

Balikumbat Council

Town Crier

A quarterly Newsletter of the Balikumbat Council sponsored by the National Community Driven Development Program (PNDP)

EDITORIAL



Babirng Joseph Samgwa Mayor
LET'S COMMUNICATE!

Accept greetings from the **BALIKUMBAT** Council. The coming of this council news letter is a saluted initiative. This is one of the greatest tools we have longed for in this municipality to tell the world of the great job we are doing daily to better our lives and the lives of those who look up to our council for survival. Through this council news letter, we can be able to reach out to thousands in their meeting houses, in their quarters, and in the various carved out constituencies of our councillors. Through this medium, councillors will have to merely dish out copies to the people in their constituencies and everyone shall get to be informed on the various activities of the mayor and the council. This news letter that shall be coming up quarterly shall play a great deal in curbing rumour mongering. You shall know everything first hand. You shall know what project is going on, who is executing it and who is to benefit as well as when it starts and when it shall finished.

Before now, we have been heard through the public and the private media. Today we are upbeat by this platform which from now hence will act as one of our official channels for information dissemination particularly at this time when we are building a synergy for community involvement in the development process of the council. This magazine is expected to be our information vehicle to bring to fulfilment this ultimate vision.

We are building Balikumbat Council with the people at the centre of all actions as reflected in the development process in our municipality. A majority of projects are chosen by the people through our development committees and forwarded via their councillors for prioritization and execution. Good quality Drinkable Water, municipal layout, road (tarring, maintenance and rehabilitation), construction of schools, bridges, employment, win-win cooperation and partnerships and many others have emerged from this approach and meeting our people at their point of need. It is a people oriented structure we are moving forward into.

We invite you to join us make our municipality a dream city for all. Be involved! Move forward with us.

Happy reading!!!

COUNCIL NEWS..... Pg. 2

Balikumbat Council Votes Accounts

INVESTMENT Pg. 2

Effective Project Realisation



PNDP IN THE COUNCIL..... Pg. 3

Joguru And Bafanji Leave Darkes At Last!

Balikumbat Council Votes Accounts

Balikumbat Council had a session which held on the 3rd of April 2017 at the Council hall. The session was devoted to the deliberation and adoption of the 2016 Administrative, Management and Stores account. This was also in a special way devoted to the launching of the update of the Council Development Plan (CDP). Presided at by the Senior Divisional Officer for Ngoketunjia Division Mr. Kuela Valery Norbert, he welcomed everyone and encouraged them to take the CDP update serious. It was attended by a cross section of Divisional Delegates, elected representatives, traditional rulers, Councillors, Sub Divisional Service heads and Council staff. The Administrative and Management Account of 2016 that was adopted stood at Five hundred and forty seven

million,

Fifty four thousand, three hundred and ninety nine (547.054.399) Frs. In the course of the session, chairpersons of the various committees gave their analyses.

The chairperson of the education committee praised the council executive for the recruiting thirty nine (39) teachers who were posted to some needy schools. The committee appealed for the recruitment of a backup staff to be posted to the Inspectorate of Basic Education Balikumbat. Also, they appealed for the rehabilitation of the play ground of some schools and classrooms. They stressed on the need for capacity building seminars for

Councillors.

The Social committee appreciated the Council executive members for the ongoing construction of market toilets in some markets and requested that effective control should be made in order to ensure that they are properly used. The committee recommended that fines should be levied on sellers of food stuffs in exposed containers. it also noted that some public stand taps within the municipality were without water and requested the Council to rehabilitate them and levy fines on those who keep tampering with the stand taps and catchment areas. The committee advised the public to confine their domestic animals during the farming season to guarantee food self-sufficiency.

INVESTMENT

The effectiveness of the council internal tender's board which has developments as its motor, balikumbat council has been able to realise and has continue to realise several projects. Thanks to this body, the council and its authorities have carried several projects steaming from education, road construction and maintenance, provision of social amenities and general sanitation.

This has seen the construction of an agricultural warehouse in Balikumbat worth 20.000.000frs,

the construction of two classrooms at G.S Ekwo Mbashie in Bafanji worth 18.000.000frs. Within this framework Balikumbat Council had its road maintenance credit from the Ministry of Public Works worth 27.000.000frs. There has equally been the opening of a road linking the agricultural zone of Aghebli Bamunkumbit worth 10.000.000frs. This period also witnessed the construction of road linking Baligashu and Mile Zero in Bafanji. It should be noted that the



building of an embankment on the bridge along this road and the backfilling of the bridge was done with part of the road maintenance credit.

Worth noting is the fact that these projects have all been awarded by the Balikumbat Council Internal Tender's Board and while others have been completely executed others are still ongoing. With the Council local

collection, it has been able to provide

Toilets at Nyamngi, Ngoti and Bafanji markets, A block of two classrooms at SAR-SM Baligashu, Construction of four culverts at Balikumbat.

Within this period also, the following projects were embarked upon with the use of

Council Resolves To Make Available Portable Drinking Water For All

Balikumbat council has taken a commitment to make the precious liquid readily available and accessible to all. To achieve this great developmental goal, the council has been holding several meetings with stake holders to find a lasting solution to the problem of water scarcity in the municipality.

One of such meetings held on the 21th of July 2017 at 10:00 am at the Council hall during which the Mayor appreciated the efforts of the sectorial ministries as far as the realization of government projects are concerned. He challenged all to put hands on deck to ensure that the vision of the council in this direction is achieved.

For his part, the Divisional Delegate of Water and Energy for Ngoketunjia said the last time they visited the projects sites, they made some observations and that they are still to visit and uplift the reserves. He raised some worries amongst them, problems of sand collapsing and rocks and the insufficient depth of bore holes. The Delegate gave the various dimensions of the bore holes and called for the strict respect of this prescription..

