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GAMTOOS MOUTH HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

NPC



At Nature-lovers Paradise

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30 March 2020

Dear GAMHOA members and Gamtoos residents

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) MEASURES – follow-up 1

We hope you are all staying safe.

We have now experienced the first short period of lockdown and most people in South Africa appear to be adapting and complying pretty well. We hope it is a similar situation for you.

Thanks to all members and residents who made comments and suggestions about the situation and the measures implemented at Gamtoos. It is never possible for everyone to think the same but constructive input is always appreciated and considered.

As residents living together as a community during this time, there will be various decisions that need to be made. These will include changing existing measures and introducing new measures as and when required and resolving issues for residents as they happen. These decisions will best be made by the resident directors and Exco members at Gamtoos - working together with Hannes and Armand. This team is all working hard together and we have every confidence they will make the right and appropriate decisions as required. We thank them all for their contributions.

We also have every confidence that all residents will approach this time in the right spirit and will assist neighbours and residents who need assistance. This is really a time for being extra considerate of others and helping others who need help. We thank all residents and members for the part they are playing.

That does not mean that mistakes will not be made or that there won't be differences of opinion. For example, there was general confusion in the country about the walking of dogs in private estates including at Gamtoos. This was mainly caused by the Minister of Police advising during a TV interview that the walking of dogs in private estates was allowed and this was then picked up by different media sources like news24. This was in fact incorrect of the minister as the regulations do not allow the walking of dogs and this has subsequently been clarified.

However some members (for example Allan & Tracy Eccles) walked their dogs after correctly relying on the advice from the minister but were then reported to the police and openly criticised for walking their dogs. The police and everyone correctly informed accepted their justifiable and correct explanation as they had done nothing wrong in the circumstances. However, it also needs to be noted that the people reporting them to the police also thought they were doing the right thing based on their understanding of no dog walking allowed (as they had not seen the minister's TV interview). We are mentioning this just to illustrate that there can be some uncertainty and different interpretations at times and to emphasise that even when that happens, there is no need or justification for things to get nasty or personal.

It is not Gamhoa's role or place to police the lockdown and stay at home rules implemented by government. Like all communities, Gamtoos will need to police itself as a community and we can only kindly ask all residents to familiarise themselves with the applicable rules and follow them strictly. We each have other peoples' lives in our hands.

Reg No. 1999/001483/06

Directors: GF Rushmere, C Egberink, LJ Garner, AJ Gouws, T Wooldridge

However, in an effort to further assist, we have considered suggestions and interpretations received from members, we have looked at the measures and interpretations at other similar estates (and we thank them for some of the wording used below which we found very clear), we have consulted with SAPS, Kouga and various people and members, we have looked again at the regulations, and based on all of the aforesaid, we amend and add to the previous notice and measures as follows:

1. It was correctly pointed out to us by a member that the rubbish collection procedures we implemented were not in accordance with the lockdown regulations. Accordingly, this is changed to the following rubbish collection procedures commencing next week, 6 April (and the trailer will not be in front of the shop on Thursday, 2 April):
 - a. We will collect rubbish from residents houses as per normal, save that during the lockdown collection for Grunters will be on Mondays and collection for Kabeljous will be on Tuesdays.
 - b. It is anticipated that Armand will be driving and only one staff member (Jan) will be loading. Your patience is appreciated.
 - c. Please keep your rubbish to a minimum and no garden refuse will be collected. Garden refuse should be retained on your property until after the lockdown.
 - d. The safety of staff is very important and we please request that everyone exercises good social distancing at all times. Please do not hand anything to staff members.
2. Contrary to our previous advise, the garden refuse tip will not be open at any time during the lockdown period and garden refuse should be retained on residents' properties
3. Gamhoa acknowledges the published lockdown principals and regulations and supports the national efforts to contain the Coronavirus. These efforts and regulations require that people stay at home, restricts the movement of people outside their homes, and encourages social distancing and various hygiene measures.
4. The regulations published in the Government Gazette require that people (including all children) remain in their place of residence and not leave it unless to do one of the allowable activities - being to go to work for essential services; to go to a doctor or medical facility (including veterinary clinics for sick animals); to go to appropriate shops to buy food; to go to the pharmacy to buy medicine; or to collect government grants.
5. Members and residents are therefore not permitted to walk, with or without dogs, jog, run, ride bicycles, swim, go boating, fishing, visit other residences, etc. outside the boundaries of their houses. The previous confusion about walking dogs in private estates has now been clarified and it is not allowed.
6. As per the regulations, for the duration of the lockdown period only residents and other persons qualifying under the regulations as essential services shall be allowed to enter Gamtoos – for example, police, security, medical, water, electricity and sewerage maintenance personnel, refuse removal, etc. No visitors, contractors, gardeners, domestic workers, or delivery vehicles will be allowed into Gamtoos.
7. We urge members to exercise utmost consideration and discipline to ensure we keep each other safe and healthy.

We will keep you further advised of further develops. The following website is the official coronavirus website of the Department of Health: www.sacoronavirus.co.za.

We again wish you all the very best and good health at this time. Enjoy your time with family, support each other and look after yourselves - we will get through this.

Kind regards

Chairman, directors, management and staff.