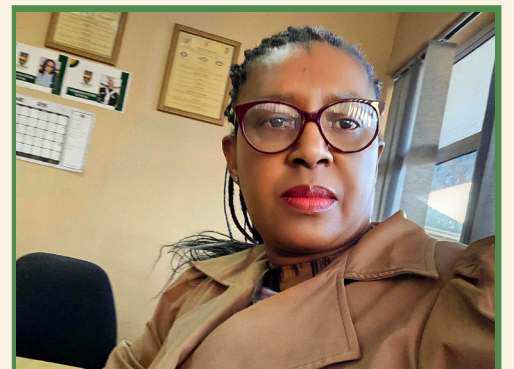


NGQUSHWA NEWS

JUNE 2025



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MAYOR'S FOREWORD

It gives me great pleasure to present this publication, which highlights the significant strides our municipality has taken in the past mid-term towards building a resilient, inclusive, and development-driven community. This foreword reflects not only the achievements of the municipality but also the unwavering commitment we have to improving the quality of life for all our residents.

At the heart of our development agenda is economic empowerment, and we are proud of the support extended to local Small, Medium, and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs). These businesses form the backbone of our local economy, and through targeted interventions, training, and access to opportunities, we continue to unlock their potential and create sustainable livelihoods.

We have placed youth development and education at the centre of our priorities. Our dedicated support for matric learners, including of distributing groceries to study camps, study resource distribution, and motivation initiatives and prayers, is a clear demonstration of our belief that every young person deserves a fair chance to succeed. This investment in education is further complemented by our commitment to youth empowerment through sports, providing young people with both recreational opportunities and platforms to develop discipline, teamwork, and leadership skills.

On the infrastructure front, the municipality has made remarkable progress in the upgrading and maintenance of road infrastructure. These developments are not just about improving transport – they are about connecting people to opportunities, services, and each other. Equally important has been our focus on infrastructure development that supports sustainable urban and rural growth.

Our support to the farming community has continued to grow, as we recognise the critical role that agriculture plays in ensuring food security and economic stability in our region. Through various programs, we have assisted farmers with inputs, training, and market access – strengthening our resolve to build a productive and self-sufficient agricultural sector.

A major milestone this year has been the refurbishment and recognition of local heritage sites, some of which have now been acknowledged as national key points. This not only safeguards our history and cultural identity but also opens doors for heritage tourism and economic activity for our communities.

As a municipality, we remain committed to a governance model that is people-centred, accountable, and action-driven. The progress we showcase here is a result of collaboration between the municipality, community stakeholders, and our development partners.

I Thank you.



Mayor: COUNCILLOR S.S MANELI

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**JUNE 16
COMMEMORATION
1976 - 2025**

"Gear Up For Greatness"

#49thCommemoration #YouthDay2025 #GearUp4Greatness

GovernmentZA GovernmentZA GovernmentZA

Ngqushwa municipality engaged communities and adopted the 2025/26 IDP and budget

Councillors and Municipal Administration undertook an extensive community engagement programme across all 12 wards as part of the annual review of the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and municipal budget for the 2025/26 financial year. The initiative, guided by legislation that mandates a five-year IDP with annual reviews, aimed to ensure that service delivery remains aligned with the evolving needs of the community.

The final IDP was approved by the Council on the 29 May 2025. Outline of key development initiatives to be implemented by the municipality and various sector departments for the 2025/26 financial year. The Municipality is generating its internal revenue from rates, refuse, rentals and other sources.

Capital Projects			2025/26 TARIFFS	4.4%
Municipal Infrastructure Grant (Mig) Projects R37,021,000.00			Rates, Refuse Removal, Hall Hire, Cemetery Fees, Pound Fees, Building plan Application Fees, Town Planning Fees, Business Licensing Tarriffs, General Tarrifs.	
No.	Project Title	Ward	OPERATING EXPENDITURE – MAINTENANCE OF GRAVEL ROADS 2025/2026 MUNICIPAL DISASTER RECOVERY GRANT PROJECTS (MDRG) R15 256 000,00 Re-gravelling of roads and repairs to stormwater structures affected heavily by floods: Wards: 10, 11, 12 (Sigingqini, Lower Qheto, Upper Qheto, Prudhoe, Wesley)	
1.	5km Construction of Phole Internal Streets	4		
2.	Construction of Tuku-B Community Hall	5		
3.	The Upgrade of Peddie Extension Sports field: Phase 2	8		
4.	Block Paving of Glenmore Internal Streets	7		
5.	Construction of German Village Community Hall	8		
6.	Installation of High Mast Lights in Feni (2) & Mgababa (3)	6 & 11		
7.	Feasibility Study of Land fill site	5		

