

BOT RIVER ESTUARY FORUM (BREF)

MINUTES OF BREF MEETING HELD ON 12 MARCH 2015

AT 14H00 – LAKE MARINA YACHT CLUB, FISHERHAVEN

1. Welcome & Apologies

Robin Perrins welcomed all present.

Apologies recorded from: Frans v/d Merwer, Penelope Aplon, Johan du Toit, Mark Johns, Dirk Uys, Michelle Wood.

The Attendance register was circulated.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

2.1 Amendments

(10. Septic Tanks/Conservancy Tanks – Sewerage disposal methods) – Dave Hugo commented that Preston Arendse's comment should be reworded as this seems like it is common practise in Fisherhaven and that is not the case.

2.2 Acceptance of the Minutes

Anton Boon: Proposed

Steve Gildenhuys: Seconded

3. Agenda Points

3.1 Additional new items to be added to the Agenda:

- i) ***Coastal Management Line (CML) Process*** – Gerard van Weele did a presentation to the forum on the CML process, his presentation will be forwarded with the minutes.
- ii) ***Camping*** – Dave Hugo requested that this item should be added to the agenda. Robin Perrins commented that the municipality is still deciding on the outcome of whether camping will take place in the future or never again. Robin Perrins commented that Dave Hugo should email his presentation on Camping to BREF.
- iii) ***Constitution & Terms of Reference of BREF*** – Frans Theunissen requested these items to be added to the agenda. He noted that BREF does not have a ratified constitution; there is no record that the constitution was ever accepted. Robin Perrins commented that he will have a look at this point.

3.2 Matters Arising

13. Coastal Setback Lines – Robin Perrins commented that he did speak to the Chairperson of the Benguela homeowners association and he stated that this is not the case they did not interfere with access.

4. Status of the Mouth

Danie Coetzee commented that the mouth is still open. The Kleinmond mouth closed on 19 September 2014.

5. Monitoring and Results

Mark Johns commented that the monitoring is still shore based. Pierre de Villiers commented that Tarne will forward her readings so that it can be circulated with the minutes. Pierre asked if anyone has a vessel they can utilize to take salinity readings on the river. Robin Perrins will speak to the Yacht club with regards to a vessel that CapeNature can use for monitoring.

ACTION: ROBIN PERRINS WILL SPEAK TO THE YACHT CLUB REGARDING A VESSEL.

6. Reed Management Programme – Danie Coetzee

Danie Coetzee commented that it has been two and a half months since they've cut the reeds. Robin Perrins commented that reed cutting should not happen after August.

7. Bot River Waste Water Works

Patrick van Collier commented that the conditions at the works are extremely poor and the water quality is very bad, they have been taking samples. Patrick informed that BGCMA together with the Blue & Green Scorpions have a meeting with the Theewaterskloof Municipality on 16 October. Pierre de Villiers commented that this is a point that should be taken up directly at the PCC 1st week in November.

ACTION: PIERRE TO TABLE THE POOR CONDITIONS OF THE BOT RIVER WASTE WATER WORKS AT THE NEXT PCC MEETING.

8. Septic Tanks / Conservancy Tanks – Sewerage disposal methods

Preston Arendse commented that the Fisherhaven people's septic tanks fill up quickly then they pump the sewage water at night into the street which flows into the river. This has been going on for a while and he informed all that they can take a drive at night in Fisherhaven and they will be able to get the smell. Patrick van Collier commented that this should be brought under the Overstrand Municipality's attention as it is their responsibility to investigate this matter. Robin Perrins commented that he will take this matter up with Stephen Muller.

ACTION: FISHERHAVEN SEPTIC TANKS THAT ARE PUMP INTO THE STREET WHICH FLOWS INTO THE RIVER – ROBIN PERRINS TO TAKE THIS MATTER UP WITH STEPHEN MULLER.

9. Alien Clearing

Tracy Sampson to give feedback for the minutes.

Preston Arendse commented that because they have no access to the "Eiland" due to rocks that have been thrown there, people are now using the "Eiland" as a dump site. Robin Perrins commented that he has spoken directly to Director Neville Michaels with regards to the dumping.

Patrick van Collier commented that the person responsible for Solid Waste Management in the Overstrand is Johan van Taak, and this matter should be brought under his attention.

