

We demand a decent road!

By ZIYANDA ZWENI

ANGRY residents and taxi drivers blocked the R61 between Port St Johns and Libode yesterday.

They were demanding a tarred road through their villages. More than 100 men and women gathered on the busy road from 7am and prevented cars from travelling on it.

They directed motorists towards a gravel road more than 70km long and scarred with potholes.

They said this was the road they were forced to use every day.

Community leader Luzuko Teno said they raised the matter with the Port St Johns Municipality, but they were told the road was the responsibility of the provincial government, which merely lev-

Villagers blocked the busy road between Port St Johns and Libode yesterday. *Photo by Ziyanda Zweni*



elled it with graders.

“This weekend three cars overturned on the road.

“It gets so bad whenever it rains, that we cannot even drive our cars. We want a better road,” he said.

A resident said that on top of the tax they paid, they were also fined for driving unroadworthy vehicles after their cars had been damaged by potholes.

Port St Johns mayor Nomvuzo

Mlombile-Cingo came to speak to the protesters.

“I cannot lie and say when the road will be fixed, but I can tell you that a contractor has been appointed,” she said.

Provincial public works spokesman Mphumzi Zuzile said: “A contractor that does routine maintenance in Port St Johns has been appointed.

“It will also look into that road.”