SECTOR DEPARTMENTS PROJECTS

PROJECTS	WARD	BUDGET	SECTOR DEPARTMENT
Beef Value Chain Complex Project	12	R3 000 000.00	Department of Agriculture
Land Care	7	R 322 700.00	
	10	R 1 898 800.00	
Small Town Revitalization Upgrade of Hamburg and Peddie Town Streets Installation of streetlights & high mast lights – Hamburg	8 & 12	R60 000 000.00	Office of the Premier
Extended Public Works Programme (EPWP)	All Wards	R10 643 905.92	Department of Transport
Road Maintenance, Re-Gravelling (Plant Hire)	Various Villages	R 4 700 00,00	
Surfacing	Various Villages	R 2 000 000,00	
Blading	Various Villages	R 2 846 862,00	
Hamburg Small Harbour Development	All Wards	Planning Stage	Department of Public Works
Extended Public Works Programme (EPWP)	All Wards	R 1 616 000.00	
Completion of backlog – Ngqushwa Area Wide Sanitation Project	1, 2, 3, 4	R29 500 000.00	Amathole District Municipality
Upgrading of Peddie Wastewater Treatment Plant (Sanitation)	8	R 8 000 000.00	
Ngqushwa Villages Water Reticulation Budget Maintenance & NGQUSHWA WATER SERVICES RETICULATION PROJECT: COMPLETION OF BULK AND RETICULATION (PHASE 2- STAGE 1)	All Wards	R 1 500 000.00	
Mpekweni 500	11	R141 390 500.00	Department of Human Settlements
Gcinisa 500	12	R141 390 500.00	
Hamburg 500	12	R141 390 500.00	
Integrated National Electrification Programme (INEP)	7.7km Link Line from Peddie to Ngqushwa Villages (Various Wards)	R 12 297 000.00	Department of Mineral Resources and Energy
Energy Efficiency and Demand Side Management Grant (EEDSM)	Peddie Town and Hamburg Street lights and High Mast, Community Halls	R 3 000 000.00	
Local Government Finance Management Grant (FMG)	All Wards	R 3 000 000.00	National Treasury
Library Subsidies	All Wards	R 787 000.00	Department of Sports Recreation Arts and Culture
Reduce Poverty Through Integrated Sustainable Development: Empowering Young, Old, Disabled People as well as Women.	All Wards	R 3 602 900.00	Department of Social Development
Tyhefu Aloe Forex	Ward 7	R16 800 000.00	Department of Forestry Fisheries and Environment

2024/25 MDRG AND MIG SERVICE DELIVERY PROJECTS

Flood-damaged roads restored with COGTA’s Municipal Disaster Relief Grant

Ngqushwa Local Municipality has made a significant progress in restoring road infrastructure damaged by floods that occurred during 2023/24 financial year. The extreme weather affected 65 kilometres of roads and stormwater systems across 25 villages in Wards 2, 4, 5, 6,7,8 and 9.

With the allocated fund of R35, 586 000 received from COGTA’s Municipal Disaster Recovery Grant, the Municipality undertook repairs that include re-gravelling of roads, standardizing widths to 6 meters, repairing stormwater structures and implementing erosion control measures like stone pitching in disaster-stricken areas.

The repair work was successfully completed within budget, restoring safe and reliable access for communities and enhancing resilience to future weather events. Residents across the affected wards have welcomed the improvements and commended the municipality’s response and commitment to infrastructure recovery.