Robin Perrins noted that this matter is on the Ward Committee Agenda for Monday night and he will take this point forward. Joe Dynaard asked Robin Perrins to invite Johan van Taak to the Ward Committee meeting to explain the dumping that's taking place.

ACTION: ROBIN PERRINS TO INFORM JOHAN VAN TAAK WITH REGARDS TO THE DUMPING.

ACTION: PIERRE DE VILLIERS TO TABLE ILLEGAL DUMPING AT THE NEXT PCC MEETING.

10. RAMSAR

Steve Gildenhuys commented that the RAMSAR application is on track for this year, it must be submitted by March 2015. Draft will be out by November and circulated to the Forum. Pierre de Villiers will provide printed copies to the Hawston Community.

ACTION: PIERRE TO PROVIDE HARD COPIES OF THE DRAFT TO THE HAWSTON COMMUNITY.

11. Coastal Set-back Lines

Pierre de Villiers commented that the next step will be public participation. He will get feedback on this point to put in the minutes.

ACTION: PIERRE TO PROVIDE WRITTEN FEEDBACK ON SETBACK LINE PROCESS TO GO OUT WITH THE MINUTES.

Preston Arendse commented that Benguela Cove denies access to children to fish and he is also not able to pump his prawn within the 5m access line as Benguela Cove informed them that it is their property and that they are not allowed to access there.

ACTION: ROBIN PERRINS WILL TAKE THE BENGUELA COVE MATTER UP WITH LIEZL BEZUIDENHOUT.

ACTION: ROBIN PERRINS WILL TAKE THIS MATTER UP WITH THE BENGUELA HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION AS WELL.

12. Management of Wild Horses

Robin Perrins informed all that a task team has been set up to handle and investigate to situation of the horses in Fisherhaven. Various options are being looked at and studied; a final decision will be made for the farewell of the horses.

13. Estuary Management – Way forward

Pierre de Villiers commented that he will meet with the new Director on Monday and look at a way forward.

ACTION: PIERRE TO PROVIDE WRITTEN FEEDBACK ON THE WAY FORWARD.

14. Mouth Management Workshop and Indaba

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15. EWR Determination

The Ecological Water Reserve study for the Bot River Estuary has been done but Watter Affairs has not signed off on it yet.

16. Other Matters

Julius Swart informed the forum that the Hawston Campsite was an agenda point a few years

back but nothing has happened as of yet. A committee was established under Chairman Nico Nasson to drive the Campsite, but the Campsite has since become the dumping site. He wanted to know how far the committee is with the plan.

Pierre de Villiers commented that a new committee should be established to drive this.

Dave Hugo commented that on 10 May 2013 the BREF decided that the campsite point was to be transferred to the Ward Committee and that the correct procedures that should be followed was set out in a letter by the Overstrand Municipality. Robin Perrins commented that the point was never raised at the Ward Committee.

Genine Fisher wanted to know what the correct procedure is that they should follow if they want to go camping this December at the Lagoon.
It was decided that a representative group from Hawston should write a letter to Area Management regarding camping at the Lagoon over the December period; the letter should clearly state the requirements.

Robin Perrins noted that BREF supports the group in making an application to Council to utilize the site as agreed subject to any requirements of the Municipality.

Robin Perrins noted that the AGM will take place prior to the first meeting in 2015.

17. Date of Next Meeting and Closure

The meeting closed at 16:10. The date for the next meeting is still to be advised.

ACTIONS TO BE NOTED BY ALL:

7. Monitoring and Results

ACTION: ROBIN PERRINS WILL SPEAK TO THE YACHT CLUB REGARDING A VESSEL THAT CAPE NATURE CAN USE FOR MONITORING.

9. Bot River Waste Water Works

ACTION: PIERRE TO TABLE THE POOR CONDITIONS OF THE BOT RIVER WASTE WATER WORKS AT THE NEXT PCC MEETING.

10. SEPTIC TANKS/CONSERVANCY TANKS – SEWAGE DISPOSAL METHODS

ACTION: FISHERHAVEN SEPTIC TANKS THAT ARE PUMP INTO THE STREET WHICH FLOWS INTO THE RIVER – ROBIN PERRINS TO TAKE THIS MATTER UP WITH STEPHEN MULLER.

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12. RAMSAR

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