

WAENHUISKRANS ARNISTON RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION
WAENHUISKRANS ARNISTON BELASTINGBETALERSVEREENIGING

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Dear Member

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2013

The committee of your Association has this past year focused more on responding to and monitoring events than in pursuing specific issues which are held to be in the interests of its members. In regard to the former you may be interested to note the following:

The derelict structure on Erf 599 opposite the Camp Site

The Municipality announced around midyear that it had resolved to demolish the incomplete structure on the property. We have yet to determine why this has not yet happened.

Vis Huis (Fish House) cultural and community center

I stated in last year's report: "This admirable project of the Waenhuiskrans Arniston Community Development Trust (of which your Association is a founding donor) has been subjected to obstacles that no public benefit organization should ever be faced with. The facts are, none the less, that building plans have been approved, a contractor appointed and construction slated to commence in January 2013." Construction did indeed commence but was voluntarily stopped under threat of a court interdict. The attached letter on the matter from the Chairman of the Trust provides more detail on the matter.

Planning issues

These Planning related issues remain the most difficult to deal with and the Committee is saddled with an ever-increasing list of unresolved matters requiring monitoring. Members will be familiar with most of these which seem to have no end in sight:

- Revisions to the Town Planning Scheme (of which the issue of height restrictions is most important);
- Addressing apparent transgressions in regard to parking arrangements, the generator room, and the construction of additional guest rooms at the Hotel;
- Regularizing title deed conditions relating to the Arniston Seaside Cottages;
- Construction on Dollas Downs, north of Kassisesbaai;
- Control of driving on the dunes, particularly in the Nature Reserve;
- Policy in respect to memorial benches;
- Policy in respect to guest houses;

- Kassiesebaai beach upgrade;
- Roman beach sustainability and dune erosion;
- Changes to the public open space (Erf 120) to the west of the road along the sea in front of the Hotel

In addition your Committee has this past year evaluated and commented upon at least six applications for departures from the Town Planning Scheme. We have also submitted input in regard to a proposed amendment to the Scheme which would permit the creation of remote parking to satisfy present on-site requirements, such as at the hotel.

Your Committee continued this past year to follow a policy of supporting development where its consequence for the Waenhuiskrans Arniston community and environment was seen to be positive. The commentary by your Committee during the public participation phase of the planning for the new social housing scheme next to the Camp Street community hall is an example of such support. What has been built there is certainly considerably superior to the previous effort by the authorities to create much sought-after housing for the needy.

Of the 2013 committee Steven Boers and Vivian Lourens retired during the year and Colin Bird, Rovina Europa and Sam Lawrence will retire at the AGM. Rovina Europa and Sam Lawrence are available for re-election.

I thank the committee for their unstinting support throughout the past year and those not on the committee who gave so generously of their time to the Association.

May I, personally, and on behalf of your committee, wish you and those closest to you good health and much happiness over this year-end and through 2014.



Colin Bird