

# Waenhuiskrans Arniston Ratepayers Association Waenhuiskrans Arniston Belastingbetalersvereniging

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December 2006

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

### THE YEAR 2006

Dear Member

From your perspective this past year must appear to have been one of relative inaction by your committee. Whilst communication with members has been sparse and our relationship with CAM has for most of the year been in hiatus there has, in fact, been some action.

Your Association was represented on the Community Policing Forum by Owen Lawrence and Vivian Lourens (your vice chairman and also the chairman of the Vissers Unie - the owner of Kassiesbaai). Keith Higgins (secretary / treasurer) represented our interests on the Waenhuiskrans Nature Reserve discussion forum. Peter Hofmeyer has followed up matters related to planning and development and I represented your association on the Waenhuiskrans Arniston Community Development Trust (WACDT) and the Waenhuiskrans Arniston Conservation Association (WACA).

Your committee has met for times this year and once with the Executive Mayor. We have participated actively in the EIA processes surrounding the proposed water pipeline and bulk sewerage scheme. Aside from which much correspondence - albeit predominantly one way - has been generated around the many items set out on the attached schedule. As before, I should like to highlight what, to my mind, are the most relevant matters presently affecting you as a member of this Association:

#### 1. Constitution

The constitution of your Association now only provides for natural (human!) members. This means that non-natural (e.g. companies, trusts etc.) ratepayers need to appoint a natural person as their representative member. Since proxies are no longer provided for, members wishing to vote at the AGM will need to be present at the meeting. Hopefully this system will see greater participation at meetings of the Association.

You are also reminded of the fact that you need to have been a member before 31 October to tof a year and to have paid your membership fee before the AGM in order to vote at the AGM for that year.

#### 2. Planning

The issue of development of Dollas Downs remains of great concern to all of us. It is understood that a compromise has been reached with the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) and that limited, non-commercial, development within the agricultural zoning is to be permitted under certain conditions. We have supported all action that the Conservation Association has taken in this regard. Hannes van Zyl of the Conservation Association will address the AGM on the 27<sup>th</sup> and will hopefully be able to answer any queries which members may have in this regard.

Members will have noticed the lack of progress on the proposed development of Erf 599 (opposite the Main Road camp site). Notwithstanding our contention that the property should have been put out to tender again if the original successful tenderer was unable to perform, the Cape Agulhas Municipality (CAM) has renegotiated the terms of the original sale allowing the successful tenderer an extended period to develop. In addition it is understood that the requirement that the developer complete the project before taking transfer of the property has been removed.

We remain concerned about the apparent inaction by CAM against people who develop without following the conditions of approval.

You will notice from the comments below that we have had a positive response to a request for participation in planning and aesthetic decisions by CAM relating to Arniston. Hopefully the incoming committee will be able to progress this matter and that we can look forward to participation in the decisions of the existing CAM aesthetics committee.

We remain concerned about the apparent persistence by the CAM to consider future development of Arniston outside the existing footprint. We have been consistently apposed to the principle of this for many years and hopefully the new regulations proposed under the national environmental management act concerning development in the costal zone will help us in our campaign against ill considered development in our village.

### 3. Communication with the Municipality

We have seen a considerable period – exceeding a year – were responses to our various approaches to the municipality have in most cases gone unanswered. This has been a most unsatisfactory situation that, to some extent, may be attributed to the municipal manager having been on suspension.

Out of continuing frustration we eventually resorted to setting up a meeting with the Executive Mayor, Ms Eve Marthinus. The unanimous opinion from our delegation to the meeting was that the Mayor's response to the items raised at the meeting was most encouraging. We all left the meeting with high hopes that positive action will arise from the discussions.

You will notice that the Mayor has kindly accepted our invitation to attend the AGM and address the members. I believe that this is a positive beginning to a future of a much closer working relationship with the municipality.

In closing I wish to thank most sincerely all of those within and outside the committee of being so supportive during the past year. I wish the incoming committee every success in their endeavours on behalf of you, the members, and I wish you and your families a happy festive season and a healthy and rewarding year ahead.