WARD	VILLAGE	KM
2	Lower Mthombe	1.7
	Upper Mthombe	1.5
	Rode	1.8
4	Kwa-Madliki	2.5
	Mdolomba	2.5
5	Crossroads	4.0
	Tuku A	4.5
	Tuku B	3.5
	Tuku C	4.0
6	Makhahlane	2.2
	Dam-Dam	2.2
	Feni: Magqazeni and Mvemve	2.2
	Maphiko	2.2
	Mahlubini	2.2
	Cheletyma	2.2
7	Qamnyana	4.0
	Horton	2.9
	Gwabeni	2.6
	Mankone	4.4
8	New Creation	3.9
	Peddie Extension	2.9
	German Village	1,3
9	Pikoli	3.0
	Mgwalana	3.8
	Nobumba	2.2



Ngqushwa Council delivered on 2024/25 infrastructure service delivery promises

Since the current Council came into power in November 2021, they pledged, prioritized to address community needs through a comprehensive developmental approach. Indeed, in January 2022 a needs verification assessment to collect information of projects and needs in every ward village. Through the guidance of community engagements, the municipality implemented a five-year Integrated Development Plan with 60 capital projects that are reviewed annually.

In the financial year 2024/25, a grant funding of R25.8 million was allocated through the Municipal Infrastructure Grant for infrastructure projects in various wards. The major highlights are electricity projects (high mast lights), grading and construction of gravel internal streets, upgrade of the Peddie Extension Sports field, five newly designed community halls with admin office, kitchen, ablution facilities, disability access to enable community engagement and events.

Mayor Sanga Maneli complimented the active involvement of community members in monitoring the projects and ensuring contractors deliver services that meet their expectations. He further confirmed the municipality’s commitment to accelerate service delivery for the people of Ngqushwa. Community members were happy and expressed satisfaction with the new facilities and committed to their upkeep.

The Municipality is proud to announce the successful completion of key projects that address identified community needs.



WARD	PROJECT TITLE	AREA
11	3 High Mast light Installed	Mgababa Village
6	4 High Mast Lights Installed	Feni Village
8	Peddie Extension Sports Field Upgrade (Phase 1)	Peddie Extension
1	5km Grading and construction of internal street / access gravel roads	Nxopo Village
9	5km Grading and construction of internal street / access gravel roads	Woodlands Village
7	Paving of internal streets	Glenmore Village
3	New modern constructed community hall	Bhongweni Village
9	New modern constructed community hall	Ntloko Village
5	New modern constructed community hall	Lover Twist Village
1	New modern constructed community hall	Tamara Village
2	New modern constructed community hall	Ngquthu Village
12	New modern constructed community hall	Mqheleni Village
11	Grading and construction of internal street/ access gravel roads	Mkhanyeni Village
7	Grading and construction of internal street/ access gravel roads	Mxaxa Village

WARD	PROJECT TITTLE	AREA
9	Paving Access roads by WHBO (Sanral Project)	Woodlands Village Lewis Village Nobumba Village
5&12	Tarred Road Constructed connecting Bell Village and Hamburg Town (Department of Roads and Transport)	Hamburg Town

08 NOVEMBER 2024

Sod turning ceremony marks the start of new municipal office building construction

In October 2024, Ngqushwa Local Municipality reached a major milestone with the official sod-turning ceremony for the construction of a new office building within the Municipality site. The ceremony led by Mayor Sanga Maneli was attended by Councillors, traditional leader Chief Zola Njokweni, municipal employees and community members.

Ngqushwa Local Municipality appointed Kukho Consulting Engineers to provide professional services for the planning, design and costing of the new municipality office within the municipality site.

The objective of the project is to expand office space for the Municipality to accommodate operational duties of municipal staff for service delivery. .

Speaking at the ceremony, Mayor Maneli emphasized the significance of the project, that “our core responsibility is to serve the 108 Ngqushwa villages. Despite the limited resources, the council took a resolution to put aside funds to make sure that employees are comfortable to perform their duties.

He further said” the new office building is the stepping stone towards planting a seed to have a full office park in future that will accommodate all government departments in Ngqushwa and help boost the revenue collection.

