



Dignity . . . Chatsworth's Bayview is to be cleaned up in a renovation project – its houses given a new coat of paint, new doors hung and new piping installed. Residents Charmaine Khan (left), Brendon Pillay and Vincent Naidoo (right) joined the OCR's Iqbal Mohamed and unicity deputy mayor Logie Naidoo (centre) at a function in Bayview to announce the council's plans

PICTURE: THEMBA MGOOMEZULU

Bayview homes to get revamp

VEVEN BISETTY

RESIDENTS in Bayview, a sprawling indigent community in Chatsworth, will begin a new chapter in their somewhat mundane existence.

The eThekweni Municipality "handed over" Bayview to a construction company to begin the first phase of one of the biggest upgrading projects to date – to renovate more than 2 000 of its low cost homes.

Having lived in appalling conditions for years in their "apartheid-era" council homes built many years ago, residents told the *Daily News*: "Finally, we

have dignity".

The municipality sanctioned spending an initial R6 million for the "critical intervention" project, but says the entire renovation project of its housing stock in Chatsworth – the replacing of roofs, windows and doors and foundations – will cost more than R50 million.

The homes in the mainly Bayview, Westcliff and Crossmoor areas were built by the former National Party government more than 40 years ago and hadn't had a major make-over since.

Unicity Deputy City Manager Derek Naidoo says that rebuilding Bayview was a win-win situa-

tion for the community.

Not only will their homes undergo extensive renovations, but the labour for the project will come from the community itself – 100% unskilled and 50% skilled.

"The municipality intends to use local labour from the tenants of the flats to a large extent in the revamp programmes, primarily aimed to ensure that funding will be ploughed back to the community to assist them in making payments for services," Naidoo said.

Five large housing blocks will require extensive renovation work.