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JONGENSFONTEIN RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION – JRA
CHAIRMAN’S NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2024.

Warm greetings to all JRA members.

Christmas and New Year have come and gone and soon Easter will be upon us.

Before looking ahead I wish to convey the JRA’s sincerest thanks to all those wonderful people who contributed so generously to the flood relief fund at the end of last year. We collected a total of R72 000 which covered replacing the two Lapas and repairing the braais at the Swemgat.

The annual Paasmark is scheduled for the 30th March which is just around the corner. Sadly, this is the last time the stall layout will be planned by Karlin Arlow who has done a magnificent job over the past year. Thank you very much Karlin. Needless to say, the JIV is now urgently looking for someone to replace Karlin and we kindly request a volunteer to step forward and fill this important position. You will be provided with an excellent planning system and all the assistance you need.

I now turn to a JRA decision which will probably elicit a certain amount of controversy and refer to the practice of placing “in memorium” benches and plaques at various places in Jongensfontein. Firstly I have a few comments:

- The placement of these items requires adherence to municipal by-laws and written permission from the JRA;
- This process, particularly with plaques and at least one wooden bench, has simply been ignored and if left unchecked will create a chaotic situation;
- In one instance, a family no longer resident in Jongensfontein but wishing to erect a bench expected the JRA Chairman to arrange and oversee the entire process.

Based on the above the JRA passed a unanimous resolution on the 29 January 2024 to discontinue the placement of “in memorium” benches and plaques in Jongensfontein. Two applications made prior to this date have been allowed. One of these is the replacement of an old bench destroyed by the flood.

The JRA Committee wishes to suggest that we build a Wall of Remembrance in Jongensfontein where one can affix plaques in memory of our loved ones? We are not referring to the internment of ashes but simply a wall in an appropriate place.

Your thoughts and comments would be most appreciated.

Sincere regards,
John Wills.

Chairman JRA.