

Dargle Conservancy Minutes
Committee Meeting
Feb 2011

Present	Apologies
Gill Addison	
	Graham Griffin
Barry Downard	Andrew Anderson
Nikki Brighton	
Clive Shippey	
Vaughan Koopman	

Minutes		Action
Matters Arising		
1.		
Special Projects		
2. Nature Reserve	<p>Another meeting with landowners and KZN Wildlife is planned where landowners will be asked to sign up for DC membership. Andrew Boothway to also attend.</p> <p>DC to pay Andrew to spend time being mentored by Stewardship Programme (about R10 000?) - NB/AA to liaise with Andrew</p>	AA/NB
3. Dassie relocation	Nothing further to report	
4. Alien Plants	No further progress. Earmarked as a focus area for Andrew once he starts work.	
5. Bulk SMS	After discussion Committee agreed that it would be worthwhile to activate the service to use for Newsflash communications with members. NB to ask Gwyn to Pay Dynalogic R500 to activate the service.	NB, Gwyn
6. Liaison with KZNCA and other conservancies	Good attendance at the last meeting. Members supportive of Midlands Biodiversity and Corridor Initiative.	
7. living local	Nikki still gathering info and will feed back at next meeting	NB
8. Midlands Biodiversity and Corridor Initiative	The proposal has been submitted to Wildlands. No indication as to when feedback will be received.	
Portfolios		
9. Finances: treasurers report	<p>Current account: balance as :R506.21</p> <p>Investment account: R13582.42</p> <p>Income: R1500 (dassies), R180, (Kilkobbin walks), R13.39</p>	

	<p>(interest on money market account)</p> <p>Expenses: R99 99 (Afrihost) . R7000 Midlands Meander Education Project</p>	
10. Communications (Nikki)/web page	No further work on the web.	
11. Membership Programme (Gill & Nikki)	<p>Andrew Venter identified as first choice for speaker at AGM. AA to ask Andrew . Date to be confirmed once Andrew Venter's availability is ascertained. Venue: Tanglewood.</p> <p>Leoni Joubert, David Johnson or Sally Johnson, Free Me, Mike Chetty (if he gave a conservation angle to his talk) are possible speakers for AGM or later in the year, if Andrew Venter is unavailable. Gill could also at the ask varsity (CEM) for recommendations for well-known speakers.</p> <p>NB will start showing movies. 1st to be shown on 9th (Home).</p>	AA
12. Development monitoring (Gill)	<p>Barry attended the LUMS meeting and has submitted comments on the latest LUMS on behalf of DC. Barry stated that the KZN Wildlife C-Plan is part of LUMS. There is also a proposal by government to include important watersheds into the LUMS.</p> <p>Committee agreed that the LUMS map and document + DC comments should be made available on the DC webpage.</p> <p>ESKOM powerlines: GA attended Howick stakeholders meeting. One Route follows Dargle-Fort Nottingham dirt road, but recommendations from consultants are against this route.. GA recommends waiting for scoping report before submitting any further comments.</p> <p>Piggly Wiggly development: DAEA and agriculture (provincial and National) have objected to the construction of 26 houses on the site, however the record of decision was granted by Sarah Allen of DAEA. Midlands Meander and Barry on behalf of DC submitted objection to MEC for breach of procedure and the process is on hold as the development is now under appeal.</p>	<p>GA, BD, NB</p> <p>BD</p>
13. Member Recruitment	Clive to send Gwyn list of non paying members to generate invoices to be sent out. AA & NB to develop letter to be sent with invoice asking if member is willing to renew membership and outstanding fees will be waived. If no payment received, will be follow up with phone call to check if the person would like to be removed from the membership list.	CS, AA, NB, ALL

General		
14. Upper uMngeni River Catchment Management Forum	VK or GA will attend the next meeting if possible.	VK & GA
15. Thank you gifts	Rolled-over Paul & Jan (web page) to be donated a dassie	BD

Next meeting: 15 March