



# BITOU BULLETIN

Volume 15: October 2024

Bitou Executive Mayor speaks on the drive to accelerating Service Delivery to All Communities.



Issued: 16 October 2024

Bitou Executive Mayor, Councillor Jessica Kamkam, says the municipality has upped the ante in the drive to better the lives of its residents.

This statement comes as the contractor appointed to electrify the Qolweni Informal Settlement in Ward 3, goes on site this week. The contractor will be electrifying 104 new houses and performing 180 upgrades to existing meters.

Mayor Kamkam says installing electricity in informal households is just one of the ways that Bitou is trying to mitigate the increase of fires in informal settlements.

In August this year, 200 households were connected to the grid in Bossesgif Informal Settlement which is also in Ward 3.

Last year, just under 200 more households were connected in the same ward. While 60 households were also connected to the grid in the Zawa-Zawa Informal Settlement in Kurlund Village. Bitou Acting Municipal Manager, Mbulelo Memani, said this step is one way that the municipality is trying to improve its revenue collection abilities.

"Further this initiative also is enhancing the safety of informal settlements as candles, and paraffin stoves are dangerous for the community."

Ward 3 Councillor Thembela Mhlana agreed with Memani saying that the municipality is putting the lives of residents first.

"There is a high electricity demand, and it is great to see that the municipality is taking steps to ensure that the demand is met. "This is the core function of the municipality. With the strides that we are making, I hope that by 2026 all Bitou households will have power," Mhlana added

"The program to electrify informal settlements is part of our broad vision to accelerate service delivery to all the wards." Mayor Kamkam concluded.



## Bitou Municipality is nominated as the Worlds Leading Beach Destination at the World Travel Awards .

This a first for Plettenberg Bay although it has been nominated 15 times as Africa's Leading Beach Destination. To be nominated alongside world renowned beach destinations like Thailand, Hawaii and the Maldives is no mean feat.

This nomination means a lot to Bitou Municipality because our beaches are the cornerstone of our economy, and our tourism strategy relies heavily on them to attract tourists to this town. Essentially, we regard our beaches as our crown jewels or our "Big 5." It is no wonder that this municipality takes the management of our beaches very seriously and invests heavily to ensure that our beaches meet or even outshine international standards.

This nomination gives us confidence that our efforts and those of our partners are being recognized and we applaud everyone who plays a significant role in keeping our beaches in pristine condition. Our employees must be applauded for their continued efforts to make us the best together.

Our partners, the Plettenberg Bay Tourism Board, and other stakeholders have also played a huge role in putting this on the map and on the agenda of judges on platforms with such high pedigree. However, with this comes a challenge to not only maintain the current standards but to push them even higher. The nomination will have a positive impact on our destination marketing efforts.

The municipality cannot overlook the important role played by the Plett Shark-Spotters who together with our lifeguards ensure that the beachgoers feel safe whenever they visit our beaches and indulge in water activities for both leisure and work.

The current economic development activities taking place on and adjacent to our beaches are designed in such a manner that it enhances the tourism experience of our visitors. The vision of the municipality is always geared towards economic development strategies that are focused on promoting responsible tourism that benefits everyone in the town.

The article is issued by Mr. Andile Namntu, Manager of Corporate Communications, Intergovernmental Relations, and Public Participation, on behalf of the Acting Municipal Manager, Mr. Mbulelo Memani

**"If you turn a blind eye to corruption, you are complicit."**

Bitou Acting Municipal Manager:  
Mbulelo Memani



Blow the whistle on corrupton using this toll free  
080 086 9646.



