



AGM / AJV

Betty's Bay Ratepayers' Association
Bettysbaaise Belastingbetalersvereniging

Dec 2014

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
FRIDAY 19 DECEMBER, 2014 at 18H00 in the
CRASSULA HALL
/
ALGEMENE JAARVERGADERING
VRYDAG 19 DESEMBER, 2014 om 18H00 in die
CRASSULASAAL

AGENDA

1. Opening and Welcome : Opening en Verwelkoming
2. Apologies : Verskonings
3. Confirmation of Previous Minutes : AGM held on 27 Dec 2013
Bekragtiging van die Vorige Notule : AJV gehou op 27 Des 2013
4. Matters Arising from the previous Minutes
Sake Voortspruitend uit die vorige Notule
5. Chairman's Report : Voorsittersverslag (Attached)
6. Discussion of Chairman's Report : Bespreking oor Voorsittersverslag
7. Treasurer's Report : Tesouriersverslag (Attached)
8. Election of Committee Members : Verkieping van Komiteelete
9. General : Algemeen
10. Closure : Sluiting

Current Committee Members

1. Dan Fick Chairman;
Ward, Forum and Federation Committees;
Community Police Forum and Neighbourhood Watch
2. Adrian de Kock Treasurer;
Ward and Federation Committees;
Membership and Data Base
3. Liz Fick Secretary;
Conservancy, Advertising and Crassula Hall
4. Vacant Property, Planning and Development
5. Wendy Tawse Fire/Emergency Support Services
6. Wilna Rademeyer Roads and Stormwater
7. Richard Starke Waste, Water and Sanitation.
8. Judy Kirby Sand Dune Management/Beaches and Amenities
9. Nic Swart The Buzz/Internet and Data Management

The majority of our current members of the Committee have served anything from 2 to 5 years and several have given timeous notice that they will be available for re-election to the Committee in 2015. Dan and Liz Fick in particular have been involved on the Committee for the last 10 years and are taking a break and will as a result not be available for re-election.

Nominations are requested for members wishing to serve on the Committee for 2015. In terms of the Constitution nominees must be paid-up members of the Association and all written nominations must be received by the Secretary 7(seven) days before the AGM, i.e. 12 December 2014.

Nomination forms are included in the centre of the Booklet.

Chairman's Report 2014

Introduction. Your Committee has had a very strenuous year, faced with many problems and there remain many challenges that still lie ahead. We have endeavoured to keep members informed of the more important issues through newsletters and notices either through our website or by email. We certainly do not wish to spread any pessimism but rather to alert our membership to the prevailing circumstances. We are at times inundated with complaints from the community (both members and non-members) about conditions in the village. We have also not taken unilateral decisions without first consulting with our members. We appreciate responses we receive as we are guided by the views and comments of our members. Inevitably most of these issues need to be channeled through the Municipality or the Ward Committee. However, there are also tendencies to have unrealistic expectations and some residents are critical of what has or has not been achieved by the Committee without coming forward with constructive and realistic solutions. Many of these are issues over which we have little, if any, control.

We would be most remiss in not thanking our Ward Councillor for all her assistance and support throughout the year. A special word of thanks to the Committee and members for their generous support and in particular members of our Volunteer Fire Fighters and Neighbourhood Watch, many of whom are not even members of the Association, for all their hard work and dedication.

Sadly we had to bid farewell to Nancy van Heerden, wife of Louis van Heerden our former Chairman of the Association and former Coucillor of Ward 10, who passed away early in June after a long illness. Nancy will be remembered for her involvement in BotSoc, which she served as Chairperson, the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve and the Ratepayers' Association.

Municipal Matters. Of particular concern are the perceived financial constraints of the Overstrand Municipality which will inevitably hold serious consequences for ratepayers in the foreseeable future. Expenditure is outgrowing the revenue being collected from ratepayers. Income has reduced because ratepayers have been saving on water and electricity usage whilst costs have increased due to increased salaries above the rate of inflation. An anticipated decrease in Capital Expenditure is ultimately going to result in a decrease in maintenance of our ailing infrastructure. There is more and more reliance on revenue from ordinary cash strapped ratepayers to balance the budget. It is anticipated that we will face an even tougher budget in 2015.

Interaction with the Municipality on budgetary issues has however not been very helpful. We do not believe it inappropriate to question the Municipality about service delivery or unusual rates increases. Unfortunately, some efforts to

engage the Municipality on issues of concern have been met with disdain. Questions raised about unrealistic increases and expenditure is viewed as an attack on the establishment. It does not auger well when we are faced with such intolerance. Infrastructure backlog remains a major challenge for the entire Overstrand.

Whilst water and sewage infrastructure levies have been charged to property owners over the last couple of years there is no likelihood of water borne sewage being provided in the next decade. We have been told categorically that the Municipality does not have the financial resources to undertake the backlog all at once. It is going to take years if not decades for this to be done. Members are therefore justified in wanting to know what is happening to this revenue.

Despite our many requests over the years the Overstrand Municipality has continued to neglect maintenance and the upgrading of our fractured infrastructure. It is not necessarily the lack of service delivery but rather the quality and the pace of services received especially when ratepayers are experiencing increased rates far in excess of inflation and in the face of enormous salaries being earned by senior officials. More often than not our budgetary requests have been rejected as not being a priority. The unfortunate perception is that Betty's Bay is being regarded as a low priority area. The perception is that outlying towns have over the years been subsidizing development in Hermanus. Our requests for boardwalks onto our beaches to facilitate access (wheelchair and elderly folk) have been ignored but then we read of an undertaking into the implementation of the Phase 2 of the Hermanus CBD which will include street furniture upgrades, signage, etc. Our request for signs giving tourist's direction to the penguins has also fallen on deaf ears. Our requests that the Municipality provide us with an analysis of the budgets so that we can compare the proportion of rates collected with the proportion of expenditure for both Capital and Working budgets, never materialized. Whilst we accept a degree of cross-subsidization it could be that Betty's Bay is being starved of an equitable share of the rates revenue.

So as to assess the concerns of our membership we sent out an email earlier in the year after the budget was released to determine whether there was any cause for concern. The response was overwhelming. Residents expressed deep concern about the unrealistic increases in rates and taxes without there being very little improvement to our area. We are constantly being reminded by the Municipality that there is no money. Whilst we have been experiencing a shrinking economy, a sliding currency, ailing infrastructure and diminishing service delivery, we find senior officials earning enormous salaries. We believe that we have the right to pursue issues which affect our village and its residents without fear, favour or prejudice and without being accused of being radical or wanting to form an 'independent party'. **It is therefore necessary that we**

obtain a mandate from our members to continue to pursue these matters.

Salaries and wages is some 30% of the budget. This has also received adverse media attention. Salaries are growing at a rate which is out of proportion with the rate of inflation. Salary of the Municipal Manager in particular, apart from George, is reported to be the highest in the Western Cape. Ratepayers simply cannot afford this in the long term. Many already have to dip into savings to balance their personal budgets as pensioners cannot keep pace with rising costs.

Whilst the rest of the country was taking austere measures through these difficult times to cut costs, the Overstrand Municipality does not appear to be adjusting to economic changes. We are also alarmed at R80mil being spent on Contract Services and R12.8mil on Consultant Fees. This was a 37% increase since 2009. Whilst services were being contracted out there was no showing of any savings. The Finance Minister has in fact taken the step of capping spending on Consultants. What assurance do we have that ratepayers are not paying twice for the same work as officials pay consultants to do the work?

Another issue of concern is the Overstrand Municipality wanting to take over the Eskom services in towns like Betty's Bay where we enjoy pre-paid services. This will result in much higher rates being charged to residents in Betty's Bay should this become a reality.

The Overstrand Municipality has acknowledged that the 67% increase in rates on vacant land last year had been unreasonable despite our previous objections.

Whale Coast Development Forum. The Association combined with some 22 other organisations in the area of the Overstrand Municipality has taken the initiative to establish a united umbrella body (WCDF) to address issues affecting the region. The Forum is fully representative of communities across the board. Ratepayers' Associations of Hermanus, Betty's Bay, Pringle Bay, Kleinmond, Vermont, Onrus, Gansbaai, De Kelders, Stanford and Sandbaai are all members while business and special interest groups like the Hermanus Business Chamber, Gateway Centre Directorate, Hawston Seafarms Foundation and Proteadorp Community Association have joined the Forum.

