



The Community Newspaper International Readers' Service Oct 2005

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***Hoist the flag:* community centre 't Klokhuis to remain open!**

In close cooperation with the WOC (Central Organization for Welfare) and the council's OCW service, 't Klokhuis Association and the Archipel/Willemspark Residents Association have drawn up a plan to keep the centre open.

What does the plan involve?

't Klokhuis Foundation was set up at the end of September with the intention that from 1 January 2005 the running of the community centre will be handed over to the new foundation. Its interim management committee is made up of board members of the 't Klokhuis Association and the Archipel/Willemspark Residents Association. There will however be seats for representatives from other bodies such as 'ouderenwerk' on the permanent management committee.

Aims of the new foundation:

- maintain the present premises as an activity centre and a meeting place for residents of Archipel/Willemspark;
- exploit the property on a non-profit making basis by means of subsidies, the rental of parts of the premises, sponsoring and income from the provision of refreshments;
- further social cohesion and participation in the neighbourhood by means of social activities thus adding to the well-being of local residents and in particular concentrating on offering opportunities to the more deprived in the community;
- prevent social isolation and further participation in community life;
- execution of socio-cultural voluntary work on a broad front.

Agreements

Agreements and commitments to make effective management of 't Klokhuis possible:

- The premises will remain the property of the council and no rent will be charged;
- Overdue maintenance/repairs to the building (inside and out) will be carried out by the OCW services and the costs will be borne by the council;

- The WOC will make a member of staff available on an hourly basis, paid for by the WOC, to carry out coördinating duties in 't Klokhuis until the end of 2005.
- The council will take on the cost of the coordinator in 2006.

Tasks of the coordinator will include upkeep of activities, implementation of new activities, canvassing and supporting volunteers, and keeping matters running smoothly.

Cost-effective operation

The community centre 't Klokhuis must be run in a cost-effective. This means that the income from rental, refreshments and subsidies must be enough to cover the normal of operating and maintenance.

- The WOC and OCW will assist in acquiring subsidies;
- Ouderenwerk will remain the responsibility of the WOC, who will pay rental to 't Klokhuis for the use of parts of the premises.

Finally

Thanks to the efforts of many people working in close cooperation with the WOC and OCW services, it has been possible to stave off the threatened closure of 't Klokhuis. With the help of a professional staff member and the support of enough volunteers, the residents of Archipel/Willemspark can (again) be assured of a well-run community centre!

Residents Association Archipel/Willemspark



Building projects - large and small - in the neighbourhood

We would like to keep you more regularly informed about proposed building activities in the neighbourhood. Even with the cooperation of Councillor Bruijns and our own 'building man' in the A/W Residents Association, Hans Groenendijk, we can't cover every detail. So if you have any comments, questions or information, please let us know.

93a Bankastraat

These premises will remain a shop with living accommodation on the upper floors and in the building at the rear of the property. The house at the rear will have its own entrance where the former 'Tante Sjaan' flower stall was located and the business/shop premises will be completely separate. This brings to an end the protracted issue of whether or not a large-scale restaurant would be located at this address. Definitely a triumph for the Residents Association and residents in the immediate vicinity who tirelessly campaigned against the proposed restaurant.

Zeestraat/Mauritskade

This concerns two inter-connected projects. First of all, the hotel replacing the PTT building on Zeestraat. Until recently (13 September). The most probable scenario was that the building would be gutted and a new Hilton hotel with 180 -200 rooms would be constructed within the shell. A brasserie restaurant and coffee corner are planned for the the groundfloor and a parking area underneath for hotel guests. .

The second: on the corner of Mauritskade there will be new premises for the sports club Ceasar. Yet another building proposal - the fourth - has been rejected by the Planning Board. In the new design submitted by architects Thijs Drenth concentrates on the original façade and the use of the old roof trusses. Another subject under discussion is the underground communal carpark for both buildings. The council would like 2 - 3 parking levels with space for around 250 - 300 cars, divided between the sports schools, hotel and visitors to the area.

Frederikstraat

There are two building contractors involved in the demolition of the old school building on Frederikstraat: the Lucasstichting (Lucas Foundation) who will build a new school behind the old façade, and a developer who will build a number of town houses on the ground behind the school. The only thing that is absolutely certain is that the present greenery will be preserved.

109 Balistraat

In contrast to earlier reports, two town houses will be built alongside the three existing homes which will be refurbished. Building work is already underway.

