

19 January 2016.

Dear Ubumelwane,

Further to the Masiphumele Development Community Forum call for financial support (my letter of 16 January 2016) a wonderful number of you has responded positively. The target is still a long distance off, but we may get there. Some of you have forwarded my letter to friends who currently live abroad. They have asked for information required by banks in order to make an international transfer. Herewith the details required:

Iban code/swift: FIRNZAJJ

The First National Bank address is: Shop G73 Longbeach Mall,  
Noordhoek, 7975, South Africa.

The Universal number: 250655

I hope this is all you require.

Many thanks for all the words of encouragement and support.

It now seems imminent that the enforcement unit will be sent into Masi for a third time since the fire. This time it is to reduce the size of the shacks that 'are too big' so that those who temporarily live in the community hall (260 of them) and those who sleep rough because their shacks were torn down in the previous two raids (300+), can be squeezed in to erect their shacks.

The 'relief' we understand has cost the City R29.5m already and no solutions are on the table.

Some of us met with the Table Mountain National Park to better understand who owns what land in the Masi surrounds. This revealed two important pieces of information. TMNP sold the City land known as Erf 5131 in 2006. The City is now developing one third of it but has left a further 5 hectares to get overgrown with foreign invasive trees (Port Jackson's), without access to the terribly over-crowded Masi. Instead the growth on these 5 hectares is threatening the TMNP wetland adjacent to it. Secondly, the land that people have erected shacks on, also referred to as a wetland is not considered by TMNP to be a wetland at all and thus has no conservation status. We hope with these revelations to negotiate with the City to make some rational amendments to the current stranglehold that is choking Masi.

You will not be surprised that the situation is highly volatile.

Yours sincerely,

Horst Kleinschmidt