While individual organisations will continue with their business within their mandates, we believe that in joining forces we can successfully participate in and contribute to the sustainable development of the Overstrand region. This will include representations, negotiations and communication with the Overstrand Municipality, promoting the interests of the Overstrand in co-operation with the Overstrand Municipality and facilitating regular communication and consultation between members. The main objective is towards keeping rates and tariff increases within the recognized rate of inflation. Whilst we accept that the Overstrand Municipality has a budget to balance they need to take cognizance that ratepayers also have financial constraints. As one can imagine we are

dealing with some very complex issues as each town in the Overstrand has its own unique problems. Roads, storm water drainage, flooding of properties, shifting sand dunes and ailing infrastructure are just some of our own on-going concerns in Betty's Bay. The aim of the Forum is not to seek confrontation but it is inevitable that by its nature it will be seen as confrontational especially when it raises controversial issues. The Forum has consulted with an independent Economist and we are satisfied that the current increases are not sustainable in the long term.

A Committee of the Forum met with the Mayor, Municipal Manager and other senior officials on 30 October. The Overstrand Municipality was not very amenable to the meeting since they believe that all representations should be through the respective Ward Committees. The Forum is however of the view that some Ward Committees have not been functioning effectively when dealing with the Overstrand Municipality. Although Ward Committees are supposed to give communities the opportunity to express their needs, their opinions on issues that affect their lives and to have them heard at municipal level it would appear as if the Overstrand Municipality is not very receptive. The Municipal Manager is of the view that the Overstrand Municipality is under no obligation to meet with the Forum and was quite adamant that they would not engage with any other organization other than through the Ward Committees. The Mayor was also of the view that the Overstrand Municipality would under no circumstances allow any input by other organisations in the budget process.

We suspect that the budgetary public participation processes through the Overstrand Municipal Advisory Forum (OMAF) are simply to appease the public. The Manager's view is that the OMAF is simply an information session. The Overstrand Municipality calls for budget input when in fact the budget has already been finalized and submitted to government for approval.

Treasurer's Report. Adrian de Kock reports that an examination of our income and expenditure account accompanying this report and some underlying information reveals the following:

1. The Volunteer Fire Fighters have started a campaign to raise funds for equipment and to this end have begun a monthly "boerewors roll" sale. On the two occasions where the sale was held this year they raised R4630-00 and received donations of R2340-00 in addition to this amount.
2. The Neighborhood Watch had no expenditure during the year as there was sufficient equipment at present. We hold R10545-00 in surplus funds for their use at present which is sufficient to cover any unanticipated cost which may arise. Eight radios and three spotlights previously supplied by DOCS and handed back by previous members of the NW were handed to SAPS for use in Kleinmond.
3. The running of the Crassula hall cost us a deficit of R6429-43 due to the

purchase of sound equipment for R4849-00 and certain plumbing and electrical repairs.

4. The supply of the Buzz ran at a surplus of R546-25 but this should have been a surplus of R1026-25 if we had not to write off a bad debt of R480-00 being advertising costs not paid by Naturesscapes.
5. Printing costs have reduced considerably due to the amended distribution process introduced but we still have to pay for the cost of printing the AGM booklet for those who do not have E-Mail addresses.
6. Bank charges have been kept in check and are in fact less than the previous year.
7. As you are aware the BBRA acted as custodian of certain funds collected for the Eco Centre. These funds amounted to R31471-62 in 2009 when the BBRA accepted custodianship. Since that date R8372-84 in interest has been added giving a total of R39844-46. We recently paid out R38000-00 for the "illustration wall" to be installed in the Stony Point Eco Centre, run by Cape Nature on the authority of the fund raisers. We therefore currently hold R1844-46 being the balance.

Overall your association had a deficit of R10570-17 for the year but the true position is a surplus of R27429-83 taking into account the R38000-00 paid out where we are only custodians of these funds.

Should there be any questions about the accounts Adrian will be only too happy to provide answers at the AGM.

The under mentioned is some information on our input for the proposed 2015/16 Overstrand Municipal budget for Betty's Bay.

Budget 2015/16

We as Committee Members of the Betty's Bay Ratepayers' Association who are Ward 10 Committee members refer to our E-Mail of 22 April 2014 wherein we listed our requirements for the forthcoming budget and your subsequent Ward 10 Capital Budget wish list distributed at the recent Ward Committee meeting and advise the following:?

1. It is apparent that this list contains a mixture of capital and operational budget items.
2. There are a number of duplications on the list.
3. It appears that there are many items carried over from previous wish lists without ascertaining whether they are still relevant.
4. One item is reflected as Betty's Bay i.e. storm water Overhills where its locality should be Kleinmond.

Besides these observations it is apparent that there is a need for prioritizing items and to this end we list below the items which we wish included separated into capital and operational items. They are listed in priority order and only refer

to Betty's Bay whom we represent. It is up to the other members of the Ward 10 Committee to deal with their specific areas. As far as Mooiuitsig is concerned they in fact have their own representative and this area should in fact be handled by them but we comment on some of their items as their suburb is in Betty's Bay.

Capital Items – Betty's Bay

1. Tarring of Roads – Certain well used roads must be placed on the priority list for tarring i.e.
 - a. Wheeler Road from Porter Drive to intersection at Lakeside Drive/White Road and continuing up to Salvia Road intersection.
 - b. Main Beach parking area – This area must be enlarged by removal of the dumped sand.
 - c. Oxalis Road from Disa Road to White Road.
 - d. White Road from the intersection with Wheeler Road to Porter Drive where it changes its name to Lakeside Drive.
 - e. High Level Road – Steep areas.
2. Replacement of Potable Water Pipes – The phased replacement of pipes needs to be stepped up.
3. Otter Close Bridge – A suitable permanent structure needs to be constructed.
4. Storm Water Pipes – Installation of storm water pipes in areas which historically become flooded such as surrounding the lakes i.e. Lachenalia Road.
5. Industrial Refuse Bins – Required to replace the decrepit trailer and thus avoid the current health hazard.
6. Life Saving Equipment – Appropriate equipment must be supplied as well as suitable signage re “rip tides” etc. installed.
7. Disabled access – Main Beach and Silver Sands boardwalks. This has been dragging on for some time and needs to be addressed.
8. Hangklip Library Extension – Is this not the responsibility of Provincial Authorities?

Operational Items –Betty's Bay

1. Gravel Roads – Sufficient funds must be allocated to maintain gravel roads in Betty's Bay on an ongoing annual basis. The current processes of scraping roads without any “run off” being catered for will with the rains convert roads into dams and rivers.
2. Storm Water Channels – They must be cleared on an ongoing annual basis and not just confined to the main roads.
3. Road Side Clearing – Many roads have narrowed due to encroachment of vegetation and must be cut back on an annual ongoing basis to allow vehicles to pass each other and avoid accidents.
4. Bass Lake Boardwalk – Secure boardwalk to prevent it being moved by storm water annually.

All current items on the wish list headed as being in Betty's Bay may be deleted and replaced by the above capital items.

As far as Mooiuitsig is concerned we comment as follows:

Capital Items – Mooiuitsig

1. Sidewalk Clarence Drive to Mooiuitsig – There are various problems delaying such an undertaking such as piping near the surface.
2. School Children Bus Shelter – We understand that this has been scrapped as the children are picked up in Mooiuitsig.
3. Clinic Room at Community Hall – Is this not the problem of the Health Department?
4. Paving of Road to Mooiuitsig Hall – We do not consider this a priority as long as the gravel road is maintained.
5. Storm Water Mooiuitsig – We are unaware of this problem.
6. Building of Clinic – See 3) above – This is not required.
7. Replacement of Storm Water Pipes – See 4) above under Betty's Bay Capital items.
8. Upgrading of Houses – I thought that the houses had been transferred to the residents and as such they are responsible for repairs, etc.

Operational Items – Mooiuitsig

1. Roads and sidewalks – See 1) and 3) under Operational Items for Betty's Bay.

The Area Manager was requested to give effect to these items.

Dune and Drift Sand Management. We are particularly grateful to one of our members, Gottlieb van der Merwe, for taking the initiative to revive the Dunes Interest Group.

