

**MINUTES OF BRRAG COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 1400 ON FRIDAY, 13 MAY 2011**

**AT 12 SALIE STREET, BRM**

1. WELCOME/VERWELKOMING The chairman welcomed all, and introduced Mr Baatjies of the Ndlambe Fire Services. Mr Baatjies gave a talk on fire safety, which is in the addendum at the end of the minutes.
2. ATTENDANCE/BYWONING - V Vosloo, S Swanepoel , A Northrop, C Krogscheepers, A Murray, B Northrop, I Smith, D Meiring, F Venter, J Erasmus. Apologies/Verskonings KOSRA, D Walters, P Mouton.
3. SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA/AANVULLENDE AGENDA  
See/Kyk item 13
4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS/NOTULE VAN VORIGE VERGADERINGS: 18- 03 - 2011 – an amendment was offered by Sheila regarding the process of the membership drive , and Mr Vosloo was incorrectly called Mr Vorster. Minutes passed.
5. CHAIR/VOORSITTER
  - 5.1 Attendance by members of outside meetings. The following list was decided -  
NRF – Dirk and Sheila  
Ward – Sheila and Bill  
Estuary Care – Andrew and Bill  
Mayoral Committee – Dirk and Sheila  
Security – Ian and Andrew  
Chamber of Business – Andrew and Ian.
  - 5.2 It was asked that notes of any meetings with municipal members be kept and submitted to committee. Also, the monetary amount of any expenses paid out privately is to be given to Fanie. These amounts will then be reflected in the accounts as donations, so that a list of private expenses used in the upkeep of the area is available for the municipality if required.
  - 5.3 Chamber of Business (Chairman Mike Kirby) inquired as to why BRRAG had not sent a representative, Andrew to ensure that he gets all necessary information. **ANDREW**
  - 5.4 KOSRA meeting showed that Kenton has the same problems as Bushmans. One of their aims is to improve the ‘Village’ aspect of Kenton. They also use the advertising TV at Spar, and it was suggested that Bushmans do the same, possibly with the financial assistance from Estuary Care. **ANDREW**

5.5 NRF/MAYORAL MEETING was held on the 18<sup>th</sup> April, with only two directors present. The positive feeling is that the municipality is listening to NRF. It appears that problems at Alexandria are being addressed. The Port Alfred dams are now 70% full, water restrictions are to be lifted, but the excess water tariff has not been scrapped.

A letter has been sent to the Provincial Police Service about the cattle not being impounded when found on the road. Desalination plants are not going to be used for the future, but rather a plan with the Amatola Water Board is being brought to the table. The Bushmans dump now has concrete poles around the perimeter, although no wiring. It is felt that all dumps are a disgrace. It was noted that any public gathering using municipal property must get a permit if more than 30 people will be present.

Ward 3 is in recess until after the elections. One item brought up is that the Marselle community requests that they be given farming area where they can keep pigs and cattle.

5.6 CORRESPONDENCE – A letter was received from Mr Griggs of Rivers Bend, complaining of the lack of work done by BRRAG at Rivers Bend. It is felt that the plots that are overgrown there should be identified, and the municipality to then send the owners letters of compliance to keep the plots clean, especially with the fire risk increasing over winter. Ian agreed to provide a map of Riversbend showing plot numbers, Sheila will, over a period of time, identify overgrown plots and report back to the committee.

In addition, Eric could be approached to find workers to clear up all identified areas, and the introduction of a maintenance programme for the village, with Richard Pote should be instigated. **CORRIS and DIRK**

5.7 - 9 Have been dealt with in previous notes.

5.10 REGISTRATION ON BRRAG AS NGO – due to problems this will be held back by a year.

5.11 OUTSTANDING ISSUES – letters have been sent to and stamped received by the municipality. **DIRK**

5.12 CONSULTATION STRUCTURES – Erf 466, a letter has been sent to the Municipality (edited by Pieter), outlining legal requirements. He is to be advised if any action of any nature takes place on this erf.

**ALL**

## 6. FINANCE/FINANSIES

6.1 At present no action to be taken with regard to the beach kiosk. The kiosk roof is leaking, to be investigated. It is noted that new leases are to be submitted to the Municipality with regard to municipal halls, but Bushmans is not included on the list.

