



## **BUSHMAN'S RIVER MOUTH / BOESMANSRIVIERMOND**

Ratepayers' Organisation / Belastingbetalersorganisasie  
(BRRAG)

P.O.Box / Posbus 90, Boesmansriviermond, 6190

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### **MINUTES OF A COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE BUSHMAN'S RIVER MOUTH RATEPAYERS' ORGANISATION HELD AT 14 KROGSCHEEPERS STREET, BRM ON DECEMBER 14, 2009 AT 9.00**

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#### **1. WELCOME**

Chairman Lötter Wepener welcomed all.

#### **2. ATTENDANCE**

L. Wepener, S. Swanepoel, W. Grové, C. Krogscheepers, P. Mouton, B. Northrop,

A. Vosloo, S. Bellingham

2.1 **Apologies:** A. Murray, F. Venter, I. Smith

#### **3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - OCTOBER 31 2009**

The minutes were taken as read and approved.

#### **4. CHAIR & LEGAL**

4.1 **Sewage** - There was a possibility of water pollution in the River. To date no tests had been done due to the high cost and difficulty in carrying them out. There has been no assistance from Albany Coast Water Board. Andrew to report back from Nel Potgieter (consultant to Ndlambe) on the information he can supply. Bill to do a draft letter re his observations at the plant. There was a need to tackle Ndlambe re the sewage problem as operation and maintenance of the

***“We make the difference / Ons maak die verskil”***

Committee: Lötter Wepener (Chairperson)(0825524714 / [wepener@law.co.za](mailto:wepener@law.co.za)), Ernst Linström, Pieter Mouton, Andrew Murray, Ian Smith, Bill Northrop, Anton Vosloo

Subcommittee members: Peter Bowen, Val Bowen, Dave Chalmers, John Charter, Dirk Meiring, Annabelle Northrop, Roy Somers

plant left much to be desired. With inadequate and inexperienced staff there could be a major problem looming. Pieter and Lötter to investigate whether Ndlambe are being negligent. Meanwhile BRRAG will monitor the situation.

4.2 **Correspondence**- Sheila had made an application to DEAT to prune the Milkwood trees.

4.3 **Summary** – Lötter reported that there has been no marked difference in communication since the appointment of the new Municipal Manager. Enquiries are still being ignored with no response from Ndlambe.

## 5. FINANCE

5.1 As per the latest report.

Donations made up a major portion of the total income. Membership was approximately 266 but should be at least 400. Expenses are far in excess of income and a strong membership drive is needed.

**Corris** to see to the refund due from Fred Lutge.

5.2 Fanie requested that the Constitution be altered to change the Financial Year dates to 1 December and 30 November. This will be taken to the AGM.

5.3 December Fund raising – nothing is planned. A fishing competition was suggested but it would appear that finding a suitable date is a problem. This is something that needs to be discussed and organised far earlier in the year. It was suggested that the committee work towards a possible competition during the April holidays. The next newsletter should request donations for prizes. Liaison with local fishing clubs re suitable dates is necessary. **Anton** to make enquiries.

5.4 Passage money – The Ward 3 Committee has approved that the money due could be utilised by BRRAG. However, the current whereabouts of such money is still unknown. **Lötter** to investigate.

5.5 Subscriptions. An increase in membership fees of R100 was discussed. This could be a problem for many pensioner ratepayers and it was therefore decided that an appeal for donations over and above the membership fee would be more effective.

## 6. SAFETY AND SECURITY

6.1 At the previous meeting there was a suggestion that a letter be drafted requesting an extra R10 per household be debited to their Hi-Tec subscription in order to pay for necessary security equipment. Another meeting with Hi-Tec is necessary in order to establish who is responsible for the sending out of such letter. Discuss with Andrew.

**LOTTER**

## 7. LAND CLAIMS

7.1 This is an issue outside of BRRAG's jurisdiction. There appears to be a great deal of confusion regarding the recent land claims and it is not an issue in which BRRAG can become involved.

As an aside – the Fairbrother development was raised and the committee was reminded of the vote taken at the previous AGM against any high density development and Ndlambe's present moratorium against such developments. Decided not to revisit the previous decision.