Gottlieb reports as follows:

We reported previously on the conclusion of the court action and promises by the Municipal Manager made at a subsequent Ward Committee meeting that despite the Court ruling, the Municipality would continue to clear the roads of drift sand and that the Municipality is in the process of drafting an appropriate management plan for the dunes as provided for in the Overstrand IDP. Work on the latter has however subsequently been terminated upon instruction from Municipal Management.

Affected homeowners have established the Betty's Bay Dune Interest Group (BBDIG) with a membership of about 40 and managed by a committee comprising Gottlieb van der Merwe, Ron Whytock and Belius Potgieter. The committee has a mandate to negotiate on behalf of the group with the authorities

(local and Provincial) on the dune issue and is working closely with the BBRA (Dan Fick).

Removing the sand from the roads presented a problem due to the limitations imposed by the various environmental Acts and Regulations and the Directorate Land Management at the Province suggested that the Municipality present a temporary Maintenance Management Plan to the Province that would allow them to remove the sand and legally dispose thereof. The plan was drafted, presented for public participation and approved by the Province in record time just before Christmas 2013. Unfortunately, the Municipality's preferred alternative for disposing of the sand (transferal onto the beach at the eastern end of Morea Road) was rejected due to (understandable) objections by Morea Road property owners. The approved alternative (dumping the sand on the Main Beach parking lot) turned out to be completely impractical. Sand is still being removed from the roads, but we are not sure how it is being disposed of.

In May 2014 the BBDIG committee finally managed to have a meeting with Municipal Management and was informed that as a result of the Court ruling and further legal opinion obtained, the Municipality believes that they cannot be held responsible for the stabilization of the dunes, but is willing to help facilitate a solution. They have met with Cape Nature on the issue. Cape Nature is concerned about numerous similar sand encroachment problems in the Province and plan to do a survey with a view of establishing a policy to handle such problems in future using the Betty's Bay problem as a case study. The Municipal Manager stated that the Municipality could not do any work in areas not under their jurisdiction (i.e. the dunes). However, the BBDIG managed to establish at the meeting that most of the land in question (i.e. between the Nerine and Morea seafront Erven and the high water mark) is indicated on maps as commonage (ERF 3784) and is therefore under Municipal jurisdiction!

The BBDIG continued to follow up the Cape Nature promises and a site meeting was held on Main Beach in September 2014, attended by representatives from the BBDIG, Municipality, Province, Cape Nature, BBRA and Overberg District Municipality. It was resolved at the meeting that the Municipality would update the current Maintenance Management Plan and re-issue it for public participation and approval by Province before the start of the holiday season. Work on the Sand Encroachment Study and a long term Dune Management Plan for Betty's Bay (the case study) will be coordinated by Cape Nature, but will be executed by Coastal Management of the Province with the help of various specialists and consultants. The BBDIG is monitoring both these activities, which is currently underway. It should be noted that the Cape Nature project could take a year or more to complete.

Dawidskraal River. The eroding embankments of the Dawidskraal River continue to remain a huge problem and the forest of Milkwood trees is under threat of being washed into the sea. There has over the past few years been no definitive plan and associated budget allocated to construct a bridge which will withstand the ongoing assault of the annual storms. This bridge has been washed away on a number of occasions in recent times and it is time that a concerted effort is made to address this issue.

Law Enforcement and Traffic Control. Our beaches and parking areas were quite chaotic during the last December festive season mainly due to services being deployed at Blue Flag beaches in Kleinmond and Hermanus. There was a distinct lack of Law Enforcement and Traffic Control in Betty's Bay mainly due to budgetary constraints and deployment of skeleton staff. Clearly insufficient capacity and resources had an impact on the outlying Hangklip areas and this compromised on safety and security issues. Members of our Community Volunteer Fire Fighters were kept busy throughout the festive season, without compensation, dealing with the extinguishing of bush fires, incidents of illegal drinking on the beaches, the illegal setting off of fireworks on beaches, setting of braai fires on beaches, complaints about nuisance dogs and undertaking traffic and parking control and emergency services. Consequently, we held several meetings during this year with the Directorate of Law Enforcement to ensure that we did not have a recurrence this year.

Violent delivery service protests in Grabouw caused the N2 to be closed off for three days. This resulted in traffic to and from the Cape being diverted along the R44 through Betty's Bay and Kleinmond. This caused major disruption along Clarence Drive (R44). There were also several accidents along the mountain side.

The diversion of traffic has clearly revealed that in the event of the proposed N2 toll road going ahead, we will be faced with worsening traffic conditions, such as,

1. Increased heavy and articulated vehicles. This continued throughout the day and night;
2. Speeding through villages to overtake slow moving heavy traffic;
3. Noise pollution;
4. Slowing down and build up of traffic behind heavy duty vehicles on the mountain side.

Stony Point Project. The project made progress in the last few months. As you will be aware this project has been on the table for some 10 years. The programme consists of the upgrading and renovation of existing facilities in the form of a coffee shop, eco-centre, upgraded ablutions, disability friendly parking areas, the construction of a boathouse for the Cape Nature patrol boat and the provision of clubhouse facilities for the Betty's Bay Boat Club. The construction phase has been completed and the restaurant is due to come into operation in December. Management of the project has been transferred to Cape Nature.

The Association has transferred R38, 000 for the development of the eco-Centre.

Crime. We have once again been faced with a significant increase in property related crime. In one month we had as many as 40 incidents of housebreakings and this was probably much higher if unreported incidents were also to be taken into account. Although not unique to the Overstrand, Betty's Bay tops the list for housebreakings. Unemployment, poverty and substance abuse are being given as major contributing factors. Also, by far the majority of our houses remain vacant and unprotected throughout the year. Indications are that syndicates may be involved since stolen items are being moved very quickly out of the area to the Cape.

Way back in 2010 because of the high rates of crime in our village it had then become imperative that we establish a community based organization (Neighbourhood Watch) to assist SAPS in striving for a safe and secure environment. We created six zones across Betty's Bay which initially had a measure of success in reducing crime, however, over time enthusiasm has dwindled and only one of the zones is still effectively carrying out patrols. Some of the other zones have become inactive or operate on an 'ears and eyes' basis. We urgently need to revive what was once a very active operation.

Crime prevention is everyone's responsibility not only that of Law Enforcement. Unfortunately, we are constantly being reminded by SAPS that far too many of our residents do not adhere to basic security precautionary measures. Far too many houses do not even have adequate intruder alarm systems. Systems that were installed many years ago seriously need to be checked and upgraded. Far too many residents rely upon security providers to prevent crime, this will not happen. The mandate of Private Security is to react to alarm activations but only for their respective clients. They DO NOT carry out patrols of the village.

Through the Community Police Forum representations were made to the Overstrand Cluster Board for increased visible policing. This did not have the desired affect so we made direct representations to the Provincial Commissioner and the Cluster Commander. We did not even have the courtesy of acknowledgements.

The CPF took the initiative of meeting with an alternative private security group to explore the feasibility of utilizing their services. They are based in Somerset West where they have had a good success rate in reducing crime. They operate where an entire estate/village is their responsibility and where all residents are signed up. However, their service has enormous cost implications. They in fact question the effectiveness and viability of any private security company charging R250 per month per household. No additional resources can be put in at this cost. They talk in the region of R1000 pm which will provide for proper visibility and not just for one vehicle responding/reacting to an alarm. They question the sustainability and viability of three security companies operating in our villages

as currently is the case. Profit margins are minimal when clients are spread across three companies. Already we have seen another security company close down. They maintain that to add an additional vehicle to an area with one officer 24/7 will cost in the region of an additional R60, 000 per month. We doubt if pensioners (clients) can afford this. To establish a proper and functional Control Room will cost in the region of R3mil.

We continue to work on increasing our database of email addresses of our residents, where possible, so that regular communication can be made possible. Residents need to assist by spreading the message and getting all residents/homeowners onto the network. We have to reduce the many unnecessary hours spent attempting to make contact with owners of vacant houses where crime has been committed.

Fire/Emergency Support Services. As you are no doubt aware we had a large fire during July resulting in the loss of two houses and damage to a number of others. Numerous houses were under threat and some houses had to be evacuated. Considerable damage was caused to vegetation. We are particularly thankful to our Volunteer Firefighters for the tremendous job they did in support of the Fire Services.