**CORRIS**

6.2 The passage money has still not come through, Dirk has contacted Mr Masiza. This money has been ring fenced by Ward 3 to improve the tourism aspect. Suggestions include repairing the gabion wall, improving the picnic areas, the river and beach areas, providing seating, preventing people driving on and damaging the beach.

6.3 In order to clarify expenses for the budget, Fanie enquired as to whether the vehicles will be kept, who is to cut the grass and where, etc. Grass cutting at the entrance is being funded privately, and it was decided to keep the vehicles for use in cleaning the area. A rota of people prepared to donate a day to clean up is to be drawn up, specifically after long weekends and holidays. **SHEILA**

It was suggested that should householders wish for the removal service, their refuse will be removed at a charge of R150.00 a load, or R120.00 if they are BRRAG members. A notice will have to be issued and placed on the notice boards in the village.

CORRIS/RASSIE

6.4 Membership fees are still down, and all committee members are asked to enquire of their friends and neighbours if they are members. **ALL**

6.5 See 6.3

6.6 Projects to be reviewed at a later date.

6.7 Membership drive, see 6.4.

7. SAFETY AND SECURITY/VEILIGHEID EN SEKURITEIT

There will be more cameras sited at Salie and Alexandria Roads when funds permit. However, the cameras will be held back until there is a control room upgrade. Ian also enquired why Kenton had better camera facilities at their entrance than Bushmans had. The camera at the bridge/river was vandalised during school holidays, culprits are suspected but no proof is available.

8. NEW DEVELOPMENTS AND BUILDING REGULATIONS; VACANT PLOTS; TRAFFIC and POTABLE WATER/ NUWE ONTWIKKELINGS EN BOUREGULASIES; VAKANTE ERWE ; VERKEER en DRINKBARE WATER

8.1 At present no further details have been received about the filling station but this matter must be monitored.

8.2 A traffic count was done at the R72 intersections from Bushmans to Kenton. The technicians themselves had trouble getting out of the Bushman intersections. A follow up with Mr Offord will be done. **BILL**

8.3 The caravan park will not be dealt with at present and will stand over to a future meeting.

9. ROADS, VERGES, TREES, STREET SIGNS AND NOTICES, PARKS(including Vlei) / PAAIE, SYPAADJIES, BOME EN STRUIKE, PADTEKENS EN KENNISGEWINGS, PARKE (insluitende VLEI)

9.1 The manholes have all been replaced, thanks to private donor.

9.2 While the traffic signs "No Parking for Trailers" are not legal in the sense that the police can come and fine people for disregarding them, permission was given, by both Fanie Fouche and the homeowners whose fences bear the signs, to erect them.

9.3 The traffic hump request by D Laubscher to be dealt with by Andrew **ANDREW**

9.4 The tennis court is now in an even worse state, and the trees around the area urgently need attention before someone is injured. Eric to be advised. **CORRIS**

9.5 The trimming of trees is to be a group effort, and a date must be set. **CORRIS/VOSSIE**

9.6 The traffic department has lost the weighbridge ticket, so the registration of the trailer is again delayed. **CORRIS**