He added that pumping test has been carried out on the borehole at Munanji and was seen to be satisfactory. He gave the official



pumping test as 700liters per hour.

The contractor of SAK Enterprise took the floor to address some of the difficulties which were observed on the various projects sites. He talked of the collapse of sand which was the major difficulty and cited an example as they drill 15 meters and the next day, it is seen that sand has collapsed and fill up to 8 meters. He said instead of starting from the fifteen meters, it starts at 8 meters and that the issue of black stones was also a hindrance to bore holes projects execution.

Alluding to the problem, the Divisional Delegate of Public Contracts explained that the government is out to pay the

volume of work done. He cited an example that, should a contract be issued on building construction and in the process of implementation the structure collapses, it must be reconstructed before the contract is paid. He said that they are not out to kill the contractors but to ensure that what the government allocates for the purpose is realized effectively for the benefit of the population.

Several recommendations emerged from the meeting amongst which was That the 1st of August 2017, was to be the deadline for ROYAL ENTERPRISE and MAF CONSTRUCTION to submit their signed contract. And that failure to do so sanctions could be metted on them.

PNDP IN THE COUNCIL

Council Finance Management improved upon-Thanks to SIM-ba

The SIM-BA accounting software has been introduced in the Balikumbat Council. It is an accounting software that helps in the keeping of accounts. Makes work easy to submit monthly reports to the regional treasurers and council report at the audit bench of the Supreme Court. Because it's still in French, it has necessitated quarterly update training of seminars to better equip its users, mayor,

municipal treasurers and council finance officers. Updated trainings organized have been fruitful, evident in the last performance bread basket results which showed remarkable improvements in the council.

With the software having only the french version as at now, these update trainings have

improved the knowledge of its users thereby improving on the management of council accounts. It is against this backdrop that during the recently organized performance basket competitions for councils of the region, the Balikumbat council came on the 20th position with a 7/16 mark in budget management.

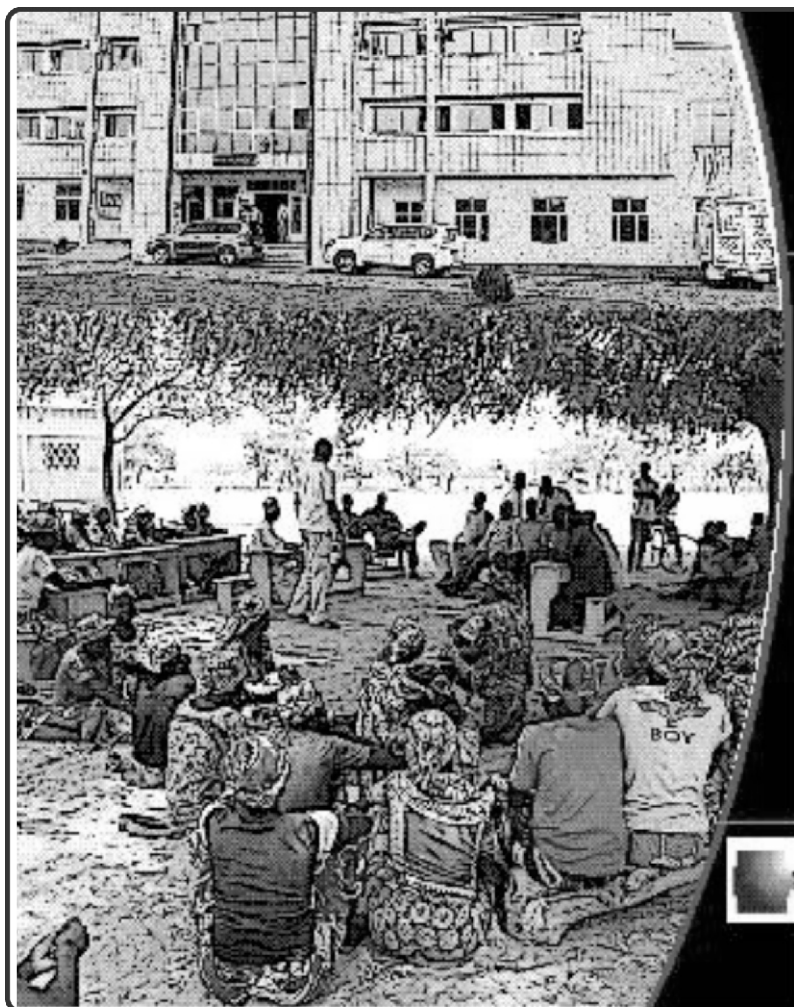
Joguru And Bafanji Leave Darkes At Last!

Joguru in Balikumbat to Njanung in Bafanji can now boost of electricity. The electricity extension to these municipalities was principally financed by the National Community Driven Development Program. The extension of electricity with capacity of 25KW in these villages falls under Article 10 (II) (2) that is economic infrastructure. Before this, villages use to use only bush lamps to light up their home especially at night, had little social life especially in the evenings except for a richer minority that could afford for small generators to illuminate their various homes. With the project now a reality, life has been planted as there has been a new fund way of life as farmers and inhabitants can now sit back and



watch television with family at night, socialise with friends at socialising joints and business

has been triggered with cold stores, bars and other electricity business friendly activities have emerged in these villages.



I am involved in the development of my municipality

- ✦ By participating in the activities of the council ;
- ✦ By taking part in village development meeting ;
- ✦ By taking part in community work ;
- ✦ By paying taxes ;
- ✦ By following up the accountability municipal councillors and the Mayor

CNC, Nouvelle Route Bastos, face PNUD
Box 1660 Yaounde-Cameroon · Tel : +237 222 213 664 · Fax : +237 2222
Email: pnudp@pnudp.org · Website: www.pnudp.org

