

Rooiels BABOON INDABA, 20 Nov 2021

Working group: Supporting businesses that are active in the Rooiels CBD, especially during the holiday period

Rapporteur Notes (unedited)

We all agreed that there is a need for educating all visitors to Rooiels. Some residents might even benefit from the activity planned and the signage / banners to be introduced.

1. Education & spotting: “Employ” volunteers to assist with educating all visitors to the Rooiels CBD area. They, in conjunction with the REC “gardener”, will wear reflective vests indicating that they are ‘BABOON EDUCATORS’. Involve the staff employed at the businesses.

HOW:

Definitions:

Baboon Educators (aka “spotter”) = REC staff member (gardener); an appointed staff member at each business establishment; volunteers from the community.

Brochures / Flyers = See example on attached pages (separate document)

Holders = See example and explanation on attached pages (“

We would need a “spotter” (the person employed by REC) to be stationed in the CBD. He / She would point out the signage, brochures, and flyers (in holders (see example page)), positioned at various easy access points.

Staff in the employ of businesses in Rooiels will also be educated and given instruction, by the business owner, to point out the brochures and flyers to all visitors to their establishment. Just like you would have a compliance or first-aid officer appointed at an office, a “Baboon Educator” should be nominated / appointed at each business. It is their role to ensure that all staff are following the guidelines, as part of their duties, to direct visitors to the brochures and flyers.

In the event of baboons entering the Rooiels CBD, a hotline (WA group), with the volunteers, appointed staff and spotters listed, will be used to communicate that the baboons are in the Rooiels CBD and help is needed. A volunteer, who is available, will send a thumbs up to indicate they are on their way and then go to the CBD to assist with the movement of the baboons and ensure that they do not enter any establishments. (No force will be used) The show of the thumbs up will indicate to other volunteers that someone is on their way. This will prevent multiple people from showing up. Further to this, a register can be created indicating who is on

duty at any given time, also allowing the volunteers to be alert to a call-out during their timeslot.

We can use whistles (which will alert everyone of the baboons' proximity), a red flag to wave at the baboons, and a walking stick (just in case they get too close. PS. I have seen the baboons move away when pointing a walking stick at them.)

2. Signage: The KBR banner explains to visitors all about the Biosphere and the municipal sign warns about Baboons, however, we need our own Rooiels sign.

HOW: Please refer to the attached example page for an overview of what we are suggesting. The Rooiels value proposition must be indicated and then information relating to the baboons and a *QR code for scanning, redirecting residents and visitors to the Rooiels Website. On the reverse of the sign, we can have more information relating to some of the

Flora and Fauna found in Rooiels, with pictures, however, the main reason for this sign is to alert visitors with regards to the baboons in the CBD.

We believe that a sign or banner should be placed nearer to the Gossip Corner, next to the paved parking lot. The sign must be placed in such a way that drivers or pedestrians see the sign from the front. (See example shown on attached document.)

We have included visuals on the attached example page so that the understanding of our proposal is clear. We understand that we do not want signs throughout Rooiels, but, by having smaller signs placed near to visitor sites, we should be able to reach all who visit, not only those visiting the CBD. Therefore, having signage at the slipway, near the beach, will also attract some attention and redirect visitors to our webpage. The signs do not have to look unattractive. We can design easy to read, artistically designed signs that will attract attention.

*Alison Scott has confirmed that she already has a working QR code that can be used on all our posters / banners / signs.

On the new sign we are suggesting, closer to the restaurants / shop, we would like you to seriously consider a sign, that will include details of our Biosphere, a history of Rooiels and more about the flora and fauna found in our area and surrounding areas. We do understand that space will be limited, however, therefore the need to consider a suitable banner that can include most, if not all, of the information suggested. (See last page of the attached "example" page)

The possibility of a more permanent stand-alone sign expressing the RE vision, its conservation matters, and a map, could all be included. See the example attached on the final page of the 'examples' document. A well-thought-out design that we could tweak to suit our requirements and space. (See Kromrivier Signage example)

Last, but not least, it is our understanding that REC will be paying for the upgrading of the KBR sign at the entrance to Rooiels? This would be an ideal opportunity to revise the wording and use the format as shown in the attachment.