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She says the following infrastructure was damaged:

- The guardhouse at the Snoekies entrance;
- the harbour master's building;
- the DEFF compliance office (modular structure);
- boom gates;
- the boundary wall (concrete panels); and
- The upgraded ablution opposite Snoekies.

"The most recent infrastructure that was vandalised is in the process of being repaired will cost just over R1 million to repair and will be for the cost of the contractor and the DPWI," says Nicholson.

Jacobs, however, is not convinced that these upgrades are in fact being made for "security reasons".

He explains: "I still maintain that building high walls when working with poor and working-class communities is counter-revolutionary and doesn't aid the struggle for the realisation of economic freedom in our lifetime."

Community involvement

As to community consultation, Nicholson says the department has had several stakeholder sessions commencing with the drafting of the Spatial and Economic Development Frameworks (SEDFs).

She says the latest engagement was in December last

year when DPWI and DEFF held a Special Harbour User Committee meeting for Hout Bay.

"The current community liaison officers (CLOs), community leaders, harbour tenants and harbour users were invited to the meeting.

During the meeting it was affirmed that there will always be free access to any individual walking into the harbour, irrespective of whether it is a local or not," Nicholson says.

Jacobs says the reality is that the community is in the dark as to those who claim to be leaders representing the community who attend meetings such as the one held in December.

"Including CLOs don't represent nor do they report back to the community. This is why the community is angered and frustrated," he says.

According to Jacobs, the DPWI and DEFF must ensure that those claiming to represent the community have a mandate from a community public meeting and submit minutes of a public meeting in which they have reported back to the community.

He says this will ensure the community is up to date and can engage through the representatives who claim to speak on their behalf.

"As for the benefits, I call on the minister of public works and minister of fisheries to come and show us the benefits and who benefited from this project," says Jacobs.