The new building is 143m² in size with six fully equipped municipal offices, reception and waiting area, Boardroom, Kitchen, Separate male and female ablution rooms and a safe room.

The total project value is R6.983 million with construction scheduled to take six months.

The development reflects Ngqushwa Municipality’s continued commitment to enhancing internal capacity and providing accessible, quality services to its communities.



07 APRIL 2025

Premier Mabuyane led an oversight visit on N2 road construction project

In a significant demonstration of government commitment to infrastructure development, Eastern Cape Premier Oscar Mabuyane conducted an oversight visit to the SANRAL road construction project along the N2, between Makhanda (formerly Grahamstown) and Peddie on the 7 April 2025. The visit aimed to monitor progress on this vital transport corridor, which connects key regions in the province.

Premier Mabuyane was joined by Ngqushwa Local Municipality Mayor, Cllr. Sanga Maneli, Ngqushwa Executive Committee Members, Ward 9 Councillor Cllr. N. Mtati, and Municipal Manager Mr. N. Mgengo. The site visit provided an opportunity for stakeholders to assess the quality of work, adherence to timelines, and the project’s impact on local communities.

The Premier commended the work done thus far and emphasized that the SANRAL led infrastructure project is more than just laying tarmac, it is about driving economic growth, ensuring safer travel, and improving access to essential services. With features such as climbing lanes, improved road alignment, and community access roads, the upgrade is expected to boost tourism, unlock trade, and most importantly connect people to greater opportunities.

“This road is not just infrastructure it’s a lifeline,” said Premier Mabuyane. “We remain committed to overseeing its completion and ensuring it brings real change to the people of the Eastern Cape.”



08 FEBRUARY 2025

AMAFAMA KWILALI YASETYENI AXHAMLE IZIXHOBO ZOKUSEBENZA KUMASIPALA (WARD 1)

Kube luvuyo kumafama aseTyeni, iMatebese Wool Growers Association enamalungu asixhenxe (7) athe afaka isicelo kumasipala sokuba abonelelwe ngezixhobo zokusebenza ekuchebeni uboya kwigusha zabo khonukuze bathengise ubuya obusemgangathweni.

Ngenene, umasipala okhokhelwa nguSodolophu Sanga Maneli ehamba nebhunga basabele kwisicelo samafama ngokuthi bawaxhase ngezixhobo ezi zezi: 1x Wool Pressor, 1x Wool Sorting Table, 4x Wool Bins, 4x Shearing Boards



ISebe lezoLimo (Department of Agriculture) laye likhuthaza amafama lisithi lijonge lukhulu kula mafama, linqwenela ukuba baphuhlise ngaphezulu ngoku kuba izixhobo zokusebenza bazinikiwe.

UNKosazana Cynthia Sofuthe oligosa lakwa OVK, (Inkampani yezolimo eMzantsi Afrika ekuthengiswa kuyo uboya begusha) lithe bayavuyisena namafama bagxininisa ukuba ukubheka phambili balindele ukuthengiselwa uboya obuphucukileyo kwaye buhlelwe ngendlela.

USodolophu Sanga Maneli uthe kuluvuyo kumasipala xa kuncediswa amafama kwiimfuno zawo, encoma umsebenzi abawenzayo. Ubhekise kubo esithi, “asinqweneli emveni kokuba kuziswe ezi zixhobo sibone iprojekthi isifa, koko sifuna ngelifuthe ninalo nikhule niye phambili niphakamise iNgqushwa yenu. Utyalo-mali olwenziwe apha oluyinkxaso kushishino lokufuya ligusha lunganibeka kwinqanaba eliphezulu ngomso, nizenzela imali.”

Amafama abulele kuumasipala ngesibonelelo kuba bebefudula bosokola bengafumani xabiso lililo ngoboya. Bathembisile ukuba bazakuzinakelela izixhobo kwaye abasoze babuye umva, ukufuya bakuqala ngeminyaka ye 70’s.

Ngqushwa municipality empowers local SMME's through equipment support

Annually, Ngqushwa Local Municipality commits to economic development by supporting local SMMEs and informal enterprises with tools, equipment, and machinery. The initiative aims to boost business capacity, create greater access to economic opportunities and to combat unemployment, poverty and inequality.

