

Donkerhoek Cemetery appalling



A picture clearly showing the appalling conditions in southern areas of the Donkerhoek Cemetery. Quite clearly the area hasn't been maintained by the Rustenburg Municipality for months, if not years.

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maintained at all and that virtually no evidence of maintenance between the walkways and under mostly dying trees could be found.

It is also alarmingly difficult, if not outright dangerous, to locate the graves one is looking for underneath thick uncontrolled vegetation.

We have also noted that dozens of trees have been partially stripped of their bark - obviously in order to kill trees to provide dry firewood to layabouts. Countless trees were found already dead or barely surviving.

Rustenburg Herald approached Mr Butler Matlapeng, Communication Specialist of the Rustenburg Municipality to inquire about the municipality's policy with regard to the Donkerhoek Cemetery.

According to Matlapeng, the Rustenburg Municipality is currently busy with the cutting of grass from the northern side up to central areas of the cemetery. Matlapeng confirmed that there is a cleaning programme in place for the Donkerhoek Cemetery and that the programme started in February 2010. "As the programme continues, it will also address the area Rustenburg Herald has pointed out - the graves you have referred to will once again be within easy reach", he said.

"We are fully aware of the problem",

Matlapeng said with regard to the situation of the dying trees. "We even have a budget for our greening programme in the next financial year and we are definitely going to replace most of those trees with bigger ones. However, these trees are dying naturally, either as a result of ageing or other probable causes beyond our control", he said. "We are definitely not deliberately involved in a programme to remove or to do away with these trees", he concluded.



A tree that once provided a bit of shade at the Donkerhoek Cemetery. That was long ago, however...

England's Rustenburg HQ described as a 'dump'

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unlikely to be ready for England's expected arrival on June 4. He said the pitch in the Royal Bafokeng Stadium, considered to be the best in the country, is being replicated on the site. He added that the pitch consists of several layers, including gravel, basalt, topsoil and plastic for the grass to crimp around, which

takes time to complete.

Mr Niall Carroll, CEO of Royal Bafokeng Holdings issued a statement on Monday, confirming that the Bafokeng Sports Campus had hosted visits by a delegation of the Football Association, headed by Fabio Capello, as well as Jerome Valcke (FIFA General Secretary), Danny Jordaan, Kirsten Nematandani and CAF

President, Issa Hayatou on Monday.

"Following the visits, we are confident that the Bafokeng Sports Campus will be ready and thoroughly tested in time for the World Cup," Carroll said.



An undated photograph published by the British tabloid, The Sun, show the partially completed five-star hotel situated at the Bafokeng Sports Campus.



An aerial photo of the site where the Bafokeng Sports Campus is still under construction.

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