What is disturbing is that whilst we were fighting the fire no less than five houses were broken into. There were also other incidents during the year where fires were started as decoys whilst houses were broken into.

Notice was received from the Overstrand Municipality stating that as from 1 July property owners would be charged for Fire Brigade call-outs. We are concerned that people will be reluctant to use this service or even consider not alerting them of a fire at the risk of being charged.

Crassula Hall. It will be noted from the Treasurer's report that the hall is run at a loss. Notwithstanding this, there are local organisations and individuals, some of which may be members and some not, who are critical for having to pay for the use of the hall and the use of our facilities. They expect to have the use of the hall free of charge. The Association, which leases the hall from the municipality, is faced with the cost of electricity, water usage, pumping of sewerage tank, cleaning of the hall, cutlery and crockery after events. We also provide toilet paper and refuse bags. On numerous occasions we have had difficulty in having people vacate the hall by 2am despite the fact that they are required to be out by midnight.

Membership currently stands at 369 which include 9 Life Members. A few members have still to adjust their fees to the new amount. 11 Members have been removed from the list due mainly to non-payment of subscriptions.

Conclusion. This brings me to the conclusion of my report but I would be most

remiss in not thanking the many people in the community who do function behind the scenes doing a sterling job. To all those who are actively involved in the firefighting team and our NW Wardens for their efforts in keeping our village safe our sincere thanks and appreciation.

I further wish to pass a motion of thanks to the committee for their support throughout the year. We are particularly relieved for having Adrian on board as our Treasurer and for the professional manner in which he controls our finances.

Ladies and gentlemen, many thanks for hearing us out and many thanks for attending the meeting. To those returning to other venues after the holidays, we wish you all a safe journey. We wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas and a prosperous New Year. I thank you.

Dan Fick, Chairman

BETTY'S BAY RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION
BETTY'SBAAISE BELASTINGBETALERSVERENIGING
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON FRIDAY, 27 DECEMBER 2013
IN THE CRASSULA HALL AT 10H00

1. OPENING AND WELCOME

The Chairman extended a special word of welcome to all especially those visiting from far and wide over this festive period. He said he was delighted with the attendance, but felt that a number of the members had not attended due to the fact that both the Chairman's and Treasurer's Reports had been sent out early. He said that the attendance register was circulating and requested everyone to complete with all their details so that we can update our data base. The meeting was advised that the quorum requirement of 30 members was exceeded thus the meeting could take place.

40 members attended the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Rob Johnson, Hugo Truter, Dr. and Mrs. Heydorn, Mike Orren, Lydia Bruwer, Richard Starke, Cheryl Broom, Hazel de Kock, Petra Swart, Caroline Silberbauer, Wilna Rademeyer and P Harwood.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM

The Chairman advised that the AGM Minutes would be published in the Buzz and on the website, as well as emailed to members early in February and that the AGM Booklet for the AGM for 2014 will be emailed to all on our data base, posted to those who do not have emails and will also be posted on the web site at the end of November 2014.

The Minutes of the AGM held on 28 December 2012 was taken as read and approved.

APPROVED: BRIAN EDWARDS SECONDED: JOHAN VAN VUUREN

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

4.1 Coastal Setback Lines

Brian Edwards enquired what further developments had taken place regarding the Coastal Setback Lines. The Chairman advised that the process had been suspended. Gotlieb van der Merwe informed the meeting that he had contacted the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) for further information. He said that the project had been put on hold indefinitely and that an entire new study was being undertaken. He advised that the Municipality had submitted a number of changes as 50% of Betty's Bay properties would be affected. He said that the DEA were busy undertaking a study of the West Coast and that it would take a number of years before they would be able to begin with the Overstrand area. G. van der Merwe advised that Integrated Zoning Law of 2008 was being amended.

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It had once again been quite a hectic year. The Association had been faced with many challenges throughout the year dealing with many issues either about deteriorating roads, blocked storm water channels, flooding of roads and properties, wash aways, deteriorating infrastructure, ongoing water pipe breakages, delays in the pumping of sewerage tanks, drifting sand dunes, problems with waste disposal, contract meter readers, nuisance dogs, baboon infestation and last but not least the fluctuating incidents of crime in the area. Never a dull moment.

He said it would be most remiss in not acknowledging the support we had received from Councillor Krige. She needed to be commended for her untiring efforts in representing our Ward. Also a special word of thanks to Allan Heydorn, Richard Starke and Mike Orren for their continued support throughout the year on environmental matters. He thanked the Committee and members for their generous support and in particular members of our Neighbourhood Watch and Volunteer Fire Fighters, many of whom are not even members of the Association, for all their hard work and dedication. Often we are quick to criticize the SAPS but they have under the circumstances been tremendous in their responses.

We dealt with a number of disputes involving the municipal administration which he felt needed mentioning.

Municipal Budget. We actively engaged the Overstrand Municipality on several occasions on certain aspects of sharp increases in rates and tariffs without much

joy. Of concern is the extraordinary high salary bill amounting to 30% of the budget. The cost of the Municipal Manager and his six Directors amounts to R16mil per year something we believe we can ill afford. Whilst we are continuously being reminded that the Overstrand Municipality is one of the better municipalities in the country it does not give them Carte Blanche to level increased taxes and levies especially for services we have not and do not receive. We are constantly being faced with complaints by the community about the impact this is having on retired folk who are already feeling the pinch.

Despite our objections, an unreasonably high rate increase of 63.4% has been levied against undeveloped land which the municipality insists it is entitled to do. The municipality conveniently appears not to have taken cognizance of the fact that undeveloped properties are already being charged 'availability' tariffs for water (incl. infrastructure), sewage (incl. infrastructure) and refuse removal and now face a further 63.4% increase in rates. It remains our contention that it is unfair for the municipality to arbitrarily impose a different rate against undeveloped property. We requested the methodology used to determine such a high rates increase as we believe that they arrived at this unrealistic figure so as to generate additional revenue to balance the budget. The reasons given by the municipality for the introduction of a new category of ratable property of '*vacant land*' which will be rated more highly than the category '*residential property*' is inter alia, the following:

- To encourage property development.
- To encourage densification in line with the integrated development plan.
- It is preferable to the municipality to have properties within its jurisdiction which are developed and occupied.
- The need to encourage residential occupation of properties, as this is a municipality where many people seek to retire.
- The category of vacant land will be in line with the actual use and not just the permitted use.

The municipality however fails to address the important issue of whether our ailing infrastructure has capacity to sufficiently maintain and efficiently cope with such additional development that it now encourages and the fact that it will place a further burden on the financial constraints of the budget, which is likely to attract additional taxes. The perception is that the relationship between Council and Ratepayer Associations in general has become somewhat strained because of the fact that we are continuously highlighting shortcomings in their administration. Letters of complaint are either not being acknowledged or are simply being ignored.

Municipal Accounts. Attention was given to reported discrepancies in municipal accounts after the appointment of new Contract Meter Readers. Readings

BETTYSBAAI BELASTINGBETALERSVERENIGING
NOMINASIE VAN KOMITEELEDE

1. Ek (Naam in drukskrif)

Van (Erf Nommer)

EN

2. Ek (Naam in drukskrif)

Van (Erf Nommer)

NOMINEER (Naam in drukskrif)
OP DIE BBBV KOMITEE VIR DIE JAAR 2015.

Geteken: 1

Geteken: 2

GENOMINEERDE SE AANVAARDING

Ek (Naam in Drukskrif)

Van (Erf Nommer)

Is bereid om op die BBBV te dien.

Geteken:

Pos na : Posbus 48, Bettysbaai, 7141

BETTY'S BAY RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION

NOMINATION FORM FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. I (Please Print Name)

Of (Erf Number)

AND

2. I (Please Print Name)

Of (Erf Number)

NOMINATE (Please Print Name)

TO SERVE ON THE BBRA COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 2015.

Signed: 1.

Signed: 2.

AGREEMENT OF NOMINEE

I (Please Print Name)

Of (Erf Number)

AGREE TO STAND FOR ELECTION TO THE BBRA COMMITTEE

Signed:

Mail to: P.O. Box 48, Betty's Bay, 7141

BETTYSBAAI BELASTINGBETALERSVERENIGING
AANSOEK OM HERNUWING/LIDMAATSKAP VAN
BOGENOEMDE VERENIGING

Titel, Voorletter en Van:.....

