655 x R 3.12 (Base Case)	R2,045.36	R2,045.36	R613.61	R613.61
Potential Export credit (R/month)	575.5 x R 1.24				R713.62
Allowed Export Credit (R/month)	Not more than Import Cost				R613.61
Residual energy charge (R/month)	Export Credit - Import Cost			R613.61	
Fixed charge (R/month)	Based on Circuit Breaker	R893.31	R446.65	R446.65	R446.65
Total monthly bill (R/month)		R2,938.67	R2,492.01	R1,060.26	R446.65
Total annual bill (R/year)		R35,264.06	R29,904.14	R12,723.09	R5,359.78
Yearly Saving Relative to Basic Case			R5,359.92	R22,540.97	R29,904.28
Once off Bi Directional Meter R					R6,500.00
Once Off Prepaid Meter R			R2,200.00	R2,200.00	R2,200.00
Solar System Cost				R105,000.00	R105,000.00
Payback Period in years relative to Base Case, Including Meter Costs			0.4	4.8	3.8

We have added a [link](#) where you can download an Excel spreadsheet to do your own calculations for your power consumption and Solar capacity.

Disclaimer

This spreadsheet has been prepared as an informational tool to assist in comparing the potential financial performance of various Small-Scale Embedded Generation (SSEG) options. The calculations and results are based on several assumptions, estimates, and input values, including but not limited to electricity tariffs, energy consumption patterns, solar PV generation, battery performance, export credits, inflation, and future electricity price increases.

Actual financial performance will vary depending on individual circumstances, system design, installation quality, weather conditions, equipment performance, changes in municipal tariffs and regulations, and other factors beyond the author's control. Accordingly, no representation or warranty is made regarding the accuracy, completeness, or future applicability of the results, and no guarantee is given that the projected savings, costs, or payback periods will be achieved.

Users are solely responsible for verifying all assumptions and calculations and for obtaining independent professional, financial, and technical advice before making any investment or purchasing decisions. Use of this spreadsheet and reliance on its results is entirely at the user's own risk. The author accepts no liability for any loss, damage, or expense arising directly or indirectly from the use of this spreadsheet or the information it contains.



Conclusion

The additional different meter costs required for the different scenarios, making SSEG financially worthwhile for both conventional and prepaid customers. The financial optimal strategy is therefore to maximise self-consumption first, and only export energy that cannot reasonably be self-consumed or stored. It is true even though the export credits can offset imported energy charges.

9. Establishment of Small-scale Farmers in Hessequa

Since the previous SCF Member Update in April 2026, very little progress has been made regarding the status of the Department of Land Reform and Rural Development's (DLRRD) project.

- The Hessequa Municipality's (HM) inter-governmental dispute was formally lodged with DLRRD on 22 April 2026. Although DLRRD acknowledged receipt, no formal response was received by the HM within the required 30 days. The dispute is therefore still active and in place. It is important to note that under these circumstances DLRRD cannot legally proceed with its intended plan to establish 60+ pig farmers on the two identified farms. HM is currently considering its options regarding further steps relating to the dispute and addressing the matter at Ministerial level still remains a possibility.
- The Schoongeleë/Soebatters Interest Group has also subsequently delivered a "Formal Letter of Demand", dated 22 May 2026, to DLRRD. The letter seeks to halt all actions by DLRRD to establish the pig farmers on the farms. It deals with the violations of and non-compliance of various Constitutional, Legal and Statutory requirements, which have not been met by DLRRD.
- The SCF re-iterates its opposition to the current DLRRD plan to establish small scale farmers on Schoongeleë- and Soebattersvlakte farms and remains committed to the process to prevent the implementation of the current plan and to find a viable solution.

10. Ietsie Kleins - A Little Something



Raai Waar - Guess Where

Laat ons weet waar u dink hierdie rigtingwyser is. Ons sal die tiende die korrekte antwoord kies en die wenner kry 'n sjokolade as prys. Die sekretaris sal die wenner in kennis stel.

If you live away from Stilbaai, we will keep your gift until you collect it.

Send you answers to admin@stilbaaigemeenskapsforum.org.za. Please no correspondence will be entered into regarding the details. This is Just for FUN / Dis net PRET!

Terwyl u dink waar die rigtingwyser is, kan u dalk vir ons laat weet wat u in die nuusbrieff graag wil sien. Enige idees is welkom. Stuur u gedagtes na admin@stilbaaigemeenskapsforum.org.za.