

Constitution of Murdock Valley North Neighbourhood Watch

1. The name of the structure is Murdock Valley North Neighbourhood Watch. (MVNNW)
2. The **Aims** and **Objects** of the MVNNW are:
 - To nurture a sense of unity, dedication and good neighbourly relations among the residents of the area.
 - To serve as a watchdog for its community and the local police services, thereby assisting the local police services to safeguard its community against criminal activities and strive for a safe and secure environment.
 - To provide a channel through which local communities can play a meaningful role in crime prevention.
 - To create public awareness with regard to safety, crime prevention and protection of families and their property.
 - To encourage the community to work in close co-operation with the South African Police Service and other structures such as local authorities who are involved in law enforcement.
 - To ensure that the neighbourhood watch acts within the framework of the law.
 - To unite a diverse resident base in creating a stable and crime free environment.
3. **Membership**
 - Membership shall be open to all who reside in Murdock Valley North or have a direct interest in the area. This area consists of the main road between the two green belts and all streets that have direct access from Valley road.
 - MVNNW may determine its own membership fee if required. In the event where such a fee is applicable, the payment thereof shall not be enforced in any way, neither shall the neighbourhood structure depend on such a fee payable.
 - A membership register will be kept by the MVNNW structure and updated annually. The register must contain the name, address, telephone numbers and email addresses of the members. The committee shall have access to this register for the sole purpose of communicating with its members.
4. **Liability**
 - The MVNNW is not a legal person and as such does not have powers of whatsoever the nature might be in law or to be acted upon.
 - All individual members and anyone affiliated to MVNNHW act in their own capacity, as individuals and liability shall be in that capacity.
 - All and any criminal and civil actions that are instituted against a member of MVNNW shall be against the member concerned and not the neighbourhood watch.

- The MVNNW shall not be responsible for civil and or criminal actions or omissions that are perpetrated by a member of the neighbourhood watch, nor responsible for civil and or criminal action or omissions against its members.

5. Accountability

- The MVNNW must be affiliated to the local Community Police Forum (CPF) in order to be recognised by the local South African Police Services (SAPS) in Simon's Town. Once registered with the CPF the neighbourhood watch becomes accountable to SAPS.

6. Functions

The MVNNW shall:

- assist SAPS in so far as crime prevention in the Murdoch Valley North area is concerned.
- adopt and support the social crime prevention strategy of the police.
- operate within the framework of the law.
- at all times strive to work in partnership with the CPF.
- be responsible for initiating and implementing crime prevention projects in consultation with the CPF.

Members of the MVNNW shall have powers, similar to that of any other citizen, to perform a citizen's arrest.

7. Logos and Letterheads

- The MVNNW may design and use its own logo and letterhead.

8. Use and control of funds and Assets

The MVNNW shall:

- remain a non-profit-making organisation.
- keep proper accounting records that reflects all its income and expenditure, assets and liabilities.
- have its financial accounts reviewed annually and where possible have such audited.
- be permitted to hold fund-raising campaigns for the purpose of furthering its stated aims and objectives. A decision to embark on such campaigns must be reached in consultation with the CPF.

Funds acquired from other sources shall be controlled and administered by MVNNW. If the annual income exceeds R500, the funds shall be deposited in a registered bank account in the name of MVNNW, with a banking institution registered and recognised by the South African Merchant Bank Act No 90 of 1994.

9. The Committee

- Residents of Murdock Valley North will be eligible to serve on the committee.
- The committee members shall comprise Street co-ordinators, Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Administrator and such other appropriate designations as required.
- The committee shall have such powers as may be necessary, incidental or conducive to the carrying out of the aims and objectives of the neighbourhood watch.
- The management and control of the property, assets and affairs of MVNNW will be vested in the committee, who will exercise all the rights and powers of the neighbourhood watch.
- The committee shall open and operate a banking account in the name of "Murdock Valley North Neighbourhood Watch" into which all money received will be regularly placed and will decide on the appointment of three (3) signatories, of which any two will be authorised to sign and transact on behalf of MVNNW.
- The committee will be elected by the members at an Annual General meeting by the majority of those present and eligible to vote.

10. Meetings

- The quorum at Meetings will be those members personally present.
- All matters of procedure will be decided by the Chairman of the meeting.
- There must be at least 14 calendar day's notice to members of the place, time and date of any meeting.
- Each member will have one vote.

Signed at _____ on _____

Chairman _____ Secretary _____

Identity Number _____

Treasurer _____

Identity Number _____

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June 2018

