

# ZANDVLEI PROTECTED AREA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## MINUTES

MEETING HELD AT THE IMPERIAL YACHT CLUB, MUIZENBERG ON WEDNESDAY 15 November 2017

<b>Present:</b>	Andy Killick (AMK) A. Lathif Gafoor (LG) Angus Hemp (AH) Anthony Roberts (AR) Dalton Gibbs (DG) Cherry Gilham (CG) Pam Hepple (PH) Bernelle Verster (BV) Gavin Lawson (GL) Peter Kruger (PK) Yvette Stephen (YS)	Recreational Fishing, resident Ward 64, also MDGA MDGA CTEET CoCT, Regional Reserve Manager Friends of Park Island Friends of Park Island Chair, ZPAAC CBC TZT Assistant to CoCT Councillor, ward 64
<b>Apologies</b>	Gillion Bosman (GB) Abdulla Parker (AP) Aimee Kuhl (AK) John Fowkes (JF) Sandra Fowkes (SF) Neil Armitage (NPA)	CoCT – Council TCT CoCT Councillor, ward 64 ZVT, Westlake Wetlands Project ZVT UCT \ Recreational Yachting
<b>Invited:</b>	none	

Item		Action by
	<b>Meeting opened: 14h00</b>	
1.	<b>Welcome:</b> Extended to all by Bernelle Verster	
2.	<b>Attendance Register:</b> Signed by all.	
3.	<b>Minutes of previous meetings: Matters Arising:</b>  Need a weekly update about the quality of the water, need to revisit the citizen scientists – website dashboard? Data needs to be interpreted as well, also how it affects health risk. ACTION: BV to catch up with GL, contact Candice Haskins, DG, MCA etc send info to Angus to distribute, for example. The current volunteers for salinity tests are Yvonne Bulgen, Ian McCallum.	BV, GL

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	<p>Is the mouth being opened? Challenging with drought budget crisis, and need freshwater flow in system – lacking due to drought. Opening the mouth?</p> <p>ACTION: Ask Willie for updates regarding littertrap, has changes from last discussion been incorporated?</p> <p>Complaints about weed harvester: Weed harvester is not designed to work in windy conditions. We do not have budget to buy another machine. We do not have budget for another operator.</p> <p>From DG after meeting:          “I have received the Weed Harvester down time for the last quarter which I promised to pass on to the PAAC. This quarter was 92 days (Oct – Dec) 2017, with down time as follows:</p> <p>25 days – machine broken and unserviceable          10 days – staff unavailable (leave, sick, training)          7 days – high winds and unsafe conditions</p> <p>I do not have the days over time worked yet but there was quite a bit of overtime to make up for lost time.”</p> <p>ACTION: Letter to Council: Why is the Recreational Water Use By-Law of Cape Town stuck with Brett Heron? It was approved, and two days away from promulgation. Make a decision, even if it is the wrong decision, don’t leave it in limbo.</p> <p>For budget:          Signage, scum machine/ aqua harvester, dredging – email to Aimee. Put it to council. Dredging to sub-council then given to catchment. Abdullah. It is worth pursuing          Pursue to subcouncil the law enforcement. 100 000 people a year, need people management, need permanent law enforcement. Council’s permanent staffing system. Even good people need to be managed.          If they say no, we need to know where we stand.</p> <p>Hope to have a new reserve manager by 1 March.</p>	<p>DG to talk to MCA and Talcott.</p> <p>BV, PK</p> <p>BV, YS</p> <p>BV, YS</p>
10.	<p><b>Any Other Business: This was a working meeting to discuss Dream Zandvlei.</b></p> <p>The reasoning is that we need significant amounts of funding, which can only realistically be obtained through private-public partnership and that requires significant economic incentive. This requires a strategy that likely includes commercial development.</p> <p>The input from the meeting participants are noted below. Going forward, DG noted that many of the desired things are already legally required and built into the management plans. BV noted that this is encouraging for investment. The risk of irresponsible development is limited because of extensive legislation and a vibrant local community. Enforcement of basic rules like fishing equipment and public order policing is challenging.</p> <p>DG suggested after the meeting that the management plan is vague, and that more detailed subsidiary plans are needed with timelines and defined objectives. These include specific topics, like invasive flora, development, sediment management schedules, littertrap and litter</p>	<p><b>DG, BV, new</b></p>

