

**Waenhuiskrans Arniston Ratepayers Association  
Waenhuiskrans Arniston Belastingbetalersvereniging**

**2019 AGM Minutes**

**Meeting held on 27.12.2019 at 10am in the Munus Hall, Pratt Street.**

1. **Welcome:** Alan Butler, WARA chairman, welcomed the meeting, and in particular Brandon King of the CPF and Mariaan van Resnburg from Suidpunt Security  
Apologies were received from Sebastian Jones and June Meyer of the CPF, Hannes van Zyl of the Arniston Trust.  
The 2019 committee was introduced – namely Cornel van der Westhuizen, Chris Jacobs, Lesley Richardson, Murray van Heerden and Margot Rudolph. (Adrian Penny had resigned September 2019, when he left Arniston).
  
2. **Reports:** The 2019 Chairman's report, The Arniston Trust annual report, the WARA 2019 Financial Statements were all e mailed to WARA members on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019.  
The Draft Minutes of the WARA 2018 AGM were also e-mailed to members later in December, and hard copies were available at the meeting.  
The Draft minutes were accepted and approved without comment.  
Proposer: Peter Siebert  
Seconder: Mike Pitt  
The WARA 2019 Financial Statements were approved  
Proposer: Nic Diemont  
Seconder: Chris Jacobs
  
3. **Chairman's Report**
  - a. WARA congratulates CAM on a clean audit, the 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive clean audit. CAM is rolling out a Smart City Initiative, part of which is LPR cameras at strategic points, one of which has been placed at the entrance to Arniston by the rugby field.
  - b. Crime: this past year has seen a significant push back against crime and the installation of cameras around Arniston. It has been a steep learning curve and currently there are 17 cameras up and running, which is thanks to Mariaan and her Suidpunt team and the involvement of the WARA community. We have raised over R150 000 for this project which has seen a dramatic reduction in crime – but there are still about 40% of WARA members who have not contributed financially and we appeal to them to do so now in order that we may finish the project.
  - c. CPF : Adrian Penny, who left us in September, was instrumental in setting up the Arniston CPF. Cornel has taken over and without her it would not function. In fact, she has taken over the admin of Bredasdorp CPF too, under which Arniston CPF falls. Cornel was thanked with a round of applause from the audience.
  - d. Thanks must also go to Awie, who plays a major role in the control of crime in Arniston, and also to Mariaan, who gives Awie the leeway to play this role.
  - e. Big thanks are also due to the Arniston Guards, the members of the CPF – Brandon King and June Mayer, and the newly formed Neighbourhood Watch

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**4. Looking ahead:**

- a. Municipal elections in 2021: CAM is controlled by the DA but Arniston is the only ANC ward. We have approached CAM but it is not likely that we can change the boundaries of our Ward, which stretches from the southern side of Bredasdorp to Arniston.
- b. 2022 – the New Spatial Development Framework, which we will scrutinise carefully when it is published.
- c. Arniston Node: we have been informed by CAM that they are looking at developing some High Value, Low volume plots as part of a project to provide housing for those on the waiting list (apparently some 150 names). The proposal is to use CAM owned land behind the caravan park and campsite. The project is in its infancy and WARA has been registered as an interested party to be consulted in the future - as soon as we have more information we will feedback to members.

Colin Bird commented that it is essential that the Arniston Node development recognises that the appropriate infrastructure must be in place, and that the development must be constrained by what is practical.

- 5. Erf 599:** Alan Butler informed the meeting that WARA had received notice from CAM on 18<sup>th</sup> December (conveniently timed to ensure that most people would be away therefore not receiving registered mail) that the Rezoning of Erf 599 to full Business Zoning from single residential had been approved and that previous objectors (such as WARA) had 21 days to respond. The WARA committee will meet over the next few days to consider our response.

Robert Haarburger commented that he had not heard about the re-zoning approval.

Colin Bird asked Alan Butler to ensure that the restrictions on the disposal of the property were met.

