

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY  
A MEMBER OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE  
30<sup>th</sup> October 2008

Annexure D Appeal Authority Meeting

The CDP, a member of the Christian Democratic Alliance, wants to congratulate those of the Appeal Authority Committee for their resolve in coming to a fair conclusion with regards to the gated community appeals. It appeared to be a very difficult matter and one, which had been handled unwisely by the City Planning Committee.

The initial decision of the City Planning Committee resulted in friction and brought about concern to many of our residents, especially as crime escalated. As the CDP has serious concerns with the trends that can be seen in the City Planning Section 79 committee in certain instances, trends, which one felt would be carried over to the appeal authority and therefore they would act as a rubber stamp on a decision that was made by the City Planning Committee, this report shows me that there is hope and that when a good process is in place and allowed to happen, and all the facts are out in the open, reason can prevail.

But, in terms of the Appeal it is regrettable that our residents had to sit for three years, from 8<sup>th</sup> Nov 2005 until the 17<sup>th</sup> September 2008, until this matter was resolved. Something is very wrong when it takes so long to hear an appeal.

Lately certain people are saying that political events in our country at national level, involving major leaders, are an example of a Democracy that is finally working. The example given, to my mind, is more an illustration of anarchy than of democracy. Therefore we will have to see the final results, to know if Democracy or Anarchy has triumphed.

But the results of the Appeal Committee has shown to the CDP that we can move forward and rule this city in a manner that is fair, just and reasonable. That is all any of our residents are asking for.

Motion

Name Changes should be scrapped.

I was in the Pretoria City Council, when the lone member of the CP placed a vierkleur flag in front of him. A small desk flag. I hadn't seen it, but it was like a red flag to a bull. Suddenly Pasty Molefo stood up with a strong objection, and along with other ANCs was demanding it be removed. Needless to say it was removed.

We are talking about names and the changing of names. To begin with I believe we need to see **both sides**. That is imperative!

For example. There are some things that cause me **offence** presently in the city. One is the **hammer and sickle**, which comes up when the **Communists march** and another is the **picture of Che Chevara at the entrance of the Chief Whip's office**.

Having lived at a time when Fidel Castro was being lauded all over the Americas as a hero because he hid his **true beliefs**. After that, when he was entrenched in his position, he turned out to be a Communist Dictator who successfully kept himself in power for fifty years.

To me Che Chevara was a **terrorist**, because he spread revolution. But to some people he was a **hero**. And certainly to some people in the ANC, a person who is considered a terrorist by the free world is considered a hero to them and therefore his picture is placed on a **prominent Council ANC Party entrance**. Makes you think doesn't it.

I have never said anything about the Che Chevera picture. I have never said "take it down". I have adjusted to democracy. But at the same time I would like everyone else to adjust to democracy and allow every citizen of this country to have his or her history and to move on. What is in a name? Is it worth dieing for? Is it worth spending billions of Rands on? There is only one cause that I am willing to die for and that is my Christian Faith.

We are experiencing strong emotions on both sides, whether orchestrated or spontaneous. But reason and caution needs to be taken. Talk is good, if it doesn't separate us, it brings us together, and being a democracy and living in a political environment, we have an influence and can reach out to each other. We must do this.

But, one thing that needs to be mentioned, if we have public participation and if we ignore the pleas of our residents and citizens, which we seem to have done with the Scorpions, than we cause a great deal of frustration and that is not a good thing.