## THE R4 RENT INCREASE IS HIGH

DAZOS

The Tembisa Civic Association has taken interest in the R4 rent increase implemented to finance electricity in the Township. The increase came into effect as from the beginning of April. The Civic Association looked into the matter thoroughly, analysed it and sought expert advice on it. It is presently following up the rent increase issue.

The Tembisa Civic Association maintains that:

- I. The R4 rent increase is too high. Residents are not in a position to meet the high rents. Widows, pensioners and the hundreds of the unemployed residents are struggling to make a living. Commodity prices in stores and shops are increased everyday. Rents should not have been increased.
- 2. Since I98I rent has been increased gradually although the general living standards and conditions have not been improved. Residents need houses, sewerage in toilets and properly constructed roads. Electricity for which the residents have to pay the R4 increase is of secondary importance. Some residents pay for it but do not have it in their area.
- 3. Residents are no longer sent advice slips showing how much the could pay when they go to the Administration Offices to pay rent. They are told to "bring along enough money". It is not clear what is the meaning of "bring along enough money". Paying rent becomes extremely inconvenient. Payments of water, electricity, site rent and other services are mixed and difficult to understand. Residents are confused by such a system because their rent differ every month
- 4. Whenever the Town Council intends to implement any scheme they should first meet residents in a series of meetings. Residents should have the time to ask questions and say what they want. The Council should implement schemes which the residents decide are of great importance.
- 5. The Town Council owes the residents a thorough explanation why rent has been increased. The Council should call a series of meeting IMMEDIATELY and discuss the rent issue.
- 6 Residents have the right to decide on civic matters in their Township. They should fight for their rights and enjoy discussing their affairs.

Issued by the TEMBISA CIVIC ASSOCIATION.

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