

**Rooiels Ratepayers Association (RERA)**

**Annual General Meeting**

**6 April 2021**

**10h00**

**Venue: NG Church, Disa Road, Betty's Bay**

**MINUTES**

**1. Welcome**

Hilgard welcomed all present.

A minute of silence was held for Alison Ayres, Ruth Mattison and Shelley Simonsz who passed away during the year as well as any other persons who had died from Covid-19.

Attendance list circulated.

**2. Apologies**

Bob Baigrie proposed that apologies be accepted from all persons who had given proxies. This was accepted.

**3. Minutes of the previous AGM held on 19 December 2019**

Minutes accepted by Izak Smit and seconded by Tom Jacobs.

**Matters arising**

**4. Chairperson's Report: Hilgard MULLER**

Hilgard presented his Chairperson's report. There was an objection from Eldie Brink who said that in terms of the Constitution the report should have been circulated prior to the meeting as it is a report of the RERA Exco and not the Chairperson. The meeting unanimously accepted that it is a Chairperson's report which is presented at the meeting and not a RERA Committee report.

Hilgard invited Alison Lewis to present her response to RERA's open letter and to matters raised. The emphasis of her message was that as a community we have the potential to work together and find a way to do so. Public participation is essential in future developments and consideration must be given as to how residents are notified.

Geoff Harris was given an opportunity to speak. He was disturbed by recent events and quoted Joan Modinger's message on Village People about the history of the Rooiels organisations. He said Hilgard had done his best under circumstances. He recommended the Rooiels book, A Village between the Mountains and the Sea/Tussen Berge en die See – an excellent narrative of where we have come from and where we are going. Friends of Rooioels (FOR) was mentioned and there were objections from the floor.

Hilgard quoted the Rooiels share of the municipal budget. It was 4 % less than allocated in the current budget. The OM has had to implement a number of reductions in expenditure including staff and SAPS cuts.

Many 2020 activities were curtailed because of Covid-19. Zoom meetings were held but these were very impersonal. Nevertheless good relationships resulted in things being done.

The OM budget had been published and was on the website. Public comment to be made by 30 April 2020. Public meetings were to be held. Of the R 500k Ward specific budget Rooiels was allocated a substantial amount. Basic services would be targeted. All decisions come from National Policies. Our budget is related to the strategic objectives in these policies. An amount of R 26 k allocated for a wheelchair path in the nature reserve.

RERA highlights:

- Slipway maintenance
- Dune rehabilitation
- Beach clean-ups
- Outreach programme – this reflected the spirit Rooiels. Residents came to fore with generous contributions and assistance where needed. This should continue and be ramped up. It is in line with national programmes with an emphasis on youth. What we did changed lives.

Hilgard thanked all those involved in these projects

Comments:

- Johlene thought it is important to get children involved in programmes and activities for the youth. Tim Atwell's walks in the mountains with children were quoted as an example.
- Wolfgang told the meeting that David and Shelley Blake are very involved in youth activities. They hosted 40 children in Rooiels for a weekend.
- Eldie questioned the funds for special projects and said the financial statements should be circulated prior to the meeting.

5. **Financial Report:** *Ivan Becker*

Ivan presented the financial statements.

Ivan requested that all payments include the name of the person and their erf number. Without these details it is impossible to allocate payments.

Hilgard said that outreach funds can be and should be used to support needy organisations such as Child Welfare.

Mark Butler gave an update on the current situation with regard to our NPO status. Can only apply online. He has been trying to upload all the data for the past 5 years. Ivan thanked Mark for providing bookkeeping services pro bono. He also explained the accounting process for RERA.

In response to a query re the number of books sold and the split in revenue it was explained that REC and RERA each contributed 50 % of the cost of the book and a minuted decision was made to divide the proceeds equally between the two Associations.

Financials accepted by Linda Hiles and seconded by John Biesman-Simmons.

## **6. Motions and Proposals**

Eldie Brink explained the intention of the Overlay Zone.

By Eldie Brink:

### **6.1 The Rooiels Conservation Overlay Zone (RECOZ)**

6.1.1 The revised Rooiels Overlay Zone Regulations be circulated to members immediately by placing them on the RE website.

6.1.2 The Executive Committee commence discussions with the OM immediately for the acceptance of the Overlay.

6.1.3 The Overlay Zone remain a portfolio of the Committee until the OM approves the new Overlay Zone.

A Rooiels specific overlay must be formulated.

### **6.2 The Executive Committee shall protect the property interests of property owners by:**

6.2.1 Keeping RERA members informed and obtaining the opinions of RERA members via an anonymous online poll (Y/N) and depending on the circumstances, to comment or to object or to appeal in respect of land applications in Rooiels and the smallholdings.

David van der Merwe:

Contentious issue. RERA represents its members and their mandate is to respond if there is a positive mandate and the majority want them to respond. A mechanism is needed to understand what the members want.

Bob Baigrie said that the Committee cannot be hamstrung and that members must have faith in the Committee. Some issues do not require public participation. Where there is a split voting must take place.

Committee to decide on the tool for polls.

Kay said any changes in housing regulations need public participation.

### **6.3 Feedback**

The Executive Committee shall give regular reports/feedback to members of decisions and by regularly circulating the minutes of the RERA EXCO and of Ward Committees as required by paragraph 6 (e) of the Constitution.

#### 6.4 Mediation

The report of the mediation meeting be circulated to RERA members.

#### 6.5 Breeze

The contents of the next edition of the Breeze be reviewed by the editorial committee to comply with the established editorial policy in respect of the balance of social, nature concerns and factual content. The editorial process will be reviewed and tightened up.

#### 6.6 Constitution

A motion was passed to relook the RERA Constitution which is either vague in its intent or lacks clarity.

The motion was carried. A working group to be established and the proposed amendments to be circulated to all members for comment.

#### 6.8 RERA Municipality Portfolio

It was proposed that a person on the RERA Committee be appointed to deal with municipal matters and specifically infrastructure matters.

Hilgard deals with OM through the Ward Committee.

### **7. Additional items**

#### 7.1 Honorary members

Not clear who are honorary members. All names to be put forward for record keeping. Names mentioned:

Julia Albers

Geoff Harris

Hettie Claassens

Prof Denis Cowan

If any other please let RERA know.

#### 7.2 Mike McCarthy expressed support for the RERA Committee and expressed concerns about divisive groupings.

#### 7.3 Kaye thanked RESA and the patrollers for their time and dedication.

### **8. Ward Committee and Municipal Matters**

#### 8.1 Water

A new contractor has been appointed. Tender for new water line from Pringle Bay to Rooiels published. The project hadn't happened because of objections to the water line and there were problems with the tenders.

8.2 Two roads have been earmarked for reconstruction as specific projects. Perspicua is one of the roads earmarked. OM are currently reviewing capital funds.

## **9. Voting**

The voting process was led by Mark Butler.

There was a discussion about the voting process and whether only paid-up members of RERA could vote as per the Constitution.

It was decided that everyone could vote regardless of when their fees had been paid.

Each person was allowed 2 proxies.

There was an objection to common representation on the RERA and REC Committees.

New Committee members:

Ivan Becker

Hilgard Muller

Mike Christelis

Allison Vienings

Veronica Jacobs

Leigh Elves

Hilgard thanked everyone for their attendance and participation and congratulated the new Committee.

The meeting closed at 13h00.