Yours sincerely



COLIN BIRD

## SCHEDULE OF MATTERS TAKEN UP WITH CAPE AGULHAS MUNICIPALITY (CAM) IN 2005 FOLLOWED UP AND ADDED TO IN 2006

Matters from 2005:

- MTM MAST  
The booster pump station is to be repainted green to match the generator containers in order to be less conspicuous. The far pole carrying the dipole antennae is to be removed. *This has been completed.*
- BEACH TOILETS  
Both the Kassiesbaai and Roman Beach toilets are to be renovated. *This has been done.*
- ALIEN VEGETATION  
CAM have stated that they have not budgeted to clear more than a 10m strip next to residential buildings. Dit sal opgelet word dat 'n goeie poging in hierdie verband gemaak is om op die Noordelike kant van Kassiesbaai. *This is an ongoing issue constantly monitored by your committee.*
- Erf 599  
Ons verneem van KAM dat die suksesvolle tenderaar nog nie sy ondernemings bygekom het nie en dat die saak na prokureurs verwys word vir arbitrasie. *CAM have agreed to revised terms of sale which allow the purchaser for an extended period – to perform and to take transfer of the land at the original price (date) before performance.*
- ACCESS TO ROMAN BEACH  
CAM says that they have not budgeted to upgrade access to Roman Beach. *Some work has been done to the stairs.*
- STORMWATER DREINERIN  
KAM het onderneem om aandag te gee aan stormwater dreinerings in geskeie plekke in Waenhuiskrans, insluitend die lae liggende gedeelte van Selfbou. *This has been done and with good effect at the Spuitgat Street access way to the beach. The Selfbou area remains problematical.*
- REFUSE BINS  
New refuse bin structures should be in place this year. The advertising bins will hopefully be removed when rental contracts expire. *This issue is not yet resolved and we await advice from CAM as to when the bins will be removed.*
- POLICE STATION  
The issue of a site for a police station remains unresolved. Your committee has two representatives on the Community Policing Forum, namely Vivian Lourens and Owen Lourens. They have been advised that the Municipality is to make land available next to the Community Hall in Camp Street. *The CAM have allocated Erf 500 opposite the Community Hall in Camp Street for this purpose. Your committee is discussing with SAPS to determine what their needs are. We have undertaken to assist with raising money for the structure.*
- KASSIESBAAI ROADWAYS  
The roadways being built in Kassiesbaai are funded by the Provincial Administration. We understand that the CAM are unwilling to assist financially to complete the project as Kassiesbaai is on one erf. We believe that the preservation and enhancement of services of Kassiesbaai is not only essential to the well being of its residents but also to the whole of Arniston and, by implication, the whole Overberg region. For this reason we had hoped to encourage the CAM to assist and we trust that the incoming committee will do the same. *This matter is being followed up by the Mayor with a view to seeking dispensation for CAM to spend money on private land.*

- GRAVEYARD

The response from the CAM to our appeal that the graveyard be tidied up was that it gets done every four to five weeks. We note that this has recently been done but we are told, by Coastcare and not CAM! *The graveyard, you will notice, has recently been cleared.*

- REFUSE COLLECTION

The CAM was asked to collect garden refuse in lieu of domestic refuse in Arniston, especially during off peak periods. CAM have refused to deviate from the system of garden refuse stickers. *You will notice that the CAM have had a new transfer station constructed on the site of the old dump. This is a great improvement worthy of thanks. We have yet to determine the reason for locking the access gate as this seems to encourage the dumping of refuse at the entrance rather than at the station.*

### MATTERS RAISED DIRECTLY WITH MAYOR ON 17 NOVEMBER 2006

Op die vergadering van 17 November 2006, bygewoon deur die burgemeester van die Kaap Agulhas Munisipaliteit en bestuurslede van die Waenhuiskrans Arniston Belastingbetalersvereniging (Wara), is die verhouding tussen die Munisipaliteit en die Belastingbetalersvereniging (Wara) uitvoerig bespreek.

