



# BITOU BULLETIN

Volume 16: November 2024



Statement and Communications by the Executive Mayor  
Councillor Jessica Kamkam at the  
Ordinary Council Meeting



31 October 2024

Speaker, Deputy Mayor, MAYCO members, Councilors, Municipal Manager, Directors, and our community members joining us online today.

Allow me to begin by celebrating a significant achievement for Bitou. I am thrilled to announce that we have once again retained the prestigious Blue Flag status for six of our beaches. This recognition speaks volumes about our commitment to environmental excellence and reflects our shared vision of offering clean, safe, and beautiful spaces to both our residents and visitors.

This accomplishment wouldn't be possible without the hard work of our dedicated municipal staff, local partners, and the residents of our beautiful town. Thank you all for your commitment and efforts in making this achievement a reality.

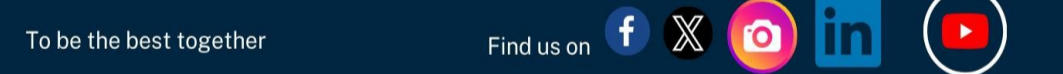
The Importance of Political and Administrative Stability Speaker, I would now like to address a matter close to my heart—the essential role of political and administrative stability in effective governance.

Stability is at the core of good governance. It allows us to use our municipal resources effectively, equitably, and responsibly to serve our community's needs. But beyond managing resources, good governance is also about rebuilding and maintaining our community's confidence in the leadership of this town—a leadership that must strive to be consistent, reliable, and unified.

For us to achieve this goal, we must cultivate a culture grounded in accountability and collaboration. Political and administrative leaders need to work hand in hand, fostering an environment where openness and responsibility are prioritized. It is through such collaboration that we build public trust and demonstrate our commitment to making decisions in the best interests of Bitou.

As we continue on this path, let us stay united in our efforts to create a stable, thriving, and inclusive Bitou for all our residents. Together for a Stable and Secure Future Together, let us continue working towards a stable and secure future for Bitou, demonstrating the political maturity that our residents expect and deserve.

Let us, as a Council, commit ourselves wholeheartedly to the shared goal of stability within Bitou Municipality. By doing so, we not only lay the foundation for effective governance but also create an environment that empowers our residents and uplifts the quality of life for all in Bitou.  
Thank you.



**The 16 Days of Activism for No Violence against Women and Children Campaign (16 Days Campaign) is a United Nations campaign which takes place annually from 25 November (International Day of No Violence against Women) to 10 December (International Human Rights Day). This year's 16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children Campaign will take place under the theme: "30 Years of Advancing Collective Action to End Violence Against Women and Children". The campaign, this year, emphasizes addressing the root causes of GBVF, promoting positive masculinity, promoting gender equity, and creating economic opportunities for women and children.**

**Bitou Municipality will be hosting various activities in the different Wards and we call upon all stakeholders to support this important initiative. Please follow our Website and Social Media for more information regarding the campaign.**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### THANK YOU MESSAGE FOR ALL CONTRIBUTORS TOWARDS THE EFFORTS WITH THE PLETT SHARK ACTION GROUP

**07 NOVEMBER, PLETTENBERG BAY, Plett Shark Action Group (PSAG) – PSAG and its team of dedicated stakeholders have been actively looking after the safety of beach-goers in Plettenberg Bay which is a notable achievement. We wish to acknowledge the contributions made by the dedicated members of PSAG and the hard working, professional staff of the Bitou Municipality Beach Control, Plett NSRI, Bitou Lifeguards, Plett Shark Spotters and other key stakeholders. We would also like to thank the many business leaders who have dedicated their time and expertise to the programme. The dedication to see this initiative succeed is immeasurable.**

**Additionally, Finally, we would like to thank the private contributors and the community, for your committed interest. Plettenberg Bay Gears Up for a Safe and Secure Summer Beach Season With summer just around the corner, Plett is excited to welcome residents and visitors to its world class beaches and waterways for a season of sun, surf, and safety. As one of the Garden Route's beach destinations, the Bitou Municipality and PSAG have implemented safety and security measures to ensure a fun and worry-free experience for all.**

**This summer, stakeholders and community organisations are committed to bolster public safety efforts, ensuring that the town's beaches, boardwalks, and public spaces remain safe and welcoming throughout the season. Enhanced Plett Ocean Smart Activities**

**National Sea Rescue Institute Plettenberg Bay (NSRI): NSRI Plett has raised funds for new equipment to assist PSAG and key stakeholders with public warning of possible large shark activity. A dedicated camera that is permanently positioned on top of the Beacon Isle Resort is linked to the new Shark Alarm System, secured to the roof of the NSRI station at Central Beach. When the presence of a dangerous shark species has been detected, beach-goers on Central and Hobie beaches will be made aware of this with an alarm. Plans at the time of writing, also include the same Shark Alarm System for Robberg 5 and the Wreck beaches, and a beach safety camera system for Nature's Valley.**

