

RESA AGM MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE 2ND RESA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 20 DECEMBER 2016 AT 09:30 AT ERF 124 PRIESTLYA ROAD

PRESENT:

RESA OPS COM: Mark Butler (Chairman) Diarmuid Baigrie, Wessie van der Westhuizen, Duncan Hiles, Dick Lockley and Sub Committee members Peter Koning, Hilgard Muller, Ernst Thompson with apologies from David and Shelley Blake and Willie Boltmann.

Thirty eight members of the Rooiels Community also attended together with an invited guest Mr. John Kleyn of the Helderberg Neighbourhood Watch.

Apologies were received from:

Sandra Yeo, Marais Stofberg, Stewart Waddell, Geoff & Lynne Harris, Estelle and Frank Raymond, Andre Badenhorst, Bob Baigrie, Nicky Krone, Riel Buys.

MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD ON 28 DECEMBER 2015

The Chairman read the Minutes of the first AGM to the meeting and these were accepted unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman read his report; extracts included:

- There has been a spike in criminal activity in Rooiels in the past year with over 40 incidents recorded since February. One such incident resulted in the tragic death of Mrs Thelma Marais.
- The ASK response to starting their contractual obligations was slow to commence and ASK only began to staff the RESA office and provide active night staffing from 1 May. But their presence and response time to incidents in Rooiels has resulted in responses averaging between 3 to 5 minutes in 95% of all cases which is highly commendable.
- The RESA Office is manned by Mrs Ina van der Sandt on a daily basis from 0900 to 1400 and also on Saturday mornings. She has been a decided asset to the RESA operation and maintains accurate statistics of all criminal activity occurring in Rooiels.
- A key retention service for residents will be instituted in 2017 once systems are completed and are operational. This service will be a RESA service and will not involve ASK.
- Following a further spike in housebreakings in July another RESA Community meeting was held in September attended by 64 Rooielsers. Extensive changes were made to our plans which all needed capital expenditure. A request for sponsorship was put out to the Community and an overwhelming response was experienced whereby R190 000 has been raised to date. This has enabled the RESA Ops Com to proceed speedily with the implementation of a number of plans which will be expanded upon later in this meeting.
- The Chairman thanked all those who had contributed so generously to this fund raising and pointed out that a number of the donors had requested to remain anonymous.

- He stated that what we had achieved so far was but a start and that a lot more was needed to fulfil our aim of making Rooiels a safer place. But with the involvement of the extra resources a considerable amount has now been achieved and he thanked the team for their hard work and contributions and thanked Rooiels for the support received.

FINANCES

RESA member subscriptions had been set at R100 p.m. or R1 200 p.a. These subs covered all RESA expenses such as rental, salary, electricity and many other sundry expenses. A carry over onto the new financial year of R20 000 would be done. It was proposed to increase the subs by 10% for 2017 to R110 p.m. or R1320 p.a. Ernst Thompson proposed the motion which was seconded by Piet Uys and carried. Mr Peter Ellis asked if there was any intention of going back to the members if an increase in fees was needed and the Chairman replied that he did not foresee this happening at this stage. He also pointed out that the donations/sponsorships received are held in a separate bank account and will not be used for daily operational expenses but for cap ex only.

BLOCKWATCH AND PATROLLERS

Three Whatsapp groups have been formed- one for Neighbourhood Watch (Blockwatch) security related matters, run by Shelley Blake, another for Patrol Group matters run by Peter Koning and a third one for social Rooiels matters run by Linda Hiles. Members were asked to ensure that a strict division of these subject matters is adhered to.

A serious deficit in the numbers of volunteers for night vehicle patrols is now being experienced and more volunteers are urgently required to boost the numbers currently doing all the patrols- note only 8 active members are patrolling with this number being often reduced to only 4. Volunteers are requested to contact Peter Koning as soon as possible please.

Peter Koning noted that complaints had been received about the use by the night patrols of bright flashing strobe lights. He said that these lights were essential to create the highly visible presence we were seeking as they provide an effective deterrent to crime. He also emphasized the need to restrict use of the Blockwatch Whatsapp to only those events which were security related. He said the advent of the radios to all patrollers would make their task considerably more efficient as the radio will be much easier and quicker to use instead of having to text a message in the dark.

He also asked members to ensure that their erf numbers were clearly and visibly displayed on their property so that emergency response vehicles can find the erf quickly. He again emphasized the need for the patrollers to be highly visible by using the strobe lights thus making a high impact in the area with the aim being to chase away the criminals. There is no doubt that this strategy is working.

John Kleyn addressed the meeting after being introduced by Mark Butler who thanked him for the tremendous help and advice he had given to the RESA Ops Comm. He had installed a Radio Repeater set up on Mark's roof which has resulted in clear radio communications throughout Rooiels and stretching right through to the Helderberg stations. The licence for the radio network is currently being approved. A form was circulated for signature by all attending to ensure that agreement can be speedily reached with the authorities regarding radio licences. Once the 35 radios that have been bought are issued to the individuals who have ordered them, radio protocols will be issued.