Ten beneficiaries from various sectors, including agriculture, manufacturing, textiles, poultry farming, welding, fashion design and digital services were awarded with material to maximise their economic potential.

The handover event envisioned participation from key stakeholders namely, Amathole District Municipality, NYDA, ECDC, SEDA, Aspire, and ECRDA, who shared valuable support programmes to the attendees who have interest to grow their businesses and uplift the standard of living. Community members especially youth engaged to learn more about business startup and access to funding model.

Mayor Sanga Maneli encouraged young people to take advantage of such initiatives and seek further opportunities through other government agencies.

The Amathole District Municipality pledged additional support, committing R50,000 worth of equipment to three selected SMMEs.

One of the beneficiaries, Ms M.V Sankobe said, "I am happy at heart because this is a privilege for me to grow for the better as I have been running the sewing and fashion design business for many years. I thank the municipality as this is the first time to benefit.



BENEFICIARIES

NO	BENEFICIARY	PRODUCTION	WARD/VILLAGE
1.	Mr. V.R Mpendu	Poultry farming: Broiler machinery (Agriculture)	Upper Mthombe
2.	Ms. M.V Sankobe	Clothing and Textile: Sewing and Fashion Design - Embroidery Machinery	Hlosini Location
3.	Mr. Z. Mgozelwa	Welding Manufacturing: Welding Aluminium Tools and Machinery	Ntloko Location
4.	Ms. N. Mlotana	Agriculture: Poultry farming, sheep and vegetables Broiler machinery, Structure and feed	Mgababa Location
5.	Mr. L. Sitha May	Manufacturing: Paints Paint Manufacturing (Mixing) Machinery	Peddie Town
6.	Ms. S. Hlekani	Internet Cafe - Office Equipment (printer and computers	Peddie Town
7.	Ms. Y. Nginda	Clothing: Branding and home decorations - Overlocker machine, fabric paints and fabric dyes	Peddie Extension
8.	Mr. P. Ngabase	Agriculture: Poultry Production - Scale machine, weight machine, cutting machine, Fridge.	Nobumba Location
9.	Mr. M. Moyakhe	Manufacturing: Welding Equipment and machinery	Qugqwala Location
10.	Ms. L. M. Nyongoba	Manufacturing: Sewing - Sewing of school uniform and beading	Nyaniso Location

Food safety training for hawker stalls owners and cooperatives

Ngqushwa Local Municipality in collaboration with Wholesale & Retail Seta and Mhonto Educational Foundation rolled out a focused Food Safety Training for local hawker stall owners and cooperatives operating within the municipal area.

The training was aimed at empowering informal traders and cooperative members with the knowledge and skills necessary to handle, prepare, and sell food in a safe and hygienic manner. The initiative forms part of the Municipality's commitment in enhancing public health standards and supporting small business development as key drivers of the local economy.

The programme addressed the critical gap in informal trading ensuring that food sold in our communities is safe and prepared in a hygienic environment, equipping traders with these skills not only public health is protected but also the quality and competitiveness of local economy is improved.

Practical demonstrations on hygiene practices, food storage, waste management, and compliance with local and national health regulations were done. Participants will receive certificates upon successful completion of the training, further legitimizing their operations and enhancing consumer trust.

The Municipality will continue to seek partnerships that contribute to building a skilled, empowered, and economically active community.



25 FEBRUARY 2025

Ngqushwa local municipality celebrated Aviwe Sofoyiya's Mathematics Practice Manual 1&2

From the humble village of Gwalana in Ngqushwa, to national recognition as a mathematics author and academic, Ms. Aviwe Sofoyiya is a beacon of inspiration for the youth of Ngqushwa.

Ngqushwa Local Municipality proudly hosted a book launch on 25 February 2025 to celebrate Ms. Sofoyiya's remarkable achievements. At the event, she officially unveiled Part 1 and Part 2 of her Grade 12 Mathematics Practice Manual, which aims to support high school learners in improving their mathematics performance and unlocking further academic opportunities.