Aantal Lede:

Pos Address:

.....

.....

Pos Kode:

Bettysbaai Erf Nommer/s:

E-Pos:

Tel Huis:.....

Tel Bettysbaai:.....

Sel:.....

Hiermee my ledegeld van R60 per persoon.

Merk asb: Aansoek **Hernuwing** **Totaal R**

Geteken:.....

Pos na: Posbus 48, Bettysbaai, 7141

Bettysbaai Belastingbetalersvereniging,

ABSA Hermanus

Rek. 4066 6164 39

Gebruik Naam en Erf Nommer as versysing.

BETTY'S BAY RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP
OF THE ABOVE ASSOCIATION

Titel, Initials and Surname:.....

Number of Members:

Postal Address:.....
.....
.....

Postal Code:

Betty's Bay Erf Number/s:.....

Email:.....

Tel Home:.....

Tel Betty's Bay:.....

Cell:.....

Herewith membership fee of R60 per person.

Please Tick: Application Renewal Total R

SIGNED:.....

Post to: P.O. Box 48, Betty's Bay, 7141

Betty's Bay Ratepayers Association,
ABSA Hermanus, Acc. 4066 6164 39
Use Name and Erf No. as reference

were not being taken on a regular monthly basis. Accounts consequently fluctuated from month to month.

We continue to receive complaints from residents about discrepancies in their monthly accounts. We suggest they approach the Accounts Department to deal with their individual problems.

Dispute regarding Penalties and Increase in water Deposit. We supported a member in an on-going dispute relating to the imposition of penalties and an increase in water deposit on an account that had not been paid in full after an account had not been received by the owner. This dispute was initially referred to an Ombudsman Committee which turned out to comprise of officials of the municipality. This committee subsequently became an Advisory Committee.

Property, Planning and Development. Colin Chaplin reported that of particular concern is the increasing number of applications for building line and land use restrictions to be relaxed. These are often to legalize encroachments of existing dwellings or to circumvent terms of Title Deeds. Of concern is that this trend is likely to increase as it has been mentioned that Province intended passing legislation early in the New Year permitting second dwellings on properties. The municipality is also encouraging densification. No doubt this will raise additional revenue for the municipality. This will certainly change the face of the village as we currently know it.

Other areas of concern include:

- The increased number of applications for the erection of second dwellings on plots
- The proposed development of small holdings that surround Betty's Bay
- Correct procedure not being followed by applicants for departures from Title Deeds
- The general lack of architectural uniformity in both existing and new buildings in Betty's Bay.

The BBRA tries to work hand in hand with the relevant authorities, applicants and its members when dealing with any new proposed developments. We are not in the habit of objecting merely for the sake of objecting and try to engage with all parties while acting in the best interests of the community that we represent.

Revised Scheme Regulations, applicable to Residential Zone I (single residential) properties, was published in the Provincial Government Gazette on 29 November which will become applicable as from 1 January 2014. The definitions of the primary uses and most of the consent uses as well as regulations in respect of building line encroachments and parking have been revised. Primary use

now provides for second dwellings, guest rooms, day care centres and house shops.

It is going to make any opposition to any undesirable development very difficult in the future.

We have received prior notification of a developer exploring the possibility of a development on a Portion 229 of Farm 559, which is a large property of 22ha zoned for agricultural development on the far side of Clarence Drive. It falls within an identified critical biodiversity area. We have received conflicting reports regarding the intentions of the owner. We have stressed to the owner that we would await the developer's formal application and respond accordingly.

Some 5 years ago there was an application to develop Erf 4013, Crassula Close. This is a 17,000sqm Erf which has graves on it and which the owner wished to subdivide into several stands. The BBRA opposed it at the time. The owner was trying to do it again. We have told him we will continue to oppose it.

Closure of Beach Boulevard. This emerged once again after some 3 years. The municipality is now seeking to amend conditions set down by the Provincial Minister in 2010 but never adhered to by the municipality. Deep concern was expressed by affected parties about the latest developments. We had several meetings with affected parties and municipal officials. Several letters of objection to the amendments were submitted to Council. Affected parties also questioned the reason for wanting to rezone the affected area. There have been no further developments.

Management of Dunes and Sand Drift. We previously reported on the case brought by a group of homeowners of Nerine Crescent against the Overstrand Municipality applying for an order for the OM to keep clear the road and verges of any beach sand. Judgment was handed down in March and the court ruled in favour of the Municipality. At a subsequent Ward Committee meeting at which the Mayor and the Municipal Manager were present we requested them to clarify the position especially in light of the judgment. The Municipal Manager emphasized that the municipality would not be insensitive to the problem and was committed to assisting home owners where necessary but would confine itself to budgetary constraints.

The Manager also drew attention to the Integrated Development Plan of the municipality where mention is made of certain areas in Betty's Bay that are affected by Driftsand which is threatening the existence of residences and that the municipality is in the process of drafting an appropriate management plan for the dunes. They have also delivered inputs with respect to the placement of setback lines in order to promote the ecological management of the dunes and to protect private property from coastal processes. Area management teams will be clearing road surfaces of dune sediment as an interim management meas-

ure.

Affected homeowners are in the process of establishing an interest working group of affected property owners in the Nerine and Morea Roads so as to speak with a combined voice to the municipality.

Judy Kirby and I together with some of the affected residents attended a meeting on Thursday (12 Dec) in Stellenbosch with provincial DA MP, Mike Walters to seek resolution. A further aggravating situation is that truck loads of sand have and still are being moved from Nerine Crescent and dumped in the main beach car park. There have been several complaints from arriving residents/visitors that parking in the car park had as a result been considerably reduced and access to the beach made very difficult. The proposal put forward to Mike Walters was that the sand blown towards Nerine and Morea Roads should be moved back to the high water mark. This proposal was previously dismissed by Province. Mike Walters undertook to investigate the possibility of the municipality obtaining a mining permit which would hopefully enable them to move the sand back to the high water mark instead of removing the sand off site which is currently happening. On Wednesday 18 December we had a further meeting on site with officials from the Provincial Dept. of Environmental Affairs and Neville Green to discuss the legal restrictions on the removal of sand from the road to the beach and to discuss a proposal from Province that would allow the Municipality to implement a **short term management plan** to remove sand from the roads onto the beach.

Generally the plan of action is well motivated as an interim contingency measure which will cause the least disturbance and minimise further impact on the environment. It will hopefully avoid any further removal of sediment off site as this has been the cause of considerable beach erosion and possible flooding in the future. However, in unique circumstances like this, one solution invariably is the cause of other problems. Some Morea Road residents have expressed concern that hold the view that by moving the sand through the corner of Morea Road to the high level mark will create a sediment pathway. As a consequence during a strong South Easter the sand is likely to blow back into Morea Road making it once again impassable.

Another reservation that has been expressed is the economic impact this plan will have on all the ratepayers of Betty's Bay as it is likely to result in an increase in taxes across the board. It is stipulated in the management plan that the cost of moving sediment is high and this will impact on Municipal budgets and ultimately ratepayer's accounts. The submission by many ratepayers that an overall increase in rates and taxes should not be considered is quite understandable. This is another issue that will also need clarification.

Gottlieb van der Merwe who has been initiating this effort requested that he address the meeting and elaborate on the Morea/Nerine mandate. He said that a

number of residents together with the support of the Ratepayers' Association were trying to reach a solution to the problem by involving Province and the Municipality. He said that he had had a telephonic conversation with the Municipal Manager who stressed that the Municipality was not responsible for the removal of the sand but confirmed that they would continue to assist wherever possible. G. van der Merwe advised that Province had agreed to the removal of the sand to the Parking Area at Main Beach (which was causing huge congestion as far as parking was concerned) and said that they were once again back where they had started. He said that Province were reluctant to move the sand back to the beach saying that there was the possibility of causing a sediment trail. He stressed that the situation was serious and appealed to all to please give their support and thanked the BBRA for their continued support.