Wara se bestuurslede het hul kommer uitgespreek dat dit voorkom of die Munisipaliteit slegs op besluite van die wykskomitee ag slaan en die Belastingbetalersvereniging ignoreer. Die burgemeester het dit ontken. Die burgemeester het gunstig gereageer op 'n voorstel dat die Belastingbetalersvereniging en/of ander relevante organisasies in die wykskomitee verteenwoordig word, moontlik by wyse van koöptering.

Daarbenewens is die volgende sake bespreek:

- WATERTOEVOER WAT NIE GECHLORINEER IS NIE

Die burgemeester het onderneem om die kwessie te laat ondersoek. Wara sal dit op prys stel as die nodige stappe veral gedurende die komende vakansietyd gedoen kan word.

- POLISIEKANTOOR

Wara het die burgemeester se bevestiging verwelkom dat die munisipaliteit 'n terrein hiervoor beskikbaar stel. Wara sal verder met die polisie-owerhede skakel oor wat nog nodig is om 'n geskikte gebou op te rig. Wara is steeds bereid om die nodige fondse te help bekom. Die burgemeester onderneem om die moontlikheid op te volg.

- STRATE IN KASSIESBAAI

Die burgemeester wys daarop dat, hoewel Kassiesbaai private eiendom ('n trust) is, daar tog 'n moontlikheid is dat spesiale fondse vir die voltooiing van die straatprojek van die provinsiale of sentrale owerheid verkry kan word. Wara steun so 'n inisiatief, veral weens Kassiesbaai se besondere status as nasionale gedenkwaardigheid en die enigste oorblywende vissersdorpje in die land.

- ONWETTIGE KONSTRUKSIE

Onwettige konstruksie wat voortgaan sonder enige waarneembare optrede deur die Munisipaliteit. Hier het Wara in die besonder verwys na drie gevalle:

- (i) Dollas Downs - waar voortgegaan is met bouwerk ondanks Sahra se weiering om goedkeuring daartoe te verleen.
- (ii) Arniston Hotel - waar voortgegaan is met bouwerk ondanks voorwaardes oor parkering en riolering wat nie nagekom is nie.
- (iii) Erf 210 - waar voortgegaan is met bouwerk ondanks besware teen oorskrywing van die boulyn.

Die burgemeester het onderneem om die betrokke gevalle te laat ondersoek.

▪ OPGRADERING VAN PARKERING BY ROMAN BEACH

Wara wys daarop dat die vereniging geensins in die besluit geken is nie. Wara voel dat dit net billik is dat dieselfde opgradering ook vir die strand by Kassiesbaai behoort te geld. Daarbenewens behoort verseker te word dat sodanige parkering, wat by Roman Beach binne die natuurreservaat val, omgewingsvriendelik is. Wara bied aan dat goedgesinde argitekte hiermee kan help.

▪ SLUITING VAN PAAIE DEUR NATUURRESERVAAT

Hoewel 'n aantal instellings, insluitende Wara, 'n ooreenkoms met Natuurbewaring oor die paaie bereik het, word steeds op die Munisipaliteit se reaksie gewag. Die burgemeester wys daarop dat 'n vergadering met Natuurbewaring hieroor oor 'n week plaasvind.

▪ GOEDKEURING VAN ONTWIKKELINGSPLANNE

Wara wys daarop dat die Munisipaliteit dele van die GOP goedgekeur wat deur I+AP's (interested and affected parties) verwerp is, sonder dat dit na hulle terugverwys is.

▪ VULLISHOUERS

Wara meen dat blou vullishouers met advertensies daarop verwyder behoort te word en waar houers werklik benodig word, eerder omgewingsvriendelike betonhouers opgerig moet word. Die burgemeester verklaar dat vervanging wel beoog word namate voldoende fondse beskikbaar word.

▪ TOEGANG TOT STRANDE

Dit geniet aandag, volgens die burgemeester.

▪ ESTETIESE KOMITEE

Die burgemeester wil nie die stigting van 'n estetiese komitee spesifiek vir WHK ondersteun nie omdat KAM reeds so 'n komitee het. Die burgemeester stel voor dat goedgesinde argitekte, uitgewys deur WARA, tot die bestaande komitee gekoöpteer word. Die burgemeester sal die moontlikheid opvolg.

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