Aviwe's journey is a powerful testament to perseverance. Despite her rural upbringing, she refused to let her circumstances define her future. Initially pursuing a Degree in Maritime Studies at the Durban University of Technology (DUT), Aviwe later followed her true passion for mathematics, earning an Advanced Diploma in Mathematical Sciences from the Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT).

Now 28 years old, Ms. Sofoyiya is not only a qualified mathematical scientist and author but also the founder of an upcoming online mathematics academy. This initiative is designed to support both school learners and tertiary students especially those from rural areas who face challenges in mastering the subject.

Aviwe's self-published manual, produced in collaboration with Evelyn50 Publishing Company in Johannesburg, was developed in 2023 and officially released for sale on 11 July 2024. Priced at an accessible R400 for both parts, the manual breaks down complex concepts into learner-friendly content, bridging gaps in understanding and fostering confidence in mathematics.

Ngqushwa Local Municipality Mayor, Cllr. Sanga Maneli, applauded Ms. Aviwe Sofoyiya for her remarkable contribution to education and for bringing pride to the municipality. He described her as a shining example of how dedication, resilience, and passion can break barriers and inspire transformation within communities. In support of her initiative, Mayor Maneli pledged to purchase 167 copies of the Mathematics Practice Manual for all grade 12 learners currently studying mathematics in Ngqushwa schools. Additionally, Mayor Maneli committed R1,000 worth of airtime to promote public voting in support of Ms. Sofoyiya's participation in Mzantsi Arts and Media Awards (MAMA).

Mr Cakata from the Department of Education (Amathole West District) also expressed strong support by purchasing copies of the manual that will be useful for each school in Ngqushwa that offers mathematics subject to assist learners in improving their academic outcomes.



10 OCTOBER 2024

Ngqushwa municipality supported matric learners through school adoption initiative

In 2023 financial year, Mayor Sanga Maneli launched a school adoption initiative programme aimed at improving matric (grade 12) performance in schools that obtained average results. Following the success of the initiative the programme was extended in 2024 to three schools, and all the schools adopted showed improvement in the 2024 matric results compared to the previous year which demonstrated the positive impact of the initiative.

Qhayiya Secondary School in Glenmore went from 68.4% to 71.4%, Sakuphumelela Secondary School in Zalarha showed a huge improvement from 43.7% to 71.7% and Lingeletu High School in Mdolomba achieved from 66.9% to 92.7%. In each of the selected schools, the municipality contributed groceries to support learners who camp at school during the final examinations.

During the school visits, the Executive Committee members engaged with teachers, School Governing Bodies (SGBs) and parents understanding the social and security environment in schools and therefore encouraging a collaborative environment that can help drive success of the initiative putting emphasis that all Grade 12 learners regardless of their background must benefit from the programme. Mayor Maneli further highlighted the importance of education and empowered learners with knowledge, skills and be critical thinkers to understand the world and make informed decisions. Lastly, he encouraged learners to stay focused and avoid harmful substances like alcohol and drugs.

Parents expressed gratitude for the municipality's support and committed themselves to work closely with teachers to achieve improved results.



11 OCTOBER 2024

Boxing kit donated to support local talent

In showing support for youth development through sport; KB Promotions, in partnership with Pepzin Promotions from East London, donated boxing gloves and kits to Ngqushwa Local Municipality on the 10 October 2024. The generous donation aims to encourage young people in Ngqushwa to participate in boxing as it is a full body workout for mental and physical health.

Councillor A. Nodikida, Council Chief Whip and Portfolio Head of the department of Community Services represented Mayor, Sanga Maneli and the entire Council, expressed sincere gratitude for the contribution. She further said, the equipment will benefit local boxing clubs across Ngqushwa, grow youth through boxing sport in our communities. The municipality welcomed such partnerships and remains committed to creating opportunities for young people through sport and recreation.



