

# WAENHUISKRANS ARNISTON RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION

## WAENHUISKRANS ARNISTON BELASTINGBETALERSVEREENIGING

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29 November 2012

Dear Member.

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2012**

The past year of the Association can be described as one typified by waiting. Your committee has a vast array of items on its agenda and whilst there has been progress on many fronts there is not much to show in terms of finality. Those matters which stand out for not seemingly to have progressed, but in fact have, are without doubt the following:

#### **Erf 599**

The process of recovering the legal costs was finalized during the year. Expenditure on the case was fully met by the recovery and generous donations. That has allowed the Association to meet all its obligations in the matter. The community of Waenhuiskrans Arniston owes those selfless donors a great debt of gratitude.

The unfinished business remains the future of the eyesore that stands on the property. Plans the Municipality have for the site remain unknown notwithstanding them having made an undertaking to advise us of their intentions as a matter of urgency. We have made it known that our preference would clearly be for a development of appropriate scale with a meaningful community benefit component.

#### **Vis - huis (Fish house) cultural and community center**

This admirable project of the Waenhuiskrans Arniston Community Development Trust (of which Trust 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. Our gratitude goes to those who have provided the funding for the center and have given of themselves most generously in planning this development. We all look forward to its completion and the great benefit it will bring to the community.

#### **Planning transgressions**

We continue to be frustrated by being faced with instances where building has taken place without due process. Apart from the involvement by your committee in the above items and a raft of mainly town planning issues the following is a selection from its present agenda: The Social Housing development next to the library in Camp street; revisions to the Town Planning Scheme to be advertised shortly; regularizing transgressions such as parking and construction at the hotel; construction on Dollas Downs; changes to the public open space (erf 120) to the west of the road along the sea in front of the hotel; control of driving on the dunes particularly in the Nature Reserve; policy for memorial benches and guest houses; representation on the Ward Committee (Rovina Europa); Kassiesebaai beach upgrade; Roman beach sustainability and dune protection etc. These hopefully highlight the magnitude of the task that this Association and its Committee faces in implementing a core object to "To devote itself to the

enhancement and preservation of the untouched and unique character and natural beauty of the township”.

Please have a look at the enclosed appeal from the **Flower Valley Trust** and its sustainable harvesting initiative. I'm sure you agree this movement's work is in accord with the objects of this Association and is well worth supporting. Please seriously consider doing so.

I once again refer you to the privately sponsored and maintained web site [www.arnistonlive.org](http://www.arnistonlive.org). There you will find up to date details of much about Waenhuiskrans Arniston. If you are simply looking for accommodation in the village, want to read the constitution of this Association or to know more about the **Waenhuiskrans Arniston Community Development Trust** and the extraordinary work it is doing in the field of further education and community support - its all there. Members are encouraged to use the web site and to make suggestions for its expansion and improvement.

Hopefully most of you will attend the **AGM at 09h30 on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> December at the Munus hall** and those who are unable to do so will be represented by a proxy (who may not be a member and may hold only one proxy). Please note that in order to vote at the AGM you need to have been a member on the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2012 **and** to have renewed your membership by paying the fee before the AGM. Please find enclosed a copy of the agenda for the meeting, a financial report and minutes of last year's AGM.

Of the present committee Casey Hofmeyr, Peter Hofmeyr, Vivian Lourens, and Murray van Heerden will retire at the AGM. They are, however, available for re-election. Colin Bird, Steven Boers, Rovina Europa and Sam Lawrence will form the rest of the committee for 2012.

I thank the committee for their unstinting support throughout the past year. Thanks are also most certainly due to each of those members who have continued to contribute so generously to the activities of 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 2013.

Colin Bird