



COMMUNITY MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the Community Meeting of the Richmond Hill Special Rates Area held on Thursday 17 September 2026 at 18:00 at The Anchor of Hope Church, corner Edward and Campbell Streets

1 Welcome

The Chairman, Scott Rollo, welcomed all present.

2 Present

Badenhorst B	Bradfield M	Bryce J	Bryce L
Eddy M	Eddy T	Garner J	Gout L
Gowar M	Hart C	Jordaan L	Lange L
Mc Clure M	Mounter A	Nicholson Y	O'Neill R
Parkin C	Pietersen D	Pietersen L	Pretorius M
Pretorius S,	Richardson E	Richardson F	Rollo S
Terblanche M	Vena S	Wild T	

Swartz C (Swatex Security)
 Stander T (Ward Councillor)
 Cita N (Colonel, Humewood SAPS)
 Warner W (Colonel Metro Police)
 Edwards L (Superintendent Traffic Department)

3 Apologies

Bastos M	Bastos T	de Vrye L	Cull L
Friedmann S	Hugo S	Konstant E	Mercer J
Norton R	Norton J	Snyman A	Ganta P
van Blerk J	Wegner T	Warneke A	Warneke C

4 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 June 2026 were accepted as a true record of proceedings. This was proposed by Ed Richardson, seconded by Rory Norton and unanimously accepted by the meeting.

5 Matters arising from previous minutes

Nil.

6 Reports

6.1 SAPS – Sergeant Njokweni

Sgt Njokweni advised that detailed SAPS statistics are confidential and cannot be shared. He presented a brief analysis of crime trends Monday to Sunday, noting that crime increases from Wednesday (15%) through to Friday (19%) - with a peak on Friday - and drops significantly on Sunday.

Hotspot Areas – Theft out of motor vehicle: Govan Mbeki Avenue (Albany Road to Terminus Taxi Rank) and Westbourne, Mackay, Evatt, Moffat and Stanley Streets. Robberies - Govan Mbeki Avenue, Westbourne, Mackay, Bain and St Phillips Streets.

Richmond Hill (month to date): 1x theft of motor vehicle, 2x theft out of motor vehicle, 1x housebreaking residential, 1x housebreaking business, 4x common robbery. No carjackings or business robberies.

Questions Raised: How many Patrol Vehicles:

Sgt Njokweni clarified that there are 2 Crime Prevention vehicles that respond to Alpha complaints (crime in progress) and 2 Sector vehicles attend to complaints after an incident.

Question raised: Kumbulani School – Drugs & Loiterings. Raised concern about youths using drugs around the school, Tulla and St Patrick's Street.

Sgt Njokweni advised that Social Crime Prevention (CPO Sgt Ramaroe) has done awareness at the school. SAPS conducts patrols and searches learners outside school premises, but cannot search inside without SGB permission. Learners not in school is not a criminal matter but a parental/school management issue. SAPS can advise learners to return to school but cannot arrest for truancy.

6.2 Swatex Security – Clinton Swartz

LATEST STATS AND/OR ACTIVITIES – AUGUST 2026

- BIG INCREASE in homeless or displaced people. We remove and/or move about 24-28 homeless or displaced people per day/night. Problem however is that they have nowhere to go and literally just move on to next suburb

- STOP AND SEARCH – We conduct an average of 30-40 stop and searches each month.
- CLIENT/RESIDENT ASSISTS – Average response to client requests of more 160 responses per month
- DRUG RELATED ISSUES – We respond to an average of 15 per month.
- ARRESTS – Numerous arrests made monthly. Some stolen property returned and no case opened
- With Magnum Alarms, we respond to suspicious behaviour of people each night.

This is very successful as people realise that they are being watched. We have numerous alerts each night, some weekends report over 100 alerts.

- Assisted to extinguish fires monthly
- Report numerous of water leaks weekly
- Confiscate trolleys regularly.
- ON-GOING PROBLEM – Visible property left inside vehicles parked on street continues to be a problem. We also often find vehicle windows left open etc.

We also have people leaving vehicle windows open and sometimes, vehicles are even left unlocked

Numerous calls to try and assist with loud noise from properties

Once again, we also kindly ask residents to not feed the homeless or displaced people, as this remains a huge

issue. There are feeding schemes that they can refer them too.

We ask resident to call us if they notice ANY suspicious behaviour. Let us rather respond and address situation

accordingly.

We have some property issues that has been reported to the SRA and SAPS as well.

Reminder for residents to call if you have an emergency for immediate response. We try to respond to whatsapps asap, but if we are patrolling, it might take a little longer to get response.

6.3 Traffic department

Superintendent Lyndon Edwards. Gave a brief breakdown of the stats for the month of August.

Mentioned that there is no still no functional “pound” where vehicles can be taken to.

End of October, more officials will be employed. Friday nights stop and searches are done, guided by SAPS.

Control Rooms:	041 402 1196/7/1	067 792 5635.
Metro SAPS WhatsApp line:	079 490 0480.	
Control Room Operating Hours:	Monday to Thursday	06:00 to 23:00
	Friday	06:00 to 24:00
	Saturday	07:00 to 24:00As M
	Sunday	07:00 to 22:00

6.4 Metro Police – Colonel Warner

Mentioned they have 3 weekly operations. Friday nights, stop and search, guided by SAPS. On Saturdays, drunk and driving operations. Every Sunday have liquor compliance where liquor establishments are visited, also guided in some areas by SAPS.

