

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE S.F.B.R.H.A.
HELD ON THE 18TH DECEMBER 2008

PRESENT: B. Morsink, J. Robson, S. Gallarelli, A. Peros, B. Buckham, Ben Rheeder, B. Robson
Plus Attendance Register and Proxy Votes held.

APOLOGIES: C. Beckley, M. Burmeister, A and M. Yoell, K. and L. Atkinson.

1. WELCOME BY CHAIRMAN

The Chairman welcomed everyone and thanked them all for coming. He asked if everyone had read the Chairman's Report. This was proposed as read by **Mr. J. Stevens** and seconded by **Mr H. Kleynhans**.

2. There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

3. FINANCE

Mr. B. Buckham informed all present that as from next year the financial year end would change from end of February to end of June. This was being done to come in line with the Municipality. He also said there was a surplus being brought forward from this year to date, as we have not yet completed all the dredging. **Mr. M. Simms** asked if we could show how much we make out of the hire of Jetties. **Mr B. Morsink** replied that the Municipality did not split the money that came in but we were trying to change this in the new year but he thought it was approximately R100 000 per year. **Mr E. Barber** asked about the bank balances, where did the money come from and why was it not spent. **Mr. M. Simms** asked about the donated money. **Mrs. B. Robson** said that the money was not donated but loaned and was in a separate account. She also said a newsletter had been sent to all members informing them that the Committee were waiting to see how the Danes "Save the Beach" went before committing to anything. The members were also informed that if they wanted their loan backs we would reimburse them. Some members asked for it back but the majority left it with us. **BM** told **Mr. E. Barber** that unfortunately we only had a bookkeeper doing our books but they were audited every year, he also asked **Mr. Barber** if he would be willing to assist on the financial side as we needed someone with a financial background to help us. **EB** declined.

4. SPIT

Mr. J. Oosthuizen said that the reason the Riparian Homeowners were concerned about the Spit is that the erosion of the Spit endangered our canals. He then gave a slide show, showing how the Danish system, which has already been installed on the beach, is starting to show a considerable amount of sand being built up on the beach. He also showed where revetment had caused sand to be

washed away and explained why the Danes said revetment was not the way to go. He said the Danes would be doing a survey every 2 months on the system. There were also slides showing how the planting of pines in Denmark had prevented wind erosion from taking place and said they had also given us a list of plants that could be used to prevent wind erosion. His recommendation was that we wait before doing more revetments until we can see if the Danish solution was working.

Mr. Paul van Rijswijck informed those present the the revetment was only to be done as an emergency measure and he also felt that, now that the winter gales have passed, it was not the time to sit back and do nothing, as in the next few years it was very possible that the conditions that destroyed the spit could reoccur. **JO** said that at the moment we have a large beach and there is no chance of the dune being washed away.

Mr. Robin Simpson reported that Mr Hulett originally built the dune and that he continually maintained it. If we continue to do this he sees no reason to do a revetment. He felt that the Danes were on the right track and that we should wait and see the outcome of their system.

Mr. R. Gouws said that we owe Mr Neil Brent a debt of gratitude and also said that he felt we should give the Danish system a chance.

Mrs. L. Egan, from the Council, said that she could not see why the two systems could not work together, as eventually the sand would cover the rock. She felt that the slide show had given a false impression, as there was no scientific proof as yet that the system was working.

DN said that we only have one chance to reclaim the spit, and should it be washed away it would cost much more to rebuild. They as a sub-committee were seeking approval for a revetment. He also felt that the two systems could work together.

B. Morsink replied that we have no say regarding the spit as this land belongs to the Municipality.

Mr. K. Vermaak said he has lived here since the 1980's and he agrees with Joe and that we should no interfere by using revetments. He also said that damage has also been done to the dune by the dredging process.

Mr. Donald McGillvray, who said he was an engineer, also said that the slide show was not scientific and we have been having very calm weather, which has caused a natural build up of sand. We need a much longer period of time to assess this system. He felt that the waiting time should not be a passive waiting time and that the Homeowners should look to compliment the Danish system in the

event of extreme weather. **Joe Oosthuizen** replied that the slide show was not scientific but a personal record of the build up of sand. He asked **Mrs. L. Egan** if the Municipality would sponsor the revetment system to protect the canals.

Mrs Egan replied that if any Homeowner felt their house was in danger they could submit a report to the Municipality and they would look into it.

Mr. Ken Barker asked, that as the sand builds up, do these pipes have to be raised. **JO** replied that the pipes only work between the low and high tide line.

Mr. Gert Voster asked what the decision of the meeting is regarding the Spit, and where they, as a sub-committee should go from here.

Mr. Brian Buckham said we have 450 stands on the canal and we should put the argument on to the website for comments from the Homeowners.

Mr. Peter Hayter felt that surely, if we had a constitutionally approved meeting, why could we not decide this with a show of hands.

This was put to the floor, only three were against the committee going ahead with what they felt was necessary in the interest of the Homeowners.

GV felt that we should get a copy of the Minutes to the Homeowners as soon as possible.

Mr.S. van Jaarsveldt said if there was a quorum we should take a consensus of those present.

BB asked how much the total revetment would cost, **DN** replied that it would be between Four and a half Million and Five and a half million Rand. He said that this would cost approximately 8 thousand Rand per stand and as everyone may not contribute we may have to look for sponsors.

JO said there might be delay, as an EIA needs to be done which involves considerable cost. **DN** replied that this had already been done but this had elapsed in 2006. The sub-committee have asked to have it reinstated.

5. DREDGING

BM reported that dredging had been done in ski canal and at the Cove. He asked **Mr A. Hodgkinson** if he had any idea as to how much sand had been pumped. **AH** said he would only be doing a final measurement on Tuesday, but estimated the quantity was between 5 and 6 thousand cubic m.

BM said that we had spent in excess of a million rand on the canals since we have taken over from the municipality. This was more than the Council had spent on the canals in the last 10 years.

Mr. M. Simms asked who was paying for the work being done at the cove and did we have permission. **BM** replied that the contractor was paying and yes we did have permission.

Mr. H. Thorpe expressed his concern at the canal that has been created at the east end of the cove as he felt that boats may use this area which was used for children to play and swim. **Mr. J. Robson** replied that there is still a lot of work to be done in this area and the landscaping can be done to suit the majority of Homeowners. This canal could be made to any depth.

KV stated that the riparian money should be used for maintenance only. **BM** replied that it is difficult to split the income at this stage but we are working on it. He then went on to say that on the 31st of December there would be an "Anything that Floats" event at the Small Boat Harbour. All are welcome, there are also prizes being donated.

6. GENERAL

SvJ asked that the pipes under the Shore road bridge be repaired, and could we patrol at the "hotspots" in the canals. **BM** said this was being attended to.

Mrs. S. Henderson said we need more "Wake Speed Only" signs in the canals as boats were continually speeding past her house into the river.

Mr. P. Hayter asked if boaters could be issued with a List of Rules when purchasing their licence and should be told to obey them. **BM** said there were rules on the back of the licence.

Mr. Gouws asked if members could be kept up to date with the regulations regarding Skippers Licences.

Mr. R. Simpson expressed his concern at the advertising signs on the canals as in terms of SAMOA it is illegal to advertise on the canals. He then asked the floor if they would sign his petition outside.

6. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

The Committee were unanimously re-elected and Mr. D. Nell was voted on to the committee.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 6.35 p.m