



TALKING HARARE

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Mbare ZANU (PF) leader arrested

Modern Numel Chirwa who is the ZANU (PF) Chairman for Joshua Nkomo District in Mbare was arrested last weekend for allegedly raping a Mbare woman. Chirwa, alias Namion Damion and feared in Mbare for allegedly being one of the leaders of *Chipangano* terror group, was arrested after a woman alleged he raped her last January.



The woman allege that on the fateful day Chirwa and some youths force-marched people to a ZANU (PF) night meeting at Gwinyai Primary School and addressed them before dismissing them but asking the complainant to remain behind. He allegedly threatened to beat her up before having anal sex with her. Chirwa appeared in court Tuesday and was remanded out of custody on a US\$60 bail with conditions.

According to some Mbare residents, Chirwa is one of the most feared *Chipangano* leaders who terrorise residents and vendors in the suburb and market places. A post by Harare Residents Trust on the social network Facebook says, 'Chirwa has earned a reputation in Mbare for allegedly forcing women to sleep with him and then assign a 'youth member' from his party to stay in the victim's house so as to closely monitor her.'

Mbare has become a hard-hat area for suspected non-ZANU (PF) supporters with the shadowy *Chipangano* terror group allegedly perpetrating violence.

Health time-bomb at Hatcliffe

Housing Cooperative members cry foul

Hundreds of members of Harare North Housing Cooperative Union in Hatcliffe are crying foul after the union's leader Justin Zvandasara duped them into believing he was the owner of about 100 hectares of land that he sub-divided and then sold to unsuspecting housing-seekers.



Zvandasara, who is a known ZANU (PF) activist allegedly swindled the union members of over US\$4 million by selling residential stands on land he held no title. According to a High Court order issued last week, the land belongs to ZANU (PF) Central Committee member Nyasha Chikwinya. The court order gave Chikwinya powers to

evict the union members within 48 hours many of whom had built houses unaware they had been duped.

'Zvandasara advertised that his cooperative was seeking for people who wanted land to build houses and so many of us joined him and we were asked to pay varying amounts of money ranging from US\$500 to US\$2000 depending on the size of land. It is painful we have to be chucked out like this yet we were paying all required monies. What makes the situation more painful is that Zvandasara is nowhere to be found and there is doubt we will be refunded. And also as you can see, many people had built houses here and they were staying with their families,' lamented Donald Chirova who had built a 5-roomed house and was staying with his family at the housing cooperative.

Man found carrying goblins at Machipisa

Hundreds of people besieged Machipisa Police Station in Highfield Wednesday afternoon demanding to see a man the crowd accused of possessing goblins.

The man, whose identity could not be established, is reported to have accidentally dropped a small bag at Machipisa shops and this was noticed by suspicious onlookers. When the crowd approached him, he refused to give an explanation on what the bag contained. The man was then manhandled and the small bag apprehended and that is when the crowd saw some mysterious objects that looked like very tiny monkeys decorated with beads and what people said was human hair.

'We asked him what these items were and he failed to explain and that prompted the crowd to threaten to attack him. Police swiftly moved in and took him to the station and threatened to arrest those that were following to the station. But, the crowd could have none of it as they besieged the police station accusing the police of harboring a dangerous person. People only left after the police threatened to fire teargas and arrest those milling around the station,' narrated Catherine Munandi, a vendor who witnessed the event at the shopping centre. Other people suspected the man could have possessed goblins that can make him have sex with any woman without her knowledge and consent. The *juju*, which is called *mubobobo* is often used by man who use *juju* and *muti* to sexually abuse women.



MDC-T summons Harare councilors over corruption allegations

shopping centre

Hatcliffe residents fear if council does not take urgent action by collecting garbage being disposed at an open space near the only shopping centre in the area, a cholera outbreak might erupt as rainfall is streaming past the garbage and the water finding its way into wells that people are getting water from.

When *Talking Harare* visited the place last week, swarms of flies could be seen at the open space whilst a strong stench was emanating from dumped garbage.

Allan Maphosa who is a vendor at the shops said residents are living in fear. Some vendors at the shopping centre strongly condemned council for its negligence and exposing people to diseases and death. 'What we are witnessing shows that the city fathers are not forthcoming and should be removed from their posts because they are not considering us as people. We are paying our rates including refuse collection but we cannot see what the money is being used for,' said a young man called Allan who is a vendor at the shopping centre.

Though the situation is dire, some people are said to be still disposing of their rubbish at the open space. 'People have been piling up garbage since the beginning of January of this year and it has not been collected since then. Flies are now flying everywhere and it is now unsafe to consume food around this area,' said Angela Mutongo who resides in the suburb.

'It has become difficult to do shopping at this place because there is an odour that engulfs this area but council seems to turn a blind eye on the situation. We made several reports but nothing has been done so far,' added Mutongo.