CCTV

The initial quotes received for the camera coverage by infra- red cameras to cover access routes to Rooiels was extremely expensive. Knowing we could not afford the costs involved we sought John Kleyn's advice. He put us on to another firm and within two weeks of making contact with this firm our first two cameras have been installed on the main entrance to Rooiels and are already operating most effectively. These cameras and the installation thereof have come at significantly reduced prices. We are most appreciative for the efforts and advice of Mr John Kleyn. Further discussions and recesses will be made in the New Year to cover access from the beach area and any other vulnerable access routes into Rooiels.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

John Kleyn addressed the meeting on Neighbourhood Watches stating that they are a highly effective tool and a powerful resource to fight crime and to assist the SAPS in a legitimate way. It is very empowering to the Community to be involved in a Neighbourhood Watch. The activities of Neighbourhood Watches do not solve crime but they certainly deter criminals. We are shortly to be accredited as a Rooiels Neighbourhood Watch and this certification will greatly improve our legitimacy and give us further powers.

RESTRICTED ACCESS

Diarmuid Baigrie then spoke on the RESA plans to close Porter Drive after dark each day and open the gate at daylight. He took our reasoning and plans to a discussion with Mr Desmond Lakay of the Kleinmond Municipality as we knew that some authority would be required for us to go ahead with this plan. Although Diarmuid explained the intention to restrict access by night to only one entrance to Rooiels for specific security reasons the plan did not meet with Mr Lakay's approval. He stated that it was "against the Constitution because it restricted the freedom of movement of people". He also said that the Overstrand did not want "gated communities". He then suggested that Rooiels take the plan to the Municipal Manager at Hermanus for their consideration and also suggested that Rooiels lease the road i.e. Porter Drive, from the Municipality. All these options will be explored in the New Year. In the meantime community buy-in will be sought as the restriction of access to one road only, well covered by an efficient camera network, is essential to the security plan for Rooiels.

ELECTION OF OFFICE RESA BEARERS

The Chairman noted that all existing office bearers were prepared to continue to serve on the RESA Committees and sub committees. The meeting unanimously agreed to the re-appointment of the whole committee.

CLARENCE DRIVE/R 44 ACTION GROUP

Wolfgang Steinbach then briefed members on the group that has been formed to take action about the misconception held by the Overstrand Municipality that the R 44 by-passes Rooiels. The group intend to find a suitable expert to stress the facts showing how the R44 is actually part of Rooiels and how it divides the village. It is therefore essential that action is taken to ensure traffic calming

measures are instituted as well as the construction of pedestrian crossings and footpaths along the R 44. He said that he will be briefing both the REC and RERA AGMs about the progress made by this Action Group and would keep RESA informed as well.

OPEN DISCUSSION

The following points were raised:

1. Diarmuid Baigrie said that Rooiels had approximately 240 constructed homes. Of these 69 have not joined RESA; 25 people who have joined RESA have not paid any subscriptions at all during the past year. We have 150 RESA members and we really need 200 paying members. He asked all present to spread the word amongst their friends and neighbours to ensure that the revenue for RESA increases.
2. Wolfgang asked about the ASK contract and the Chairman replied that it was an open-ended contract with a 6 month Notice period from either side. He went on to say that weekly meetings are held with ASK and quarterly meetings are held with ASK management. There is thus constant engagement and inter-action with ASK. In addition the JOCom meeting, held every Monday in Kleinmond with the SAPS, is attended by Wessie van der Westhuizen and /or Linda Hiles.
3. Angela Murphy expressed her thanks to RESA for all they had done this past year to make Rooiels safer. She felt that community property values would improve as a result of RESA's activities.
4. Mark Butler said that if we could build up the income of RESA by ensuring all members paid their subs and new members are brought into RESA we could further improve the security of Rooiels.
5. Mike Levett had the impression that RESA was satisfied with the 12/7 provision of ASK staff to Rooiels and asked what has happened to the plan of providing response staff on a 24/7 basis. Mark replied that it was still our aim to get a 24/7 response set-up here but costs rise considerably with that scenario but we will continue to aim towards that goal.
6. Wessie addressed the meeting and thanked Mark Butler and his staff at Twin Oaks Financial Services for the work they have done in running the administration of RESA so efficiently. He told the meeting how Mark's company handles all the financial aspects of our business e.g. the bank accounts, the debit orders and all payments to and on behalf of RESA which saves RESA a lot of financial charges. He also paid credit to Mark personally for all he has done to get RESA running so well.

The Chairman thanked all members for their attendance and for their contribution to the meeting and for their support during the year.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10:38.

RECORDED

Dick Lockley

21 December 2016