Roads and Stormwater Infrastructure. Representation was made to Ward Councillor Krige after the recent heavy down pours which caused flooding of many roads and properties some of which became impassable. Most of the roads no longer have storm water drains, either they are over grown or have filled up with sand over the years. Consequently, roads become streams or turn into storm water drains. Many houses were also flooded. The Councillor was prompt in arranging a high profile municipal delegation from Hermanus to carry out an inspection. Consequently, an inspection report was tabled in Council emphasizing short to long term solutions. This matter was also raised at a Ward Committee meeting in October. Consensus is that our roads which are predominantly gravel are in desperate need of upgrading and that there is a lack of proper storm water infrastructure and maintenance. As one can appreciate no provision has been made in the current financial year to undertake these enormous tasks.

Mid November we experienced a down pour even greater than the one experienced in 2005. Considerable damage was caused to the Botanical Gardens, Waterfall Road was washed away, the bridge at Otter Close was once again washed away, the banks of the river were considerably eroded making the river much wider than before and several roads and properties throughout the village were flooded.

The municipality pulled out all stops to repair as many roads as possible and restore access across Dawidskraal River for the Otter Close residents. A meeting was held on 17 December which also included SANBI.

Water Working Group. With the retirement of Avril Nunn, Richard Starke has kindly agreed to take over the Chairmanship of the Water Working Group on which Prof. Orren, Kevin Winter and Stephen Muller (Overstrand Director for Infrastructure) and the BBRA also serve. The Group has since held its first meeting. There were as many as 19 water pipe breaks during the month of December. This underlines the state of our infrastructure.

Crime has continued to fluctuate throughout the year with incidents of House-breakings and Theft out of Vehicles being quite prominent. Only some units of the Neighbourhood Watch system have been active in patrols. More Wardens are however desperately needed to be recruited if we are ever to reduce crime in the area. A few Wardens simply cannot win this battle alone. Many areas remain unprotected simply because they consist mainly of unoccupied holiday homes.

Unfortunately, many residents are oblivious to the fact that crime exists in the village. It has to be recognized that in most cases it may be possible to minimize and control crime but it will never be removed altogether. This is where property owners need to take responsibility to minimize their risk and look after their possessions. If everyone takes due care it minimizes opportunity and temptation. For example, do not leave items of value exposed in the car, lock doors and install adequate alarm systems.

Due to continued suggestions that Betty's Bay seriously consider a CCTV system we established a steering committee to test the market and came up with alarming results. We are looking at anything in excess of R1mil per year to equip, administer and monitor the whole area not to mention monthly levies. We would have to get the entire community to buy into it to make it affordable to each household but this would by no means be an easy task especially because we have many absent homeowners who are not particularly interested in even taking simple precautions like installing burglar proofing or intruder alarm systems. To achieve this we would also have to involve the municipality who would also charge an admin fee to deduct monthly levies. There are certain reservations about the effectiveness of CCTV in a township like BB which has numerous entrances and exits. We also have other organisations whose prime objective is to protect the marine resources but do not invest in any measures of their own. A public participation process would in any case have to be undertaken and we would have to get a 50+1 support before we can even contemplate such a move. Pringle Bay spent in excess of R350,000 on their installation of 4 cameras and software which came from donations. Also they are faced with a monthly administration fee of R1000. Despite their installation they still experience housebreakings which are gradually increasing. Accesses by perpetrators are now on foot and not by vehicle. Perpetrators easily find ways to circumvent security measures.

I attended a briefing by the National Commissioner of Police to the Western Cape Provincial Parliament which dealt mainly with staffing levels at stations and the crime situation. I also attended a meeting in Gansbaai of all stakeholders with the MEC for Community Safety and officials from the Department of Community Safety to discuss preliminary findings on Policing Needs and Priorities and crime trends for the Overstrand area.

Chamber of Business. At a recent meeting of the Association at which the Councillor was also present, it was felt that there is a need for the business sector in Betty's Bay to seriously give consideration to establishing a Chamber of Business in line with those that already exist in other villages. It is felt that it is important for the business sector to forge stronger links so as to collectively deal with wide ranging changes that are taking place. A representative of the Chamber could also serve on the Executive of the BBRA. Councillor Krige would have been glad to meet with all business owners to discuss matters of concern. Unfortunately, we only had one response.

Stony Point Project. We attended several meetings on the progress of the development of the project. Of great concern is that inadequate provision has been made for visitors' parking and that tour busses are known to have left without tourists being dropped off because of the lack of parking. We foresee that during peak periods adjacent roads will become congested. This will cause great disruption to neighbouring properties as the roads in question are too narrow to allow for both parking and passing traffic. It is also likely that tourists will be forced to park on the verges of neighbouring properties.

Protest Actions. I thought I should draw attention to the change in mood of residents over the last year. The municipal budget received quite a lot of adverse publicity in the media and also lead to unprecedented protest action in front of the municipal offices in Kleinmond by predominantly white pensioners where a petition was handed over to the municipality. There was also a protest march by Xhosa speaking residents from the informal settlement demanding improved service delivery. A petition was also handed over to the municipality. A third protest action by Proteadorp residents took place on Youth Day when they marched on houses identified by the community as houses allegedly involved in the sale of drugs. Ward 10 has also been faced by some very irate residents protesting about the condition of roads and storm water drains especially after the recent heavy rains. These actions are a clear indication of the discontent that currently prevails in the Hangklip-Kleinmond area.

Based on what we have experienced this year we do not foresee things improving, certainly not in the short term. In fact we believe things will get far worse. Some officials concede that Betty's Bays infrastructure is in a huge mess. Council simply does not have the resources to rectify what has been allowed to deteriorate over the decades. Of concern is that for the last three years we have been paying water and sewage infrastructure levies but have not seen any improvement. What is happening to this revenue? What we have seen is a great deal of development in Hermanus. Many promises made but very little action. Betty's Bay does not make an attractive destination. We are receiving increased enquiries from prospective property buyers enquiring about the crime and services in the area. It places us in an unenviable position as there are frequent

adverse reports in the media which are difficult to challenge.

Membership. As Adrian de Kock has informed in the past it is not our practice to send out invoices annually in respect of membership fees. The reason for this is to save unnecessary costs to your organization. Our year begins on 1 November annually and the constitution states that you have until the end of April to pay your subs. To our mind this is too long a period and we wish to propose an amendment to our constitution at to make membership fees payable by the end of January annually. This will enable us to begin sending out reminders to members at an earlier stage. From a cost perspective we would prefer to utilize E-mails for this purpose and therefore appeal to members to ensure that we have your E-mail addresses on record if you have not already supplied them. Additionally please advise us of any change in your E-mail addresses as many of our notices are often returned undelivered.

Come on guys we need to have as many members as possible to give us clout in dealing with the authorities. At the moment Betty's Bay Ratepayers Association has the largest membership of any such association in the entire Overstrand area.

Fire and Emergency Support Services. Wendy Tawse reports that the Betty's Bay Volunteer Community Fire Fighters were kept busy during the first half of 2013. In total they responded to no less than 8 fire call outs, 1 motor vehicle accident and 1 sea rescue.

During January, February, March and April, the Betty's Bay Volunteer Community Fire Fighters were very busy (when not fighting fires) at the Fire Station, giving it a face lift. They are very proud to announce that the station has been painted out, tiles laid, ceiling boards put in and we now even have shower and toilette facilities, although not 100% complete yet due to lack of funding. We still need to give attention to the paving outside the station, which needs to be filled up with gravel and leveled out, but due to a lack of funding, this too is still outstanding.

During May and June the Overstrand Fire and Rescue Services as well as the Betty's Bay Volunteer Community Fire Fighters embarked on their annual hydrant mechanical checks. Our Volunteer Community Fire Fighters wish to make an appeal to all members of the community to note the nearest hydrant to their homes and assess its visibility.

We had another veld fire which threatened neighbouring properties in Disa Road. The fire was caused by the occupants throwing braai coals into the bush. Our Volunteer Firefighters were quick on the scene to extinguish the fire. Once again they need to be congratulated.

Public Participation Process regarding a Proposed Controlled Burn. A group of concerned homeowners resident in the Sunny Seas area of Betty's Bay

have made representations to the Municipality requesting a controlled burn of the area on the mountain side bordering onto their properties.