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	<p>management etc. DG, BV and the new reserve manager will meet and formulate these with input from the ZPAAC.</p> <p>Obtaining funding for these plans to supplement city budgets is a full time exercise, GL noted we need a full time fundraiser. GL developed a job description for this. To pay the salary for this person, BV suggests entering the Dream Zandvlei into global competitions, for example. GL shared the #cocreate design festival as example, after the meeting. It would be great to get a landscape architect volunteer on board for the visualisation.</p> <p>These points are also on the ZPAAC website for comment:  <a href="http://zpaac.org.za/2018/01/19/dream-zandvlei-members-wishlist/">http://zpaac.org.za/2018/01/19/dream-zandvlei-members-wishlist/</a></p> <p>Preamble: Andy: sewer line: if moved make a dramatic change, but doesn't bring it back to natural, because it's so constrained. But it is likely the best we can do.  Can we put the sewer pipe below the low spring tide? Drop 2m? May cause small leaks, would require an additional pump station. The most expensive part is the power line to the pump station.  Clovelly, St. James, Muizenberg, Lakeside.</p> <p><u>Cherry:</u>  Rebuild estuary roadbridge – traffic, restore canals,  More natural estuary mouth – seem to fit well with the estuary roadbridge  Build the Steenberg extension at the bottom of the M5. If this road is landscaped properly, it would still be an environmental asset. – bridge over railway line there. Allow to develop the northern part of the reserve better, currently underutilized.  Environmental reserve, platformed tented camp. – Can get to this nature reserve by train!  Perhaps café, open on weekends.  The old campsite revamped, including a very special amenity centre, special sort of restaurant (like Harbour house)  Source to Sea pathways – connecting the catchment (good already in Constantia valley, Tokai), have started in Muizenberg and Lakeside, need to connect them in Westlake, and consider issues of safety. It's a short distance to connect to Kirstenbosch  Water quality,  An enhanced aesthetic value to Cape Town  A financial audit of what the estuary is worth from a fishing perspective.  Educationally worth optimized.  Marketing programme for students and learners, learn, understand, take ownership of this area.  Set of behavioural rules – a code of conduct for how people should behave in this environment.  Better signage</p> <p><u>Pam:</u>  Investment, investors  A mini waterfront, having a market, restaurants, not too upmarket  Nothing noisy</p> <p><u>Lathif:</u>  Look at what is already happening, working with that rather than designing something new  Investors look at maximizing profit at the exclusion of the people who live here, so need to manage that, keep the people and council involved.</p>	<p><b>reserve manager, all.</b></p> <p><b>BV</b></p>

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	<p><u>David Roux</u>  The banks around the sea cadet base, the eastern side of the yacht club, something permanent. The sand bag idea worked well.  Better utilization of areas – e.g. next to caravan park, e.g. light environmental centre, camping centres  Move on the bowling green</p> <p><u>Anthony</u>  Source to Sea is very important, creating connectivity out of the vlei, drawing people in. Security concerns follow this,  Also False Bay source to sea efforts. But we need to open up the community. The more people using it, the safer it will become, and yes we need to upgrade the security.  Improving awareness. Not just this community, but everywhere, catchment management, catchment and upwards. Strong community involvement.  Improved amenities, making use of space that isn't used properly Look at what GreenPoint park has achieved.  Sufficient budget from council for management. Not only from a staffing perspective.  Office facilities, education centre (co-working spaces) that budget need to be allocated  Naturalisation of the litter traps  Don't: harden the edges of the vlei. A hybrid system is important.  Connectivity to the mountain, from a natural flow of flora and fauna.</p> <p><u>Dalton</u>  The management plan – 2011. The proclamation has now formally been proclaimed. These ideas are only ideas until they are encapsulated into the plan.  "Zandvlei usage is a valuable component of the CT network. Appropriately used for education ... "  These ideas are not short on thought or on plans – these are in place! Institutionally we are one of the better managed in the Western Cape.  Code of conduct – we have a recreational water use by-law Section 23  Economic study was done in early 2000 – in terms of property values, link economic benefits to natural systems  Suggest: A natural function estuary cycle bearing in mind we are in an impacted cycle. Fix the water levels etc. It will always be a 'novel ecosystem'  Manage the impact – big one is water quality, solid waste and chemicals. Not that badly affected by water quantity.  The system needs to be better integrated in the surrounding environment, e.g. the caravan park has no connection to the external environment.  Zandvlei is very well studied.  All the work has been done! It is ripe for investment.</p> <p><u>Andy</u>  Operating as close to a naturally functioning estuary as possible. We need to do remedial dredging  Relocate sewer pipe  Allow water to fluctuate more  Maintain passage to allow fish  Water depth at about 1.5m at spring tide</p>	

