

# ROOIELS RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Continuation of the AGM Meeting held on 22 Dec 2023

**30 March 2024, Pringle Bay Community Hall**

**10:30-11:45**

## **Draft Minutes**

### **Attendees**

There were 34 attendees, including representatives of the Rooiels Conservancy, RESA, REBC and Rooiels Outreach, with apologies from Allison Vienings, Andries & Madeleine Brink, Anuta Scholz and Piet van Rensburg.

### **Welcome and adoption of agenda**

Achim Halpaap, outgoing RERA chair, welcomed all participants. He explained that this AGM was a continuation of the 2023 AGM held on 22 December 2023 in order to complete two remaining agenda items: 7. Election of New Committee and 8. Other Business, respectively.

Eldie Brink requested that he be allowed to raise an issue and address the meeting before the election of the new committee. The chair ruled that the agenda should be followed, but that he could raise his point under other business.

The meeting approved the agenda accordingly (see Appendix 1):

### **Agenda Item 7. Election of the new RERA Exco**

The chair noted that 6 members had been nominated for the next Exco. Each candidate gave a very brief statement of motivation. The meeting approved their election without objection.

The newly elected Exco members are:

- Tom Baigrie
- Lesley Lundie
- Nigel Burls
- Steven Mullins
- Pieter Labuschagne
- Christoph Weichsler

The chair congratulated the new Exco members and thanked them for their dedication to serve Rooiels.

### **Agenda Item 8. Other business**

#### ***Development of a possible Special Rating Area in Rooiels***

The potential of initiating a formal SRA process to strengthen security was discussed. A RERA-RESA presentation on the topic (see appendix 2) was delivered by Peter Koning (RESA) and Christoph Weichsler (RERA), followed by questions presented by the chair. Taking into account the outcomes of a RESA Survey in 2023, the presentation suggested that the meeting consider commencing an SRA "Initiation Phase", in accordance with the OM SRA policy. An early exit option could be added, should early consultations reveal that an SRA in Rooiels is not feasible or desirable. An animated discussion,

with many questions and comments from the floor, took place before a vote was proposed ad hoc by the chair for the meeting to consider the following options:

**Option 1.** Initiation of a formal process under the OM SRA Policy (“Initiation Phase”) which would involve establishing a representative Steering Committee, notifying OM, and administering a survey, amongst other “initiation” activities.

**Option 2.** Undertaking further knowledge sharing on the pros and cons of an SRA in Rooiels to strengthen security, including possibly through a RERA-RESA workshop, and drawing upon practical external SRA experiences, before considering further action. To support this, an informal committee should be established.

**Option 3.** Stop any further action on a possible SRA.

The meeting voted for the second option with overwhelming majority.

### ***Fire risk prevention and management in Rooiels***

The chair mentioned that at the Exco meeting in February 2024, opportunities had been discussed that might foster communication and dialogue between key stakeholders to strengthen Rooiels fire prevention and management. As a follow-up, RERA had reached out to REDI and RESA, seeking to better understand their work in this area with the intention of widening and deepening the Rooiels community effort. Ralph Pina presented the topic and questions which came up at the Exco meeting (see Appendix 3).

A wide-ranging discussion took place during which the topic of the OM Firewise plot-clearing policy and RERAs engagement was also raised. The chair responded that RERA had co-signed a letter in 2023 with more than 10 organizations from neighbouring villages requesting discussions on the adoption of an Appendix on Firewise fynbos management in the Kogelberg Biosphere villages. The point was also raised by the Rooiels representative at the recent ward meeting on 20 February 2024. RERA was asked to continue to follow up.

The meeting voted to encourage the 2024 Exco to continue an open dialogue with RESA and REDI.

### ***Road-calming measure on the R 44***

Mike MacCarthy updated the meeting on the positive feedback received from provincial authorities to initiate action on R44 road calming measures. The chair indicated that RERA had sent a follow-up communication indicating the full support of RERA and the community.

### **Erf 323**

Eldie Brink raised the subject of land on Hotel Crescent being bought by the neighbouring erf owner. Nigel explained the process OM would follow in deciding the matter which is governed by the Municipal Finance Management Act and Local Authority policy regarding land sales. Opportunities for public engagement in this process will be provided by OM in due course and RERA will, at that stage, consider the matter thoroughly and ensure that RERA members’ interests are properly represented..

The chair closed the meeting.

Ends.

Appendix 1. Meeting agenda

Appendix 2. SRA slides

Appendix 3. Fire management slides