- 6. Arniston Trust:** Robert Haarburger raised some questions about the Arniston Trust report, the legal action being taken regarding Vishuis and the involvement of the Fishermen's Union. He queried the financials and why no provision for legal costs had been made. Gavin Hau stated that no such provision was required in accounting practice. RH then raised further legal queries in the report to Colin Bird but was asked by the Chairman to address his queries in writing through the appropriate legal channels.
- 7. Benches:** Colin Bird raised the issue of the proliferation of Memorial benches and asked WARA to push CAM for a policy regarding these benches, rather than leaving the local councilor to make the decision. Gavin Hau commented that there is a place for benches.
- 8. Request for a TV for Awie:** Cornel asked if anyone had a spare TV for Awie as he is using his own, as well as the screen bought for him, to monitor the cameras. Derek Corder kindly volunteered to supply Awie with a 43-inch TV (which has been done).
- 9. Election of new committee:** Chris Jacobs, Murray van Heerden and Cornel vd Westhuizen are all retiring by rotation - Murray van Heerden is not available for re-election, whereas the other two are available. Lesley Richardson was co-opted onto the committee during the year, and now is available for formal election. Chris, Cornel and Lesley were elected unanimously with applause. Colin Bird raised the

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issue of the committee having a member from Kassiesbaai – Alan Butler said great efforts had been made, but no-one from Kassiesbaai was prepared to stand.

10. **Disappearing beach sand:** Gavin Hau raised the issue of the changed landscape of Roman Beach compared with a photograph of some 80 years ago – in which the beach sand rises gently up to where the parking lots is today and there were lots of naked sand-dunes on the rise above the beach. Gavin said that the dunes being stabilised are the main reason for the sand disappearing from the beach and asked if WARA can work with CAM and Cape Nature to look at deforesting the dunes, suggesting we get a local farmer and a bulldozer to speed the process. Lesley Richardson, who has been liaising with Cape Nature on behalf of WARA addressed the audience in response. She has met with Mark Johns who has recently been appointed as the new head of Cape Nature at De Mond, and comes with 25 years of conservation and coastal management experience. The issue needs a careful look at the whole system and how the sand is recycled along the entire coastal area. WARA is delighted to co-opt Gavin onto the committee to be responsible for this project. Zabeth Human, a previous WARA chairlady, has a lot of experience in this matter and is to be consulted. There is also a CSIR report on the matter which is to be sourced.
  
11. **Other Cape Nature News:**
  - a. Coastal clean ups are an ongoing concern, and there is an increasing amount of plastic being found on the beach. Cape Nature is struggling with financing and WARA members are asked to help by collecting plastic on their walks along the various beaches.
  - b. Mark Johns is looking at the firebreaks and working with CAM will re-align them to ensure best protection
  - c. The Dump, which is next to Cape Nature land is not being managed well, and CAM will be approached about the rubbish being bulldozed into the park area
  
12. **ABI – Agulhas Biodiversity Initiative:** WARA is a member of ABI, which is an organisation committed to looking after the whole environment. Through Lesley Richardson we will keep members informed about relevant issues.
  
13. **General:**
  - a. Anna Gloy volunteered to help the committee and, being a permanent resident of Arniston, this will be a great help. She asked about if there were plans to redo the sewerage system, but Alan informed her that CAM does not have a budget is this year.
  - b. Ian MacIntosh raised the issue of Uys street collapsing into the sea. This matter has been raised in writing and in a site-visit with CAM and we await their response.
  - c. Cornel informed members of the open-air gym that CAM has erected near Walleen's, which is being well used by the community.
  - d. Johan Smal made an impassioned appeal to avoid using Rat Poison in order to protect the local bird life – in particular the Spotted Eagle owls – there is a breeding pair with chicks which are about to fledge. Several years ago an entire flock of Rock Kestrels was killed by indiscriminate use of rat poison. MR to send out an appeal to members to this effect.

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- e. **Sea Hawks Rugby Sevens Team** – MR thanked those generous members who responded to the appeal to financially support the local team of the Sea Hawks. WARA was able to provide branded kit for the team and help with their transport to tournaments. The team did very well and reached the finals of a big tournament in Robertson. They are playing in 2 more tournaments in January, and we will keep members informed of their progress.

14. Meeting was closed at 11.15am