Vagrants are a problem and people are still feeding them. Numerous arrests are being made in Parliament Street and Russell Road.

All problems and issues must be communicated with Metro Police. (Report all matters to Richmond Hill SRA to communicate to Metro Police).

Criminal elements are hiding behind the faces of the vagrants.

6.7 Waste Department

Apologies

6.8 Noise Pollution

No apologies

6.9 Ward Councillor – Terri Stander

a) Feeding of Vagrants: Councillor advised that any person/organisation feeding people must have a Certificate of Acceptability, as required for restaurants. Premises and food must be inspected. This by-law requirement is being used to regulate uncontrolled feeding which attracts vagrants. In Central, churches have coordinated and stopped ad-hoc feeding; concern remains about new churches doing their own thing in Richmond Hill/Central area. Councillor is engaging them.

b) Camera Footage & Arrests: Matter raised with new MBDA CEO, Dr Pierre Voges. There is extensive footage of crime, including obvious drug dealing, on MBDA cameras in Stanley Street. Councillor proposed an MOU between MBDA, SAPS, NMBM Safety & Security (including Fire & Disaster and Metro Police), and private security to enable SAPS to act and make arrests using camera evidence. Draft MOU is currently with Legal Services for vetting before signing.

7 RHSRA Matters

7.1 Protecting the character of Richmond Hill

The Chairperson has put out a request for new Directors. Rochelle Jordaan has stepped down. If you feel you can be part of this, please communicate with the SRA Office. [All Information and tools can be found on the website](#)

7.2 Special events – Michael Eddy

Mike mentioned that a meeting was held with Roland from SKA Agency and Nicole from MBDA. Roland is in the process of setting up a Music Festival in November/December 2026. Progress in this regard has not been received.

7.3 Problem Buildings – Ed Richardson

- a. Student Accommodation
- b. Restaurants
- c. Illegal Construction
- d. Noise Complaints

With regard to items a) Student Accommodation and c) Illegal Construction, the required complaint forms are available on the NMBM website and at the SRA Office. Residents are requested to please complete the relevant form and forward it to Sharon for escalation to the appropriate municipal departments. Regarding d) Noise Complaints, both Noise Pollution and Metro Police have requested that each complainant must report the noise disturbance while it is occurring. The reference number and relevant details should then be forwarded to the SRA Office so that follow-up action can be taken, any matters which arise from the b) Restaurants, to also be escalated to Metro Police etc.

The Ward Councillor mentioned that she had a meeting with Noise Pollution and discussed the issues of student accommodation in the area. They mentioned that they will be working with an official from Land Use Inspector with regards to the zonings etc.

7.4 Progress with Lawyer – Claerwen Hart

We have been instructed by the property owner to take the necessary steps to terminate the tenancy and, if necessary, institute eviction proceedings. The first step will be to place the tenant formally on terms in respect of the present breaches of the lease and afford him the required period within which to remedy those breaches. If the breaches are not remedied, the lease will be cancelled and we will proceed with an application for eviction. Once proceedings are instituted, the tenant will have the usual opportunity to oppose the application and deliver an answering affidavit, after which we will reply and proceed to have the matter enrolled for hearing.

Unfortunately, it is impossible to guarantee how long litigation will take, particularly if the application is opposed. However, based on the ordinary procedural time periods and our experience of the Court, we would presently estimate approximately six months from institution of the eviction application to an opposed hearing, assuming there are no unusual delays or interlocutory proceedings. It could be shorter or longer depending on how the matter develops and the Court's availability.

7.5 Cameras - Progress

Richmond Hill has 82 cameras spread throughout the area. These cameras are monitored from 22:00 to 06:00 by Magnum control room and any suspicious footage is relayed directly to the tablet of the patrol passenger in the Swatex patrol vehicle. He directs the driver with updates from the control room and they intervene. From 06:00 to 22:00 the cameras record footage and this can assist in investigations through playback.

The SRA carry the cost of installing and monitoring cameras and are currently adding two extra cameras a month. Even though the cameras cover a significant amount of the Richmond Hill area there are still blind spots. Entrance and exit routes are a priority as well as known hotspot areas. The deciding factors for placement are: owner involvement with access to fibre, suitable fixture for mounting camera, no trees blocking view, and the budget split for installation versus monthly monitoring costs as part of total budget. If you have uncapped fibre and would be willing to participate, please contact Sharon.

The owner also benefits knowing their street is monitored and has 24-hour access to the footage of that specific camera with up to seven days playback. Without the involvement of the community this all would not be possible. A big thank you to the community. We believe it is making our area a safer place to live in.

8 Matters Arising

Nil.

9 Next meeting

The AGM will be held on 3 December 2026 at 18:00 at the Anchor of Hope Church.

10 Close

The Chairman thanked all present for attending. The meeting adjourned at 19:00

Approval of Minutes

Chairman

Secretary

Date