Kalkrand a quiet town yet complicated

By Levi Upula

5 February 2011 was no ordinary day for Kalkrand, this quiet yet bustling village located between Mariental and Rehoboth. It was a rainy day all the way from Windhoek to Kalkrand on that day and green was the color on trees and grass.

For an ordinary visitor to Kalkrand, it is just a near ghost town. It does seem to have that impression until you turn right just after the Shell Service Station if you are coming from the Windhoek direction, it is then you begin to see the village coming alive with people moving about. There is a church a school and even a state of the art women centre which has an inscription of then minister of gender equality and child welfare, Cde Marlene Mangunda. I accompanied Dr. Elijah Ngurone and his delegation to a meeting convened by some community members and elders of Kalkrand. The delegation comprised of the well-known Windhoek based lawyer Dirk Conradie, Regional Coordinator of the Party in Erongo Region, Cde Tommy Kaimhi. Prior to the meeting the delegation was briefed about the purpose of the meeting. And on the insistence of the minister of local government, they had the privilege to meet some of the beneficiaries.

TENDER INVITATION

TENDER NO. INF 569/2011

Description: Unit Rate Tender For Servicing And Maintenance Of All Municipal Air-Conditioning Units For The Period 1 April 2011 To 31 March 2013

Closing Date: Friday, 04 March 2011, 11:00

Site Meeting: Compulsory briefing session and site inspection will be held on Friday the 18th February, 2011, 09:00 am at the Building Maintenance Services, Noliba Street, southern Industrial, Windhoek

Tender Documents: Available as from Wednesday 16th February 2011 at 14:00 at the Customer Care Centre, Rev. Michael Scott Street, Windhoek.

Levy: NS 150.00 (Non-refundable)

Enquiries Technical: Mr. F. Gansieb – City of Windhoek: Tel: +264-(0)61-290 2451/2911

TENDER NO. INF 572/2011

Title: ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS AT PARK & GARDEN

Description: Construction Of Additional Offices, Paving Of Equipment Yard, Upgrade Of Poison Store, And New Carports

Closing Date: Friday, 04 March 2011, 11:00

Site Inspection & Tender briefing: A Compulsory meeting will be held on Monday 21st February at 10:00 am, at the Customer Care Centre, Rev. Michael Scott Street, Windhoek. Tender document must be submitted for signature during meeting. Tenders must be present for the entire meeting procedures

Tender Documents: Available as from Monday the 14th of February 2011 at 14:30, at the Customer Care Centre of the City of Windhoek, Rev. Michael Scott Street, Windhoek.

Levy: NS 250.00 (Non-refundable)

Enquiries Technical: Ms. E. Nepela/Mr. F. Brockerhoff - Tel: +264-(0)61-290 2308 / 2190

TENDER NO. M 15/2011

Title: Supply & Delivery of 120 X 50-Lt Pole Mounted Refuse Bins To The City Of Windhoek; The Pole Mounted Refuse Bins To Be Delivered Inside The Yard Of The Solid Waste Management Premises

Closing Date: Monday 14th February 2011, 11:00

Tender Documents: Available as from Monday 14th February 2011 at 14:00 at the Customer Care Centre, Rev. Michael Scott Street, Windhoek.

Levy: NS150.00 (Non-refundable)

Enquiries Technical: Ms. U. Patricia U. Usipim - Tel: +264-(0)61-290 3111 / 3221

TENDER NO. M 16/2011

Title: Expression Of Interest For Business Proposals For The Utilization Of The Facility (Restaurant) At The Un Plaza, A Portion Of Erf 5384, Katutura Penning Street For Any Other Business For A Period Of Five (5) Years

Objective: The facility was utilized as a Restaurant by previous tenderers and the facility to be utilized for any other business. Therefore, it is necessary to contribute to the economic development particularly for that community in that area, it is necessary to contribute to the local business community to utilize the facility for any other business. Therefore, the City of Windhoek hereby invites all businesses and/or individuals to submit business proposals for consideration

Closing Date: Friday, 04 March 2011, 11:00

Tender Documents: Available as from Monday 14th February 2011 at 14h00 at the Customer Care Centre, Rev. Michael Scott Street, Windhoek.

Levy: NS100.00 (Non-refundable)

Enquiries Technical: Mr. V Mwuya - Tel: +264-(0)61 290 2795

TENDER NO. M 17/2011

Title: Supply and Delivery of Office Furniture For The City Police And Emergency Management Head Office

Closing Date: Friday, 04 March 2011, 11:00

Tender Documents: Available as from Monday 14th February 2011 at 14:00 at the Customer Care Centre, Rev. Michael Scott Street, Windhoek.

Levy: NS150.00 (Non-refundable)

Enquiries Technical: Mr. R Namiboga - Tel: +264-(0)61 290 3122

Deliveries: Ms. An Shiwarene / A. S. David Tel: +264-(0)61 290 2270/2279 Fax: +264-(0)61 290 2371

E-mail: angela@windhoekcc.org.na / ans@windhoekcc.org.na

DELIVERY ADDRESS: Tender Box, Customer Care Centre, City of Windhoek Rev Michael Scott Street WINDHOEK

Welcome to Kalkrand: A service station that welcomes visitors to the town. Photo by Levi Upula.

Comrade Ngurane the delegation took a walk around Kalkrand and surrounding resettled farmers. It was here where the complication of Kalkrand began to unfold.

It turns out and for reasons beyond comprehension, the township of Kalkrand is so small and is surrounded by a farm owned by a communal commercial farmer. According to the accounts, some people have lived on this land as squatters for over 15 years but have no proof of title deeds for the land they allegedly have thus it appeared that many or themselves understood what they were or how they were living. At the meeting venue there were many residents mostly the elderly. Some appeared fearful at first to express themselves as it was believed that some in the meeting were informers of the owner of Farm Denk Rus. The owner of the farm has also offered to donate some portion of the land to the government. But later after they were assured and requested to speak openly they indicated inter alia the challenges of land ownership and was latter learned that in the whole country land transactions were done in Windhoek however for Rehoboth it was a different platform with most land only registered in Rehoboth.

On a final note, it has to be said that what was observed in Kalkrand was happening elsewhere in the country than it really time that the line Min-