Public toilets at the shopping centre are also not working and were closed as the flashing system of the toilets ceased to function well. 'The situation has worsened with unavailability of toilets. The toilets were closed some three weeks ago and some people have resorted to relieve themselves at secluded places,' said Felix Mushoma who runs a small business at the shopping centre.

Some vendors and residents told *Talking Harare* that they will stage a demonstration at the local council offices demanding their money back if council does not urgently rectify the situation.

Council dispatches more summons

Harare city council has intensified dispatching of summons to residents who are still to pay their outstanding bills. The summons threaten all defaulting rate-payers that their property will be attached if outstanding bills are not urgently settled.

Most households in Mabvuku, Tafara, Kambuzuma, Rugare, Mbare, Glen Norah and Dzivarasekwa have received the summons but some maintain they are not able to pay since most of the bills were accumulated before the dollarization period when there was virtually no service being offered by council.

Others have urged the city fathers to avoid the 'bullying' tactic and instead come up with other innovative way of generating revenue instead of relying on ratepayers only.



The MDC-T summoned all Harare City councilors to its party headquarters Monday and warned them against engaging in corrupt activities.

According to councilors who attended the meeting but asked not to be named, the party's Secretary of Local

Government Sesil Zvidzai read the riot act and asked all those being implicated in corruption scams to come clean. 'Yes it is true that we were summoned to a meeting by Zvidzai and he asked all those named in corrupt deals to come clean and clear their names. He said the party and government were concerned about the performance of some of the councilors especially reports that some councilors were being corruptly involved in the allocation of stands and awarding of council tenders,' said one councilor.

Sources also told *Talking Harare* that Zvidzai threatened to set up a committee that would investigate all councilors suspected of being involved in corruption and said those caught would be dismissed from council and party.

There have been several cases of corruption being leveled against some Harare councilors and these include allegations of forcibly evicting people renting council houses and also the awarding of city tenders. Some residents have also questioned how some councilors have become rich overnight even though they are not on council payroll.

800 cases of typhoid in Harare

Reported cases of typhoid have risen up to 800 in Harare amid fears the disease could spread to all suburbs if enough is not done to quarantine the outbreak that has so far been reported in Kuwadzana, Warren Park and Dzivarasekwa.

In the latest outbreak, Kuwadzana Polyclinic has been overwhelmed by people coming to be treated of the deadly disease and Harare city council said it requires urgent assistance to deal with the situation.

Whilst council says the typhoid outbreak is a result of illegal vendors who are selling dirty and contaminated foodstuffs such as fish and fruits, residents say the actual cause is dirty water coming from water tapes and that being obtained from boreholes. The bickering between the two parties has not helped the situation as more and more cases continue to be reported.

Talking Harare conducted a survey on what people think about borehole water that most people are using in various suburbs. Below are some of the responses that people sent to us;

City of Harare should take urgent measures to control the situation to avoid further spread. +263772...

It's true; as I speak right now I am visiting the toilet frequently and this only started after I took water from the borehole here in Kuwadzana 4. It might be true cause I am the victim. +263772....

When dogs go for hunting it's difficult to tell which dog got to the prey first? This resembles the government of the day, its difficult which part of the GNU to blame or praise and I think these problems are emanating from the GNU as it is failing to address people's plight. I think election is the answer. +263777.....

I don't have problems with boreholes; at least residents have some water. The onus is on them to treat or boil the water. Wells need to be protected from runoff water. These could be interim measures before Kunzvi dream becomes a reality. +263772.....

People should be given water treatment tablets or they should revert to piped water if it is the available source of water. +263712.....

We need tangible proof that the boreholes are contaminated otherwise residents will leave safer sources for worse. The location of the affected boreholes should be ascertained especially boreholes that are in areas that are likely to be contaminated. There is need for massive awareness. +263773.....

My family depend on borehole water for drinking, I will never use tape water. I don't have any problems with borehole water. +263772.....

There is a broken pipe at the corner Angwa and Kwame Nkrumah near Karigamombe building. Some people are doing their laundry at the place. What hurts most is that treated water is just flowing to waste yet people are being charged for unavailable water in their homes. Who will



Council has also come under fire for using estimates when billing residents with Harare Residents Trust (HRT) saying council is owed nothing by residents as the figures appearing on bills are mere estimates that are not commensurate with service delivery. 'Council should stop issuing these summons because the bills are not justified, they are lying that residents and other stakeholders were not paying rates when it is clear council survives on making weird estimates for non-existent services and then ask residents to pay and if residents fail to pay, they issue these useless summons,' said the HRT in a recent statement. Meanwhile council has since the beginning of this year increased tariffs for residential and commercial properties. Water fixed charge has been raised from \$58 to \$92, an increase of \$34 which is 55% increase. Water charges range from \$0.60c per cubic meter to \$0.80 per cubic meter an increase of 33%. Sewage removal from \$10 per toilet to \$15 per toilet (50% increase) and from \$19 fixed charge to \$29 fixed charge (53%).