243 Sumatrastraat

Permission has been granted for the installation of a steel construction (sinking piles is not an option). No other details about what sort of building is involved here other than "three apartments" is available. The committee chairman is familiar with the previously held view that it didn't really matter what was built here because architecturally Sumatrastraat was 'a mess', but is also aware of the fact that luckily this is no longer true. Architects Bullhorst will be in charge of future design plans.

'Archipelstaete', 194 Sumatrastraat

It is a relief that in contrast to earlier plans proposed, no more than five homes can be built, each with its own underground parking facility.

Ugly office building to disappear from Bankastraat

In September/October this year, the office building on Bankahoogte (the part of Bankastraat on the rise beyond Bankaplein) will undergo a metamorphosis and be converted into living accommodation. All that is known at the moment is that the building will be stripped back to its skeleton. More news in the next issue.

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Upcoming local events

Open House 17 Soendastraat

27 October , Open House between 14.00 - 16.00 in the former sheltered accommodation for the intellectually challenged *Huize Irene*, run by *de Compaan* since 1991, which has been completely renovated with 17 new apartments and a meeting room for the residents and members of the community can have meals and take part in various activities including yoga, singing, drawing and informal gatherings.

Painting for 't Klokhuis community centre

Tuesday 8 November , 't Klokhuis celebrates it's 31 st year in business and the International Art Club has decided to mark the occasion with an artistic gift. An artwork created by members/artists during the Indie Zomer Summer Fair on 25 June this year has been donated to the centre to decorate its walls. The presentation will be made by Anne Marie Drenth, who is herself a long-serving Klokhuis volunteer and member of the Art Club.

Get to know The Hague even better

Sunday 20 November, between 14.00 - 15.30, Mr L. van Heijningen Sr will, with the help of pictures from the past, bring The Hague to life in 't Klokhuis.

Regulars and other interested parties are very welcome. Admittance is free and the doors are open from 13.30.

125th Anniversary

On 12 November the Vredeskapel is 125 years old! We would like all our neighbours from the community to help us celebrate this auspicious event. There is a whole programme of activities planned for the period between 13 November - 26 November:

13 November - Church service: 10.30 - 11.30 (sure to be on time!)

13 November - Coffee & Lunch: 11.30 - 15.00

13 - 25 November - Exhibition of a unique collection of photos:
13.30 - 16.30 Mon - Sat (also 13 November after lunch until 15.00)

Saturday 26 November - Anniversary Period Costume Party:
20.00 - 23.30

Sale of commemorative book and teaspoons: Sundays after the service and during the exhibition.



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Changes to bus services 5 and 22

With the implementation of the new timetable for 2006 starting 11 December 2005, the public transport company Stadsgewest Haaglanden has decided to amalgamate the bus services 22 and 5 in one - bus 22. This new service Scheveningen-Central Station-Duinizgt will be 'U-shaped' following Raamweg and Koningkade between Central Station and Carel van Bylandtlaan (Shell) instead of the former bus 5 route from the Centre (of the city), via Parkstraat, Alexanderstraat, Nassauplein and Laan Copes van Cattenburch.

The intervals between each bus on the section of the new 22 service between Scheveningen-Central Station will remain the same as the current 22 service, but on the section of the new service between Central Station-Duinizgt during the rush hour Monday - Friday they will run every 10 minutes (possibly 7 ½) as opposed to every 15 minutes, and during off-peak hours every 15 minutes as opposed to every 30 minutes now.

To sum up: the above changes mean that there will still be a connection to Benoordenhout, the Bronovo hospital and Duinizgt, but because the connection now runs via Central Station the journey will be slightly longer.

Andries Landheer,
contact person - working party Public Transport



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Play outside - among the dog turds?

Currently, you can't open a newspaper without reading that today's children are getting fatter. This obesity epidemic, like the one in the USA, is also threatening the Netherlands. The state authorities are doing their best to encourage the Dutch to eat more healthily and to take more exercise. Children in particular are being urged to do more sport and to play outside more often.