Motivation for their request is:

- For ecological reasons; Fynbos needs to burn every 12 to 15 years to allow for regeneration before species are lost;
- The area last burnt some 21 years ago. The burn in June 2010 was extinguished before the entire area could be burnt and as a result the area has become very dry and has the potential to turn into a disaster should a fire occur in the area;
- If this is not attended to then the area burnt in 2010 could be totally destroyed should another fire occur;
- This area has limited fire hydrant capacity and residents are concerned that protection of the infrastructure would not be possible should a fire occur.

An initial meeting was held in June 2013 with affected residents and various stakeholders such as Cape Nature, Nature Conservation, Overstrand Fire Services, Ratepayers' Association and Volunteer Firefighters to discuss the matter and establish a plan of action. A sub-committee was established which have met on several occasions and it was proposed that a controlled burn take place early next year at an appropriate time along the mountain side eastward from the Botanical Gardens through to the western entrance of Seaview Road in Sunny Seas.

It is essential that the Municipality, property owners and voluntary firefighters work together to reduce the fire risk. A public meeting was held in August.

Baboon Matters – The Present Situation. Adrian de Kock reports that following on from our previous communications in this matter we have had a meeting on 19 June 2013 with the Overstrand Municipality to establish the present position with regard to our various concerns.

Here are the matters which were discussed and the outcome:

Municipal Dump Site

- The “dump site” at the Betty’s Bay Municipal offices is manned seven days a week from 08H00 to 16H00 by a dedicated official but this service is sometimes interrupted through absences due to sick and annual leave. This service has definitely improved the situation and we appeal to residents/visitors to use this site responsibly when it is not manned and not to just dump their refuse outside the bins.
- We have discussed the ineffective locking system on the cages and the fact that the trailer has no wheels which poses a health risk and is coun-

terproductive when emptying the trailer. The Municipality has undertaken to examine the possible solution of replacing the trailer with “industrial bins” such as used in Pringle Bay.

Refuse Collection

- Bags removed from bins are now collected without delay.
- Bins are closed after collection preventing egress by rain water.
- The order of collection of refuse at egress points into the village has to be constantly changed as the baboons change their points of entry in line with these movements.

Baboon Proof Bins

- All households are required to utilize such bins in terms of Municipal by-laws. Letters were sent out to transgressors and subsequently Law Enforcement has issued some official warnings. The next step for those that do not comply will be the issue of fines.
- The locking system on “baboon proof bins” is ineffective. The Municipality no longer supplies such bins but property owners may obtain them from “Bou Handel” or “Buildit”. These bins do not come with locking systems and it is up to purchasers to have suitable systems installed. Those property owners who already have bins would have to see that suitable locks are installed.
- It is up to property owners to ensure that those renting or occupying their properties comply with the regulations.

Signage

- We are negotiating with the Municipality for suitable signage to be erected at the entrances to Betty’s Bay re the prohibition of feeding baboons.

All these matters will be kept on the forefront of Ward Committee meetings and progress will be monitored.

Farewell. After many years of loyal service, more than one can care to recall, we bid farewell to **Avril Nunn**, a long standing executive committee member. Her enthusiasm and energetic service to the community of Betty’s Bay was greatly admired and we are very sorry to have bid her goodbye. She has relocated to a retirement village in Somerset West.

Cecile Jonkheid (Area Manager) and Chris Harding (Operations Manager) retire at the end of this year (2013). We have over the years built up a good working relationship with both of them and they have been a tremendous help to us. We wish them a long and healthy retirement.

6. DISCUSSION OF CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

6.1 Brian Edwards enquired whether it was not possible that a red line be

painted along Access Road with No Parking signs and that Municipal Law Enforcement is on hand to ticket and control offenders. Both the Chairman and W. Tawse stressed that it was a huge problem and that Emergency Vehicles could not access the area due to illegal parking. D. Fick thanked W. Tawse and the Volunteer Firefighters for their tireless effort trying to control traffic over the festive period.

6.2 Peter Joubert enquired which address he was to use when corresponding with the Municipality. He said that he now had two – an Erf No. and a Street Address. D. Fick said that it was his decision and advised that a number of people even had three different numbers especially if they were located on a corner. Each owner had to deal with the municipality.

6.3 Johan Fourie enquired what the results of discussions held between the Municipality and members of the community regarding the Baboon problems were. He stressed that it was really becoming a very serious issue in the Sunny Seas area.

Adrian de Kock advised as follows:

The following issues in respect of the baboon problem were discussed:

- Baboon monitors – The BBRA applied through the “Greenest Town Award” to implement such a scheme but unfortunately it was unsuccessful.
- Baboon proof bins By-Laws – It is a requirement of all residents to comply with the By-Law. The Caledon Magistrates Court has now approved the issue of fines for failure to use baboon proof bins. The fines appear to be R500-00. Law Enforcement will act on complaints from residents and their officials on patrol. The issue of fines will quickly become known by residents resulting in adherence.
- Signage warning of the baboon problem will be erected at the entrances to Betty’s Bay when funds become available.
- The trailer at the refuse drop off site will be replaced by industrial bins when funds become available.
- It is the responsibility of residents to obtain baboon proof bins. These are no longer available from the Municipality. Wheelie bins can be made baboon proofed by installing a simple locking device. The responsibility with regard to baboon control rests as follows:
 - a. Mountain side – Cape Nature
 - b. Roads & verges – Overstrand Municipality
 - c. Private property – Property owners
- Ultimately it is the property owners’ responsibility to protect their own

homes and ensure that they comply with refuse By-Laws.

- The feeding of birds and other small animals results in exacerbating the baboon problem.

Allan Clegg felt that it was the responsibility of every resident to ensure that their home was baboon proof – bars on windows, doors kept closed and windows closed when leaving the house.

Brian Edwards felt that it was important to circulate to all property owners where the bins were to be purchased, as well as what was the best baboon proof catches. He enquired whether it would not be possible to place an article in the Municipal Bulletin which accompanies the monthly accounts.

6.4 The meeting was informed that 18 incidents of crime had been reported since 22 December from Kleinmond to Rooi Els. He said that many were due to negligence – laptops, cameras, cell phones being left in cars despite warnings. Mr. Eddy felt that this type of carelessness should not be condoned and said that Insurance Companies should have clauses in their policies dealing with this kind of negligence. It was again suggested that an article be placed in the Municipal Bulletin.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer reported as follows:

- Membership stands at 371 which include 9 Life Members and 4 who have not paid or short paid their fees for the past year. Approximately 30 members were removed from the list due mainly to nonpayment of their subs. The Treasurer advised that we have the highest membership of Ratepayers in the Overstrand.
- Fire Fighters – there had been no need for fund raising to the extent of that undertaken in the past. R1 250 was spent on alterations and upgrading of the Fire Station.
- Crassula Hall hire showed a loss of R5 830.32 due to the need to purchase 6 tables at a cost of R2 944 as well as the reduction in income. We have bookings for R5 000 for the IEC for next year. Expenditure on the hall was kept to a very reasonable 2-7% increase year on year.
- Buzz showed a profit of R3 953.63 in current year. This was due to the increase in advertising revenue and a reduction in costs due to the new system of distribution. He said that the printing and postage costs had increased by R3 638.35 due to the AGM notification being posted, whereas in the previous year this had been incorporated with the distribution of the "Buzz".
- Neighbourhood Watch showed a surplus of R2 676 after the purchase of magnetic decals, radios, signs, luminous bibs and caps offset against

generous donations from members.

- Under other expenses you will note two large items i.e. R1 000 and R2 937.95. These were due to a refund of a donation which was in expectation of advertising which never materialized where we are custodians of the relevant funds and expenditure on a farewell function for Avril Nunn in honour of her many years of dedicated service to the community respectively.
- We have received the 2012 assessment from SARS in terms of our tax free status and this shows no amount owing.

There was a suggestion from the floor that the fact that the Crassula Hall is available for hire should be advertised. L. Fick advised that there had been a number of enquiries as to the hire of the hall, but said that people were just not prepared to pay. She said that the rates varied for various functions, but felt that R1 000 for the hire of the hall for a wedding and R300 for the use of the kitchen, including crockery etc was not unreasonable. A. de Kock said that we tried to meet requests made from various organisations, but stressed that the hall could not be hired for free as we had costs to cover. He advised that we leased the hall from the Municipality and was responsible for the water, refuse and sewerage costs, electricity, cleaning, as well as providing toilet paper, etc.