9.7 A private homeowner will pay to ensure the entrance to Bushmans is kept clean and the grass cut.

10. RIVER, ESTUARY CARE, DEAT, BEACHES (including Kiosk)/RIVIER, MONDINGSORG, DEAT, STRANDE (insluitend Kiosk).
- 10.1 The jetty needs rubber to be added to the side, to prevent damaging boats temporarily mooring there. Estuary Care to carry out this work.
- ANDREW**
- 10.2 Concrete blocks are still at the beach, but Bill expressed his concern about any structure being erected to hold back the encroachment of the sea, as it could a) be counter to DEAT regulations and b) not feasible. After discussion it was decided that the pillars remaining from the demolished latrine could be laid across the entrance of the beach. Labour could be organised and the work take place at a convenient time. Alternatively, Corris suggested wooden poles and cross poles could be erected as was the case in the past. This could be costed.
- BILL**
- 10.3 Andrew asked for help with ideas on how to contain and eradicate the grass on the river beach, Estuary Care to be approached
- ANDREW/ALL**
- 10.4 The slipway ramp to be kept under observation for erosion. **BILL**
- 10.5 Estuary Care is also dealing with the Amatola Water Board regarding the gabion wall..
- 10.6 The river path is part of Estuary Care, no longer a matter for BRRAG and can, therefore, be dropped from the Agenda.
- 10.7 The sedimentation problem is no longer for BRRAG, and can, therefore, be dropped from the Agenda.
- 10.8 The official opening of the bridges was held. Grinaker has been appointed to replace the bearings in the bridge, work to start soon.
11. HEALTH, HYGIENE (INCLUDING PUBLIC TOILETS), SEWAGE, REFUSE REMOVAL (HOUSEHOLD AND GARDEN)/ GESONDHEID, HIGIENE (insluitend publieke toilette), RIOLERING, VULLISVERWYDERING (HUISHOUELIK EN TUINAFVAL)
- 11.1 The sewage plant is not maintained for health and safety. Rassie is going to request a meeting with Richard Pote and J de Wet. He is also arranging a meeting with Water Affairs.
- 11.2 Rubbish dump See 5.5
- 11.3 The upkeep of the public toilet systems on the river swimming areas is very poor, Richard Pote to be contacted. **RASSIE**
- 11.4 Refuse and rubble removal to be discussed at next meeting.
12. VILLAGE IMAGE/BEELD VAN DORP, WEBSITE/SWEBTUISTE
- 12.1 The website had over 1000 hits per month average
- 12.2 The newsletter was sent out.
- 12.3 The information leaflets are still outstanding. **ERNST**
- 12.4 The Volo/Diaz cross issue is now in the hands of Nature Conservation, and can, therefore, be dropped from the Agenda.
- 12.5 Maintenance of the website will be done by Sharon Smith, at a rate of R100.00 per hour, with the expected use of 2 hours a month.
- 12.6 Items for the history exhibit are being sourced. **DIRK**
13. SUPPLEMENTARY/AANVULLENDE AGENDA

13.1 Relationship with Marselle and Klipfontein residents to be held over for tabling and discussion at the next meeting.

13.2 Sheila requested that a standing item be placed on the Agenda to allow for discussion on any matters that this committee have for submission to Ward meetings. ALL

13.3 Dirk had phoned Pieter Mouton with regard to his letter, Fanie suggested that the meetings be held on a Saturday, thus enabling Pieter to attend.

14. **BRRAG PRIORITIES/PRIORITEITE 2011**

**80:20 PRINCIPLE; BENEFITS ALL BRRAG CONSTITUENTS; ATTAINABLE; SUSTAINABLE.**

**80:20 BEGINSEL; TOT VOORDEEL VAN BELASTINGBETALERS; HAALBAAR; VOLHOUBAAR.**

The meeting closed at 17.00, with C Krogscheepers and A Murray having to apologise and leave earlier. The next meeting is to be held at 12 Salie Street on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July at 9.00am.

## ADDENDUM TO MEETING

### FIRE SAFETY

Mr Bantjies from the Ndlambe Fire Department came to the BBRAG meeting in order to discuss the way forward with fire fighting in this area. He advised that he would be pleased to provide training in fire fighting to any personnel interested. The trainees would also be shown where the fire hydrants in the area were sited, and how to check them on a regular basis. Once training was done the necessary hoses to fit all sizes of hydrants in the area would be left at Bushmans. As the fire engine is now based at Port Alfred it takes a minimum of 20 minutes to arrive in the area, so having trained locals available immediately would be of great help.

It was noted that the water pressure at Bushmans was very poor, and therefore could not always be relied on. The Unimog standing at the old fire station is now completely derelict. Mr Bantjies said he had an old water tank available at Port Alfred, and as BRRAG has a trailer, it was felt it would be a good idea to collect the tank and utilise it at Bushmans. We could then look around for a pump, and would have a useable water tank for fires.

It was pointed out that there are some areas that do not have a fire hydrant available, these areas will be noted, and a request for hydrants must be submitted to Ndlambe Fire Department. The budget for the Fire Department has been cut yet again, and it was suggested that a request for a MIG grant, driven by BRRAG could be initiated.

A further suggestion was that a chainsaw should also be available. There is a problem with getting into the bush should a fire start there. Mr Bantjies pointed out that there is a law stating there should be a fire break between San Park and private properties.

#### Notes:

1. A volunteer is needed to collect the tank from Port Alfred, Bill did offer, to be confirmed with Dirk.
2. Sheila Swanepoel offered to keep the Landrover and trailer at her house, where it would be readily available to any members who required it.