Playing outside in Archipel

What's like playing outside in Archipel? In theory reasonably good. There's

the [Cantaloupenburg](#), the play area at the edge of the Scheveningen Woods on [Arie van der Spuyweg](#) and the playground of the [Archipelschool](#) - all examples of places where children can play safely. But there are also problem areas. The schrubbery on Delistraat for instance. The grassy area here backed by an attractive growth of mature trees and schrubbs could be a perfect spot for children from the neighbourhood to play: a great combination of football field, trees to climb and somewhere to play hide-and-seek. Unfortunately, the kids from Delistraat and nearby Batjanstraat, Riouwstraat and Bonistraat don't play there. Why not? Because their parents are fed up with the kids coming home with dog excrement on their shoes.

Dog poop

It could be so idyllic, this special spot in Archipel. But the residents living around the 'Deli Park' have long been embroiled in a dispute between dog owners and non-dog owners. The latter have tried everything to convince the former to clear up the mess their dogs leave behind - until now without much success. Dog owners point out that there is still no bin in which to deposit the dog excrement. This is indeed a problem and the working party Open Space of the A/W residents Association has spoken to the council about this on a number of occasions. A solution was sought with the signing of a petition in which the residents proposed that half the the 'park' should be enclosed and dogs prohibited so that children can play there. In the other half dogs would be allowed to run free but still with the obligation that owners clear up after their animals.

Enough of tolerance

Another section of the residents would prefer that all of the park is made a 'dog-free' zone. They point out that there are already areas where dogs are allowed off the leash to run free, do their business without any ['clear-up' obligation](#) in the Scheveningen Woods and on Kerkhoflaan, Moreover, they say, dog poop and dog owners have been tolerated long enough. It's now time to give the park back to the children. "Dog owners have been given every opportunity to prove that they can comply with the clear-up rule. Unfortunately, they don't seem to be able to summon up the discipline to meet their obligations, therefore something else must be done", says one of the residents.

The Council

The working party Open Sapce of the Archipel/Willemspark residents Association has presented the neighbourhoods proposal to Mr R. Meijs of the Municipal Council of The Hague. Now we have to wait for the council to take some action. Considering that Minister Dekker recently launched onlangs 'Operatie Jong'(Operation Youth) with the slogan 'Give the youth space' it would seem desirable for the council to take prompt action. Also because our four-footed friends have already been allowed a plenty of latitude up until now. Furthermore, our community police officers, together with the Urban Preservation Team, are going to monitor compliance with the 'clean-up' obligation more closely from now on and hopefully our children will be able to play outside again!

Dorien de Buck and Agniet Snoep



Monchyplein campaigns against dog poop

Action taken by residents of Burgemeester Monchyplein against dogs fouling the square has been a success. They distributed letters and an official council pamphlet about dog excrement. The action was done in cooperation with the working party Open Space and the community police officers.



Volunteers in the spotlight - 6

Distributors of the Community Newspaper

When I telephone Mrs **Uittenboogaard**, I see that she distributes the neighbourhood newspaper to Pergamon and Parthenon: the two apartment blocks on Monchylein. After she moved to one of these blocks, she immediately noticed that the neighbourhood newspaper, in which she believes there's something for everyone, was missing. She contacted Else Ponsen and has made sure ever since that that special sense of community which prevails in the rest of our community, prevails in the newest addition to neighbourhood our too. Thanks to Mrs Uittenboogaard our Chinese residents are now also kept informed about the threatened closure of the community 't Klokhuis, because in the newspaper they are invited to surf on the English-language *Internationaal* section of our own neighbourhood website www.archipelbuurt.nl

Pia Jansen started delivering the neighbourhood newspaper about 10 years ago after the previous distributor died. Anna Deykers, another volunteer (see the April edition) asked her if she would take over. Her husband has delivered the paper in Couperusduin II since his retirement. He admits that he plans to carry on doing this till he's carried out feet first. So it's all about life and death and about the Tai Chi classes Pia does in 't Klokhuis in which she learns how to do exercises in slow motion. This prolongs the delivery time somewhat but by all accounts your life expectancy as well!

Finally, I meet who can only be called the real professional among the distributors - **Mr Rauwerda** is a postman by profession! His wife has to admit that she can't compete with her husband when it comes to delivering the paper. In spite of his speed, they do the delivery round together. As to the most bizar experience: for the one it's the resident who grabs the newspaper before you've even finished putting it through the letterbox, frightening you half to death, while for the other it's not the resident who does this but a dog that thinks that its food is being served through the letterbox that day.

CR

P.S. Anyone else who has a free hour 5 times a year, can also register as a volunteer distributor with Else Ponsen by telephoning 070 3505738 or emailing secretariaat@archipelbuurt.nl