The Treasurer drew the meetings attention to the fact that the Municipality was busy with the waterproofing of the exterior of the hall and said that once complete we would start with the painting.

Alan Clegg requested that the committee consider purchasing a PA system, as he had attended various functions in the hall and found that people sitting at the back experienced difficulty in hearing what was being said. The Treasurer undertook to look into the matter.

The Financial Statement was then accepted and approved.

PROPOSED: FRED BROOM SECONDED: DAVID HOFMEYER

8. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

The Treasurer advised that the under mentioned proposed amendments to the Constitution needed to be ratified at the AGM. He said that a two-thirds majority of members present are required for the amendments to be ratified.

Proposed **Amendment** Paragraph 7:

Amend paragraph 7 (b) by substituting the date 30 April with 31 January.

Amend paragraph 7 (c) by substituting “six (6) months” with “three (3) months”.

The reason for this amendment is that it is considered by the committee to be too long a time i.e. six months at present whereby members have to pay their annual membership fees before being considered to be in arrears.

Amend paragraph 7 (a) by substituting the word “minimum” with “maximum”.

The reason for this amendment is to correct a previous mistake.

The proposal was unanimously accepted.

PROPOSED: BRIAN EDWARDS SECONDED: COLIN CHAPLIN

9. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Chairman said that the majority of the current members of the Committee had served anything from 2 to 5 years and some have given notice that they felt that they needed a break; however they were prepared to stand if required to do so. He said that this provided the opportunity for new blood and new ideas including some younger folk which was so essential for our committee and community. Unfortunately only two nominations had been received.

The Chairman advised that the Committee shall at its first meeting after the Annual General Meeting elect from its members a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer and such other Officers that are necessary.

Available for re-election:

- | | | |
|--------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Dan Fick | - | Chairman. |
| 2. Adrian de Kock | - | Treasurer. |
| 3. Liz Fick | - | Secretary. |
| 4. Colin Chaplin | - | Property, Planning & Development. |
| 5. Wendy Tawse | - | Fire, Emergency Support Services. |
| 6. Wilna Rademeyer | - | Roads & Stormwater. |
| 7. Nic Swart | - | Editor of Buzz |

New nominations received were;

- | | | |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. Richard Starke | - | Water, Waste and Sanitation |
| 2. Jorika Rabe | | |

The election of the committee was unanimously accepted.

PROPOSED: FRED BROOM SECONDED: MR. BOLTON

10. GENERAL

10.1 D. Fick once again thanked Wendy Tawse and the Volunteer Firefighters for their dedication and hard work throughout the year and particularly over the Festive season. He also thanked all members of the Neighbourhood Watch for their dedication and always being prepared to patrol whilst the rest of the community was spending time with their loved ones – he said he could assure them that their efforts did not go unnoticed. He also thanked Councillor L. Krige for all her support throughout the year.

10.2 Mr. Eddy passed a motion of thanks to the committee for their hard work over the year. He stressed that it was not an easy job and said that it was en-

FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2014

Income		2014	2013	Variance	%
<i>Membership Fees</i>		21040.00	18965.00	2075.00	10.9%
<i>Fire Fighters - Fund Raising</i>		6871.65		6871.65	100.0%
<i>Neighbourhood Watch</i>		5100.00	17385.74	-12285.74	-70.7%
<i>Hall</i>	Hire	7250.00			
	Deposits	1400.00	8650.00	7300.00	1350.00
<i>Buzz</i>	Advertisements	8880.00			
	Buzz Boxes	1243.05			
	Postage		10123.05	12525.13	-2402.08
<i>Interest Earned</i>		3084.23	2527.97	556.26	22.0%
<i>Donations</i>	Conservancy				
	Fire Fighters	2340.00			
	BBRA	2119.25	4459.25	800.00	3659.25
0					
<i>Sundries</i>					
Total Income		59328.18	59503.84	-175.66	-0.3%

Notes

- 1) Membership stands at 369 which includes 9 life members. A few members have still to Adjust their fees to the new amount. 11 members have been removed from the list due mainly to non payment of subs.
- 2) Fire Fighters - R1098-35 expended on station equipment. R4630-00 fund raising achieved through boerewors roll sales. They intend to repeat this on a monthly basis.
- 3) Hall hire shows a loss of R6429-43 due to the need to purchase sound equipment for the hall costing R4849-00 and certain electrical and plumbing repairs needed in the hall.
- 4) Buzz showed a profit of R546-25 in current year.
- 5) You will notice that the printing costs have reduced by R4579-80 due to the revised distribution process. The current AGM booklet cost will only be reflected in the following years accounts.
- 6) Neighbourhood Watch shows a surplus of R5100-00 due to donations from members and the fact that there was no expenditure during the year.
- 7) Under other expenses you will note a large item i.e. R38000-00. This is in fact not a direct cost to the BBRA as we only hold the funds on a custodian basis for the "Eco Centre". Those parties who raised the funds have authorised the expenditure on "wall illustrations" for the Eco Centre at Stony Point.
- 8) We have received the 2013 assessment from SARS in terms of our tax free status and this shows no amount owing.

Expenditure			2014	2013	Variance	%
Buzz	Printing	9576.80				
	Postage Etc.		9576.80	8571.50	-1005.30	-11.7%
Printing/Stationery & Postage			702.99	5282.79	4579.80	86.7%
Voluntary Fire Fighters						
	Operational	1098.35				
	Fund Raising Cost	2241.65	3340.00	1250.00	-2090.00	-167.2%
Crassula Hall						
	Refunds	1400.00				
	Electricity	1800.00				
	Equipment	4880.90				
	R & M	1784.80				
	Disposables	264.70				
	Cleaning	-130.00				
	Municipal Charge	5079.03	15079.43	13130.32	-1949.11	-14.8%
Neighbourhood Watch				14709.74	14709.74	100.0%
Bank Charges			1436.91	1587.96	151.05	9.5%
Conservancy					0.00	
Other						
	Web Site Domain	916.10				
	Fire Fighters	516.00				
	Refreshments					
	Ship Wreck	266.30				
	Refreshments					
	Eco Centre	38000.00				
	"Wall Illustrations"					
	Tea AGM 2013	63.82	39762.22	5164.54	-34597.68	-669.9%
Total Expenditure			69898.35	49696.85	-20201.50	-40.6%
Surplus/Deficit			-10570.17	9806.99	-20377.16	-207.8%

Bank/Cash Reconciliation			
	2013	Income Surplus	2014
Cash	2630.72		2604.06
Cheques Account	22823.5		49047.89
32 Day Notice Account	39723.96		40752.20
Investment Advantage Account	37796.14		
Total	102974.32	-10570.17	92404.15

couraging to note that the entire committee was prepared to stand again. He thank D. Fick for the way in which he dealt with matters and for always keeping the community informed of important matters concerning us all.

10.3 The question was raised as to what was happening at Stony Point. D. Fick advised that despite numerous meetings being held there was still no definite date as to when the project would be finalized. He said that the parking area was insufficient for the large number of visitors to the Colony, but said that despite the matter being raised on numerous occasions nothing had been done to improve the area. W. Tawse said that it was proposed to open the restaurant and eco centre beginning February. D. Fick informed the meeting that it was a condition of Casidra that the Mooiuitsig community be given the opportunity of running the restaurant.

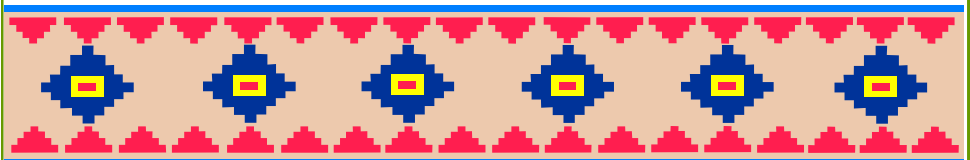
10.4 Mr. van Hove enquired what could be done regarding dogs and cats being allowed to roam freely.

D. Fick said that there were very clear By-Laws and that he should contact Law Enforcement in this regard.

11. CLOSURE

D. Fick once again thanked all present for attending the meeting and wished them all a safe journey back home at the end of the holidays. On behalf of the committee he wished all a very healthy and fruitful 2014. The meeting was then adjourned.

Thank You!



Dankie