14 MAY 2025

Historic milestone: uMqwashu declared a national heritage site

The Eastern Cape Province celebrated a momentous occasion, wherein the iconic uMqwashu heritage site was officially declared a National Heritage Site. This follows a 2023 application submitted by Ngqushwa Local Municipality in collaboration with the uMqwashu Committee to the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA). The Premier of the Eastern Cape Honourable Lubabalo Oscar Mabuyane officiated the legacy of “uMqwashu” that dates back to 14 May 1835, when the amaMfengu, displaced by the Mfecane and seeking refuge from conflict under King Hintsa near Butterworth, settled near Peddie on land provided by the British.

The 190th anniversary in commemorating the historic recognition was attended dignitaries including Deputy Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Prince Zolile Burns-Ncamashe, Ngqushwa Council led by Mayor Sanga Maneli, representatives from SAHRA, the Provincial House of Traditional Leaders, Imbumbi Melizwe ka Dlamini Kingdom (KZN), the Rharhabe Kingdom, the Amahlubi King’s Council, Amamfengu Aphenesha Kwenciba, various stakeholders and Ngqushwa community at large.

The Premier in his address said, “Umqwashu is more than just a Tree, but a living testament to the rich history, cultural identity, and healing traditions of African communities. Deeply rooted in the medicinal and spiritual heritage of the region, it stands as a symbol of hope, unity, remembrance and renewal. Therefore, let us build the Eastern Cape we want and prosper as the province.” The celebration was held under the powerful theme: “Izifungo zamaMfengu – Honoring the Past, Empowering the Future.”

This milestone highlights the importance of preserving our cultural heritage and honouring the history that shape communities. The celebration reflected the community’s commitment to safeguarding its cultural legacy and the foundation of their identity.



13 JUNE 2025

Youth empowered on social and behavioural change

Ubunye Foundation in collaboration with Ngqushwa Local Municipality held a powerful Youth Empowerment Programme aimed at equipping young people with tools to make positive life choices and contribute meaningfully to their communities.

The Speaker of Council, Cllr. Daniswa Ncanywa warmly welcomed the youth and emphasized the importance of initiatives like these in shaping a brighter future for them. She expressed concern over the growing challenges young people face today, particularly the rise of alcohol intake, drug abuse and the risks associated with social media dating.

“This programme is here to help you do away with things that do not build you. Let this be an opportunity to come up with plans that will develop you. The municipality is ready to knock on the doors of stakeholders who support youth development, said Cllr. Ncanywa.

One of youth members, Ms. Onela Plaatjie from Hamburg expressed appreciation for the support and skills they continue to receive through Ubunye Foundation’s capacitation and development efforts.

Topics covered included, healthy lifestyle choices, responsible sexual behavior, Gender Based Violence, mental wellness and are all aimed at guiding young people towards a more purposeful and empowered life.

The municipality is committed to working hand in hand with organizations like Ubunye to create a lasting impact on the lives of young people across Ngqushwa.



21 JUNE 2025

Municipality marks youth month with vibrant sports activities

June marks the Youth Month in South Africa, commemorating the 1976 Soweto uprising and honoring the role of youth in the struggle against apartheid. Ngqushwa Local Municipality engaged in sport games at various wards to honour youth month. The youth day is supported by Councilors, NOA Group represented by Mr Sterk Hibana and the Department of Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture.

Games were at Ntloko village (Ward 9) wherein six villages of the ward, namely, Ntloko, Pikoli, Nobumba, Mgwaland, Runletts and Woodlands participated in netball and soccer.

Mayor Sanga Maneli addressed youth saying “when they came into effect in 2021, they took responsibility to develop the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of Ngqushwa people. He assured youth that the Council is fully supportive of growth in sports, skills development and opportunities that are brought by other stakeholders in Ngqushwa.

Mr Hibana from Noah Group, a leading renewable energy, independent power producer and aspirant energy trader affirmed that this day is a special day as they believe that youth should be inspired in a healthy lifestyle. He said, “I want to thank Mayor Maneli, Council and administration for bringing the effort of putting community together because when people are working together, they can fight many obstacles in life. In closing, he encouraged youth to continue play, enjoy sport, and always remember that “sharing is caring” and “the sky is the limit.”

The games continued in various wards and the winning teams were awarded prizes. Following the games, ward teams will be selected to play games during the upcoming Mayors Cup Tournament.

