

# **Residents are sick and tired of waiting**



**MEC for Public works and Road Mmule Maluleke said she will send a team from her office to Uitkyk and Koffiekraal.**

*Photo by Rapula Mancai*

# **LONG YEARS OF EMPTY PROMISES**

**By ZANELE SITHOLE**

**IT'S been more than 22 years and Uitkyk and Koffiekraal, outside Zeerust, are still without proper roads.**

This is one thing Kgosi Harry Mogagabe of Bakwena Bamare A Phogole is fighting for.

The roads between Koffiekraal and Uitkyk have many potholes and are impassable during the rainy season.

Speaking at a council meeting attended by North West MEC for Public Works and Roads Mmule Maluleke and Moses Kotane Local Municipality, Mayor Ralesole Diale said the roads have left many of his people unemployed and children unable to go to school.

"When you talk about the road in Koffiekraal you touch my heart. We've been asking for help for a very long time, but to no avail. Two weeks ago, it rained and buses couldn't enter or leave Koffiekraal because of the mud," said Kgosi Mogagabe.

The council said the department should ensure relevant specialists

are contracted to address the problem.

They asked the MEC whether the road from Koffiekraal to Uitkyk has been included in the 2018 budget.

According to the council, 16 houses near the road have allegedly been damaged by a project undertaken in Koffiekraal.

MEC Maluleke acknowledged that the department has not served the local communities right.

On the question of budget allocation, Maluleke said the department currently has no money.

The roads can only be maintained by gravel or levelling as the only options.

"I'll go back and check if the roads in the area are in this year's budget. I'll then send officials back with answers.

"We agree that we have failed many poor communities when it comes to the roads," said Maluleke.

She encouraged the people of Koffiekraal and Uitkyk to report matters related to road contractors to the department.