## 8. ROADS, VERGES, VACANT PLOTS SIGNS, PARKS, TRAFFIC

8.1 The refuse bins are finally all in place. Thanks recorded to Ndlambe.

8.2 Manhole covers – the situation has not improved – we need to persist with Ndlambe to get them repaired.

8.3 Tow path key – Corris to follow up with Richard and Oorlog. The key should be held by Lötter and Sheila.

8.4 Various signages still not in place at the slipway – viz: No Parking, No Mooring. It was thought that Estuary Care was going to see to the signage. **Pieter** to do the no mooring sign by January.

No parking information to be publicised at the AGM

Jetty – It was suggested that the Rotary funds be used to add abrasive strips to the jetty to counter the danger of slipping. **Bill** to discuss with Estuary Care re attaching supporting chains to the jetty.

8.5 Speed humps – River road humps are in place. The matter to stay on the agenda in order to see to other areas that still require speed humps.

8.6 At present the town is fairly clean and tidy – but garden refuse will mount up quickly with the influx of holiday homeowners. Another clean up to be done before Christmas

8.7 Tow path from the bridge to the Sandbar – This is completely overgrown. The committee agreed to request that Estuary Care look into the possibility of clearing it. Bill to inform Estuary Care of our decision. **BILL**

## 9. **RIVER, ESTUARY CARE, DEAT, BEACHES, HEALTH, HYGIENE, SEWAGE**

### **REFUSE**

9.1 The toilet at the slipway has been repaired. The one at the Town Hall is unusable at present.

9.2 Jetty – as reported above

9.3 Volo – Ndlambe is applying for a permit for the Volo parts. Item to remain on the agenda.

9.4 Andrew to see to the installation of the New Jersey concrete blocks at the sea are park.

9.5 River signage – Frans Wessels has attached reflective tape on the channel poles. Corris to liaise with him.

9.6 Coastal Care – Sanparks to be contacted re a clean up after New Year's Day. **Bill** to contact Jan Kapp re refuse bags on the beach.

9.7 Grass on the river beach – this needs to be cleared out. This to be one as soon as possible – but dependant on member donations. All committee members to attempt to elicit such as the cost will amount to approximately R8000.

- 9.8 It was decided that a further handrail along the gabion wall is not necessary.
- 9.9 Seepage along the tow path – at present this is dry. Ndlambe needs to do a seepage test during season. Lötter to contact Miss Booysen (Health Inspector) to see what can be arranged when seepage occurs.
- 9.10 Riversbend slipway. An attempt has already been made to have this included in the IDP as it is urgently needed. We will try and promote this via Estuary Care.

## 10 WEBSITE

An article to stress the dire water shortage and the dates of municipal water cuts to be placed on the website. **IAN**

## 11. NRF

No further developments re disaster management.

The last meeting was a report back of the meeting with Ndlambe and NAG. There has been a suggestion to enlist the assistance and expertise of retired professionals within the communities to assist with the running of the municipality wherever possible.

## 12. WARD 3

Our Councillor, Maria Mike, sadly passed away recently. A new councillor still to be appointed. It was stressed that our approach to Ndlambe is still most effective via the Ward Committee.

## 13. GENERAL

- 13.1 Trailer registration – **Bill** to obtain the necessary documents from Oorlog. A number plate still to be attached. **CORRIS.**
- 13.2 AGM – All notices to be posted. Tea to be served. Lötter and Sheila to arrange. Corris to speak with James Arnott re catering equipment. Invitations to various municipal officers and chairpersons to be sent out. Request Mike Smuts to open the meeting with prayer. Anton suggested that committee members sit together in order that they may be easily recognised.

- 13.3 We need to urge people to attend the Estuary Care AGM in order to get more BRRAG representation.
- 13.4 The KOSRA AGM will be on 29 December at 10h00 and committee members are invited to attend.
- 13.4 Pieter's staff to assist the appointed cleaning lady with the beach and car park areas.
- 13.5 Stompie to review address list to see who else is available in the Riversbend area to become members.
- 13.6 Annabelle to arrange tree cutting. Lötter to organise the refuse pick up. It was proposed the Tuesday December 22 be a final clean up date.

Lötter thanked all committee members for their input over the past year. He in turn was thanked for his enormous effort. There being no further business the meeting ended at 11h00

**SIGNED.....**

**DATE.....**