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	<p>The money and budget to achieve these</p> <p><b>DON'T WANT:</b>  The destruction of Zandvlei as a fishing nursery  Motorised craft  Urban or industrial development along the normal edge of the vlei  Litter  Nutrients, polluted entering from the North  Imbalanced weeds</p> <p><u>Gavin</u>  Similar to Cherry's  Royal Bridge road needs to be triple its present span  The promenade walkway needs to come down – this is the part that constricts the mouth  Open up the mouth to four times it's current width, allow it to self-regulate  Is in the plan, but Phase 2 onwards need to be implemented  Need a full-time fundraiser  Elegant, big windows restaurant that has great benefit from the sunset.</p> <p><u>Peter</u>  All my points covered  Having one representative in the city to deal with</p> <p><u>Yvette</u>  Children to engage with nature, sport  Adequate management  Sensitively and appropriate  Non-motorised boating  Eco-centre  Awareness – showcase eco stuff  The by-laws are there, but difficult to enforce them – need manpower and money – Dalton:  the new by-law gives users the ability to manage their own by-laws</p> <p><u>Lathif</u>  Water reticulation of the ends of the waterways (Boksburg has a mobile unit to reticulate this water)  (Ask Tamsin about law of taking water from vlei to sell)  Fishing – endangered – Chapter 3. Better enforcement. More security officers, more staff.  More notice board. Better signage. (That doesn't get stolen in two hours)  We need full time law enforcement – lobby local council! In Zandvlei and in Zeekoevlei. It is an important recreational space and need law enforcement (only the beaches seem to have them)  Walkway between Uitsig waterway and the &lt;&gt; - Sandriver, that boom gate is not working to prevent undesirable traffic (only for emergency)  Agriwaste – diffuse pollution, pollutants in the ground – integrated nutrient management,</p> <p><u>Angus</u>  Not have Green algae!  Different weed harvester design? Dalton: tenderized model may have faster turnaround.</p>	

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	<p>Privately owned, leased to the city. If the machine is too specialized it may be useless in the near future.</p> <p><u>Bernelle</u>  World class water (sports) tourism destination  Vibrant fish  Vibrant birds  Nutrient managed  Softened banks, rehabilitated riverbeds  Softened catchment – WSD  Clear waters  Ferry fun stuff between caravan park and sports club  Zip line  Promenade  Dynamic mouth management – vibrant estuarine habitat  Promenade, night time walks, LED lighting (not light pollution), perhaps powered through wetland/microbial fuel cells (MFCs)  Dredged vlei, sediment used for award winning architecture and landscape architecture  Lots of otters!  A new “Otter trail” including sections of the Hoerikwaggo  Safe hiking  Vibrant community – also including the “homeless” to live the life they are comfortable with  Multifunctional, productive spaces  More animals, e.g. eland  Science! High tech integrated but also educational, it’s tech, but it’s not about the tech, it’s about the people.  Inclusive, resilient  Food gardens, allotment plots? =&gt; wider than Zandvlei, incorporate open areas everywhere, extend the green corridor, integrate with the cycle routes, down to Cape Point, up to various places, the V&amp;A, the PHA  Link with the catchment – articulate and visualize the relationship with the catchment  Access and support for multiple activities – horses, dogs cycles, yacht, canoe, fish, integrated, responsible hiking.  Less lawns!  Win awards, world famous  Inclusive also to light industry – showcase the circular economy  Better circulation in Marina da Gama – connect with Capricorn business park, as per the original development plan  “liveable neighbourhoods”  Public-private research, engaged research  Park Island higher profile  Permanent orienteering course(s)  Build community between and within neighbourhoods – e.g. Muizenberg, Lakeside, Westlake and beyond.</p> <p>Don’t want litter, motorboats</p>	

Item		Action by
11.	<p><b>Next Meeting: 28 March 2018, 14:00, Zandvlei Sports Club</b></p> <p>Proposed meetings for 2018: Wednesdays, 14:00, Zandvlei Sports Club, roughly second Wednesday of the month:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 28 March</li> <li>- 13 June</li> <li>- 12 September</li> <li>- 12 December</li> </ul> <p>Working meetings (topics, venue and time TBC, likely some or all of the top priority areas – litter, weed, nutrient, sediment management) – attendance is optional, minutes will be distributed to rest of the group and ratified at next general meeting after discussion if required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 17 January</li> <li>- 11 April</li> <li>- 29 August</li> <li>- 28 November</li> </ul> <p><b>Meeting closed: 16h00</b></p>	

Taking this forward:

Relook the management plan, Dalton, new manager, Bernelle (Josh?)

Develop subsidiary plans specific to our challenges, with timelines, key objectives – a lot more nitty gritty

Development plan – commercial development, the permissions

Signage

Caravan park into resort

Nutrient management plan – be specific

Westlake Wetlands rehab plan

Invasive flora plan

Sediment management plan

Litter plan

Littertrap

Nets

Mouth management plan

Mouth opening

Intertidal habitat

Bank rehabilitation around the mouth

Road bridge extension