

UULKRAAL ESTUARY FORUM (UEF)

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 13 MARCH 2015

AT 11H00 – GREAT WHITEHOUSE, KLEINBAAI

1. Welcome

Maarten Groos (MG) welcomed all present.

2. Apologies and Attendance Register

Attendees: Benjamin Kondokter (BK), Danie Coetzee (DC), Alouise Lynch (AL), Pierre de Villiers (PdV), Maarten Groos (MG), Deon Geldenhuys (DG), Melt Carstens (MC), Schalk v/d Merwe (SvdM), Neville Dreyer (ND), Flaffie Barnard (FB), Wayne Gabb (WG), Patrick van Collier (PvC), Heloise Fortune (HF) and Liezl Bezuidenhout (LB)

Apologies recorded from: Fanie Bothma, Rob Fryer and Wilna Kloppeers.

The Attendance register was circulated.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Amendments

None

Acceptance of the Minutes

The minutes of November 2014 was accepted by all.

3.1 Matters arising

None

3.2 Additions and Amendments to Agenda

New items to be added to the Agenda;

- i) Coastal Management Line Process (CML) – Gerard van Weele did a presentation to the forum on the CML process, his presentation will be forwarded with the minutes.
- ii) Estuary Zonation – Liezl Bezuidenhout did a presentation on Estuary Zonation for activities on the Uilkraal River. She used an example of the Klein River as the Uilkraal Estuary does not have a by-law yet. There is no timeframe for the development of a zonation plan for the Uilkraal. The process will start with the Klein River because all the preparation work has been done and will be duplicated in the other areas. In the meantime they will start with the process of implementing a by-law for the Uilkraal.

ACTION: IMPLEMENT BY-LAW FOR THE UULKRAAL.

- iii) Site visit to Uilenkraalsmond Resort Sewerage Plant – to allow the ODM the opportunity to show the members what was done to upgrade the sewerage facilities and the treatment of wastewater.

4. Institutional / Management.

4.1 Letters sent to stakeholders agencies.

PdV did not have a chance to get the nomination forms yet. He noted that National Dept will not attend these forums; they will attend when there is a national issue to discuss. DAFF are looking at their national priorities so they will not attend these forum meetings. Province (DEA & DEA&DP) is in a problematic state at the moment due to staffing challenges. They will attend once they have these matters sorted but they will be attending MCC meetings. Water Affairs representative Wilna Klopers has resigned so the new representative has to be identified.

4.2 Constitution - Progress.

The Tender will only go out this financial year. The chair requested that this item should be removed from the agenda until PdV has proper feedback on this matter. LB noted that the Tender issue should be taken up at the MCC to clarify what exactly will be added in the Tender. She will take this point up at the MCC.

ACTION: WHAT WILL BE ADDED IN THE TENDER – LB TO TAKE THIS MATTER TO THE MCC.

5. EMP Implementation

5.1 MCC Report Back

No feedback.

5.2 Kraaibosch Dam Management

Wayne Gabb presented the background of the Kraaibosch Dam in the Uilkraals River to the Forum. His report will be forwarded with the minutes. LB commented that she will be attending the Kraaibosch Dam annual meetings and that this report should also go on the Municipalities website for people to see.

ACTION: KRAAIBOSCH DAM REPORT TO GO ON MUNICIPAL WEBSITE.

6. Mouth Management

6.1 Status of the Estuarine System (Mouth)

DC noted that the Estuary Mouth closed on the weekend of 17-18 January 2015 and is still closed. DC asked for historical data on mouth opening and closure. PvC commented that DC can contact Neil Groenewald from Uillennes for historical records on the mouth. BK is presently monitoring the state of the mouth.

ACTION: DC TO CONTACT NEIL GROENEWALD FOR HISTORICAL DATA.

ACTION: DC TO WORK ON METHODOLOGY FOR NEXT MEETING TO ESTABLISH WHEN MOUTH IS OPEN AND CLOSE.

6.2 Mouth Management Workshop (Tender process)

PdV noted that the existing Mouth Management Plan should be circulated with the minutes. He will make sure that Province deals with the document with the next Tender and will get Province to ratify the document for proper management in the future.

ACTION: PdV TO GET EXISTING MOUTH MANAGEMENT PROTOCOL RATIFIED BY PROVINCE.

7. Pollution Management

7.1 Water Quality

DC presented the bacteriological readings taken at the mouth of the Uilkraals Estuary since the last UEF meeting.

7.2 Pollution Incidents

DC noted that the above readings indicate a possible pollution incident around 2&16 October 2014. DC noted that all the readings are distributed to the Pollution Monitoring group which consists of OSM, ODM, CN and chairpersons of Estuaries.

PvC suggested that OSM, BGCMA, ODM and CN should set up a meeting to re-strategise sampling techniques.

ACTION: PvC TO SET UP A MEETING TO DISCUSS SAMPLING TECHNIQUES.

The chair noted that Avoca is the farm on top of Wayne Gabb who is ploughing right up to the stream and wanted to know who the implementing agent responsible to take action is. PdV will take this matter up with DEA&DP to do a site visit to the farm.

ACTION: PdV TO TAKE THIS MATTER UP WITH DEA&DP TO DO A SITE VISIT TO AVOCA FARM.

LB noted that pollution hotspots should be identified through the home owners associations, who has septic and conservancy tanks and if they are properly maintained.

ACTION: HOMEOWNERS TO ADVISE IF THEY HAVE SEPTIC OR CONSERVANCY TANKS.

8. Biodiversity Management

8.1 Alien Clearing

BK & MG to discuss the different title deeds. LB noted that it is important to identify alien clearing hot spots.

ACTION: LB TO IDENTIFY ALIEN CLEARING HOT SPOTS AND TO SET UP A MEETING WITH LUTENDO FROM AGRICULTURE-CARA.

9. Monitoring and Research

9.1 RDM Study by Water Affairs

PvC suggested that he, LB, PdV, Barry Clarke and Wilna Kloppers should have a meeting before the end of the month with regards to the RDM. This matter should also be taken up at the MCC.

ACTION: PvC TO SET UP A MEETING BEFORE THE END OF THE MONTH TO DISCUSS THE RDM.

9.2 Salinity Monitoring

DC presented salinity readings that were taken on 20 January 2015. They varied between 36 to 37ppt, which indicates that the estuary is slightly hypersaline. A refractometer was used to determine the salinity, and DC felt that it would be better in future to use the YSI meter belonging to CN. AL informed the meeting that she could no longer monitor the salinity in the Uilkraals Estuary. This means that CapeNature would have to do this in the future.

9.3 Bird Counts

AL noted that this is still ongoing, the data has been collected they must just decide how they will use it.

10. Environmental Authorisation / Developement / Land use applications – Summary of current and pending

10.1 Developments

BK noted that there are no applications for developments along the estuary. He did however report the illegal structure to DEA&DP he is waiting on them to advise when they will do a site visit. DG informed PdV that he has to take this matter up with Tjierck Hoekstra to investigate.

ACTION: PdV TO INFORM TJIERCK HOEKSTRA WITH REGARDS TO THE ILLEGAL STRUCTURE.

11. Any other matters

11.1 Gansbaai Explore / Municipal Website

BK & AL noted that both websites are up and running.

12. Closure

The Chairperson thanked all for attending. The next meeting – 14 May 2015.
Meeting closed at 13:20.