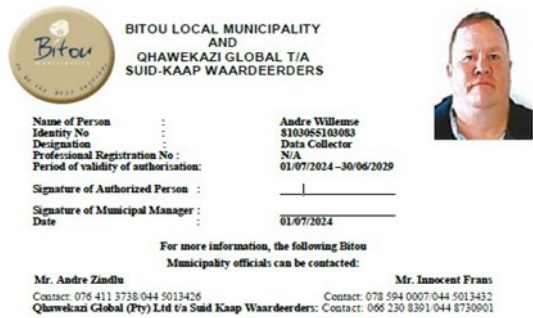
UPDATE ON GENERAL VALUATION

The physical inspections of properties in Kranshoek, Kwanokuthula and New Horizons have been completed. The physical inspections of the farms are 80% complete and the physical inspections of properties in Plettenberg bay town are currently underway. The inspections will continue in the next months into all Bitou areas.

Remember: data collectors will be wearing reflector jackets with inscription as per below;



Additionally, the data collector will have an Identity card that resembles the one below



Further updates will be provided as the valuation process unfolds to ensure that all property owners are part of the valuation process of their properties.

Please direct any inquiries with regards to the general valuation process to the Revenue Section:

Contact: Siyabulela Frans at 044 501 3432, Pelisa Sakati at 044 501 3427, or email [rates@plett.gov.za](mailto:rates@plett.gov.za).

Service Accounts Payment Facilities

The municipality has appointed Pay@ as the sole service provider to provide third party payment facilities for Bitou customers to pay their municipal services accounts.

Below are the retailers where payments can be made and also all the other various payment facilities that can be used to make account payments via Pay@ . Pick n Pay is currently not able to process payments through Pay@ , but the municipality is addressing this situation to ensure that customers can make account payments at Pick n Pay also going forward. The Pay@ barcode with account number has been displayed on the accounts and customers simply need to present their account for scanning when making payments at all the below retailers.

Use your Pay@ No. starting with 11338 to make payment.  
Pay your municipal account at these retailers:

ACKERMANSBOXERbuildersCheckersflash

gameKazangmakroPEP

Pick n PaySHOPRITESPARTop it UpSHOPRITEsave

Scan QR, type in Pay@ No. starting with 11338

Mobile & Digital Platforms

Scan to PaySnapScanZapper

ABSAABSAEFTPay with EFTFNBMTN Momo

NedbankMasterCardVisaVodaPay

[www.payat.co.za](http://www.payat.co.za)

Bitou Beach Umbrella Project

Applications for Beach Umbrella Trading for the period 1 December 2024 to 30 April 2025 are invited by the Bitou Local Municipality, for scheduled sites along the coastal areas.

Closing date for applications:  
1 November 2024

Beach Areas

Central x4

Beach Island x4

Robberg five X4

Wedge x2

Lookout x4

Robberg one x2

Poortjies x2

Sanctuary x2

Nature's Valley x2

For detailed information, further enquiries please contact Wandisile Sebezo on 044 501 3369 or alternatively: [wsebezo@plett.gov.za](mailto:wsebezo@plett.gov.za)

CUSTOMER CARE

044 5013174/5

CustomerCare@plett.gov.za

TOLL FREE 0800212797

ELECTRONIC WASTE COLLECTION DAY

WHAT  
Bring anything that is powered by electricity or batteries. Examples are old cell phones, fridges, tumble dryers, TV's, computers, laptops, kettles, toasters, hairdryers, tools, leads, batteries etc.

WHEN  
SATURDAY, 16 NOVEMBER  
09:00—12:00

WHERE  
PIESANG VALLEY HALL,  
PLETTENBERG BAY

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CASH DONATIONS FOR KEEP PLETT CLEAN!

do not Litter

SPAR

Initiative is proudly sponsored by

Garden Route DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING

DATE  
7 November, 2024

TIME  
9:00 to 12:00 PM

PLACE  
Bitou Municipality  
Piesang Valley Community Hall, 7 Green Point Avenue, Plettenberg Bay

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
Call: 060 453 1644 / 081 016 8464  
If you would prefer to attend virtually, please contact Jodi at [jodi.howard@rayten.co.za](mailto:jodi.howard@rayten.co.za) for the meeting link