

Renovation of Court gets underway

The Department of Public Works, with prodding from its proactive minister, Patricia de Lille, started renovations on the Magistrate's Court last week.

An email letter to me from the media liaison for the minister stated that the department "is commencing on a range of work at the court, including steam cleaning the roof and painting outside the court. Various works will be done inside the court building as well. It is expected that the court will be painted by the end of this month. There is therefore no need for the community to raise funds for the court building's maintenance as this will be taken care of by the department."

That is indeed the good news! The letter went on to say, "The community should use the funds raised for another worthy cause for the community's benefit."

This raises the question to all those who have donated money toward the project to paint the magistrate's court. With cash in the bank and pledges, a total of R36 966.64 has been raised. Would you like your money back or may we donate it to a still-to-be decided community entity, like the Cliff Path Management Group? Suggestions will be welcomed and can be emailed to avism@hermanus.co.za.

Apart from the enthusiastic coverage given to this initiative by The Village NEWS, many people, other than donors, need to be thanked for their support of the project that has motivated the Department of Public Works to act at last.

Firstly, Ian Hendricks from Plascon took it upon himself to inspect the court building, draw up a specification to guide contractors and help where he could with the supply of paint. The successful contractor, Anton Hartman from Walker Bay Painters was prepared to work weekends and after hours to accommodate ongoing court proceedings. The manager of BUCO, Neil Mulder, offered to donate paint, products and equipment towards the project.

Thanks to Trevor Edwards for his staunch support and his ability to round up several donors who came forward with generous pledges, and also to Frieda Lloyd from Whale Coast Tourism and her Hermanus Tourism colleagues who arranged the use of their official bank account for the incoming funds.

The goal has been achieved, albeit from an unexpected quarter, so well done to everyone!

Avis MacIntyre