**\*Please reference the official NSRI Shark Alarm Poster for further instruction.**

**Bitou Beach Control Lifeguard Services: Trained and certified lifeguards will be stationed at designated beach areas, equipped with the latest safety gear and communications technology. Lifeguards will monitor for water-related emergencies, from rescues to first-aid situations, as well as provide helpful beach safety tips to visitors of all ages.**

**Lifeguards are on duty from 01 November, 2024 to 30 April, 2025 as follows:**

- Central Beach (07h00 - 19h00)**
- Robberg 1 Beach (07h00 - 19h00)**
- Robberg 5 Beach (07h00 - 18h00)**
- Lookout Beach (07h00 - 19h00)**

**Lifeguards are on duty 01 December, 2024 to 31 January, 2025 as follows:**

- Dunes Beach Keurbooms (07h00 - 19h00)**
- Natures Valley Beach (07h00 - 19h00)**
- The Waves Beach Keurbooms(07h00 - 18h00)**
- Kettle Beach Keurbooms (07h00 - 19h00)**
- Lifeguards are on duty 12 December, 2024 to 14 January, 2025 as follows:**
- Wedge Beach (07h00 - 19h00)**
- Robberg 2 Beach (10h00 - 19h00)**
- Robberg Beach End (The Wreck) (10h00 - 18h00)**
- Solar Beach (Sanctuary Beach) (07h00 - 19h00)**

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**Plett Shark Spotters:** Trained shark spotters are strategically positioned at designated beach areas along the coastline from high vantage points using advanced viewing equipment and communication systems. Their role is to monitor marine life activity and to raise the alarm when dangerous shark species has been detected to Municipal beach control in real-time, ensuring the safety of beachgoers.

The Plett Shark Spotters are on duty from 01 November, 2024 to 30th April, 2025 as follows:

- Central Beach (07h00 - 19h00)
- Robberg 1 Beach (07h00 - 19h00)
- The Wreck Beach (10h00 - 18h00)
- Lookout Beach (07h00 - 19h00)
- The Wedge Beach (07h00 - 19h00)

**\*\*Please note spotters may be on stand-by during periods of bad weather or poor visibility**

**Plett Stranding Network:** Due to the recent outbreak of rabies amongst seals along the Western Cape shoreline, the public are requested to report any seal activity and/or stranded seals using the official hotline: +27 (0)72 317 2280.

**\*\*\*All dogs are requested to be on a leash on all Bitou beaches until further notice.**

**Plett Tourism Message**

“We are committed to making this summer safe, secure, and enjoyable for everyone in Plettenberg Bay,” says Patty Butterworth, CEO Plett Tourism. “Our town is proud to be a destination for people seeking relaxation and fun, and our dedicated teams are working around the clock to ensure a worry-free experience for all our visitors.”

Plettenberg Bay and the Bitou region invite everyone to enjoy a memorable summer while following safety guidelines to ensure a fun and enjoyable experience for all. Anyone wishing to donate to Plett Ocean Smart initiatives to make our beaches and waters safer can do so by mailing their contact information and correspondence to PSAG on email address [plettoceansmart@gmail.com](mailto:plettoceansmart@gmail.com).

\*Conservation and preservation of our greatest assets; the ocean, waterways, forests, landmarks and wildlife in Plettenberg Bay, makes an ecologically and economically significant contribution to the town. Sharks, whales, dolphin and other marine life visit throughout the year - more often during the winter months between May and October. We encourage our residents and visitors to be aware of ocean safety at all times and be respectful of our safety tools and respective to the wildlife that also visit our shores.

**\*\*\*ENDS\*\*\***

EMAIL: [plettoceansmart@gmail.com](mailto:plettoceansmart@gmail.com)

PHONE: +27 (0)82 498 9018

For more information on Plettenberg Bay’s beach rules, safety tips, and emergency procedures, please visit [www.plettoceansmart.co.za](http://www.plettoceansmart.co.za) or contact the Public Relations Office



# JOBS SCAM!



UMasipala waseBitou ulumkisa abahlali malunga nobuqhetseba obujikelezayo ekuhlaleni.

Umnumzana Ntshangase, (079 714 8267), ebeqhagamshelana nabahlali efuna efuna intlawulo yemali engange-R500 ukuze afumane imisebenzi.

**QAPHELA**

Izithuba zemisebenzi ezisemthethweni zibhengezwa ngamajelo asemthethweni.

Abahlali bayabongozwa ukuba banganikezeli nangaluphi na ulwazi lomntu okanye bahlawule nayiphi na imali kubantu abathi banikezela ngengqesho ngokutshintshiselana ngentlawulo.

Ukuba ufumene umntu okunika amathuba anje, khawuleza wazise uMasipala waseBitou okanye amapolisa (SAPS).

**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.



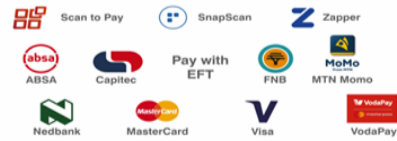
Use your Pay@ No. starting with 11338 to make payment.

Pay your municipal account at these retailers:



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

**Mobile & Digital Platforms**



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

**CUSTOMER CARE**

- 044 5013174/5
- CustomerCare@plett.gov.za
- TOLL FREE 0800212797