These figures mean council has raised rates by about 50% but without having consulted residents. This come barely a month after council, residents associations, council workers union and local government minister Ignatius Chombo met and resolved that all tariff increases have to be suspended whilst negotiations on the way forward would be taking place.

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Opinion Question

Over 800 cases of typhoid have been reported in Harare over the past few weeks. What do you think should be done to solve this problem? **Text your views to 0777437301.**

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account for these large amounts of unutilized water? +263772.....

*.....
With the rains, contamination is highly possible. Better boil the water to eliminate bacteria. +263775.....*

*.....
Yes it's true because many boreholes were drilled at places that were not properly and thoroughly surveyed for potential danger like burst sewer pipes. +263776.....*

*.....
The health officials should issue water treatment tablets and chemicals before the disease spread. It's better to take preventive measures than corrective measures when the disease spread, sometimes when some people are dead. +263775.....*

*.....
That fear is borne out of ignorance. Borehole water is safer than city council water. Besides, where is the tap water which is supposed to be clean? +263772.....*

*.....
I think borehole water is now contaminated. +263773.....*

*.....
The local government and health officials must test the water in the laboratories to ascertain contamination. +263772.....*

*.....
Political parties should show that they have people at heart. The government must intervene; it cannot be broke to an extent that it can't buy chemicals. +263775.....*

*.....
Health officials should issue out water treatment tablets and chemicals before diseases outbreak rather than to wait until there is a problem. It is better to have preventive measures than corrective measures. - Kuwadzana*

*.....
Water need to be treated. +263773.....*

*.....
I write to express my gratitude and commend the efforts by Harare city council and health officials who work very hard to rectify the problem of sewage water that has been infiltrating into the borehole water system at Warren Park clinic and caused serious diarrhea outbreak in the suburb late last year.*

The borehole had not been working from the time it was discovered that a nearby burst pipe was leaking sewer that infiltrated into the borehole system. Health officials carried out some tests and the borehole is yet to be approved if it is still safe for people to use the water.

I would also want to commend Harare city council for its efforts to make the suburb clean as they have been collecting refuse in the suburb as per schedule since the beginning of this year. Council has cleared rubbish dumped at undesignated areas. - Warren Park Resident

Harare Metropolitan's Top 20 and Bottom 20 Primary Schools - 2011 Grade 7 results

Top 20 primary school-GRADE 7 Results 2011

- 1-Dominican Convent 98.9% Private sch-22 students per class
- 2-Tynwald 97.7% Private Sch
- 3-Maranatha 96.6% Private sch
- 4-Cornelius Hope 96.4% Private sch
- 5-SOS Hermain G 96.0% Private sch
- 6-Lusitania 95.5% Private Sch
- 7-North Park 93.5% Gvt Sch -45-50 students per class
- 8-Selborne Routledge 93.1% Gvt sch
- 9-Braeside ZRP 93.0% Gvt sch
- 10-St Martin's Convent 92.8% Private sch
- 11-Alex Park 92.4% Gvt Sch
- 12-Greystone Park 92.2% Gvt Sch
- 13-Chinembiri 90.9% Gvt sch
- 14-Avondale 90.2% Gvt sch
- 15-Northwood 90.0% Semi Gvt
- 16-Lous Mountbaten 89.4% Gvt sch
- 17-Hallingbury 89.4% Gvt sch
- 18-St Marys CPS 89.4% Gvt sch
- 19-Courtney Selous 88.7% Gvt sch
- 20-Tomlison Depot ZRP 88.6% Gvt sch

Bottom 20 primary school-GRADE 7 Results 2011

- 190-Chitungu 27.50%
- 190- Blackfordby 27%
- 192-Mukurumbira 27%
- 193- Crest Breeders 26%
- 194- Sharon 25.9%
- 195- Chisipiti Jnr 25.09%
- 196-St Giles 25.0% Special school
- 197-Tafara 1 24.87%
- 198-Dzivarasekwa 4 24.86%
- 199-St Johns Retreat 23.8%
- 200-Dungwiza 23.59%
- 201- Zengeza Main 23.00%
- 202-Epworth 21.49%
- 203-Yamurai 20.33%
- 204-Zinyengere 20.30%
- 205- St Johns prep 18.70%
- 206-Chinamano 16.60%

207- Dankwets 12.94%
208- Eye Court 12.80% Satellite sch
209- Hellenic 9.09%
210- Maulana 4.00% Satellite sch

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