

DARGLE CONSERVANCY

Action Plan Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Hebron Haven on 5th June 2024 at 18h00

Present: Ashley Crookes, Belinda Charlton, Kevin Barnsley, Lynne Garbutt, Mike Corlett, Gilly Robartes, Andrew Fowler, Barry & Rose Downard.

Apologies: none

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ashely welcomed Barry and Rose along with Andrew. • Barry proceeded to share the history of the Dargle Conservancy. • The minutes of the last meeting held in February 2024, have been distributed and taken as read. 	AC
Items carried forward from previous minutes:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refuse sign to be erected at Tanglewood site. <i>Kevin has erected the sign.</i> • Animal crossing sign for P134. <i>Kevin presented some ideas.</i> • Revive Wildlife Sightings newsletter. <i>No luck on this front other than sunset photos.</i> • NGO status – we are registered. <i>Belinda is struggling to find contact details for financials to be submitted to.</i> 	KB BC
River Monitors' Programme	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrew outlined the progress of this programme. • Municipality is the main sponsor, with DC and a couple more. • Budget has been for only one site, Andrew looking for more sponsorship, ideally for 3 sites. • The goal has been to recruit locals, but it has been difficult to do so. • Clearing has been at various spots, twice a week to begin with and now 4 days a week. • Staff earn R1200 a month. • Current programme is ending 20th June followed by Phase 3, but there is no longer the appetite for it. • Andrew to recruit 2 out of the 10 original team and start with river monitoring every Thursday, where a data base will be started and for it to become a more regular collection. • Farmers' Day in Sept: there is a R20k budget to inform farmers, AAM is interested in contributing. • Consider the tourism and hospitality sector, Eskom and energy? • Launch of hospitality document. 	AF KB
D17 billboard	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ashley presented a quote from SignCo for R14k to erect signage on the Dargle Road at the Petrus Stroom turn off. • Need to consider what to put up, using catch phrases like “immerse yourself..” or “take it in....” • 4 speed signs along Dargle Road are being worked on by Kevin. • Car stickers R4.95 cost, sell for R10/R20 each. Have some ready for the AGM. 	KB AC

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mike proposed Badges and Signs in Howick as an alternative. • Sponsorship signs R400 to erect. 	
Bookings for talks	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No cash accepted on the night. • POP secures booking which has to be made 2 days before an event. • A 2 page flyer was suggested, with details presented on page 2 instead of fitting all the information on the first page. 	
Finances	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current bank balances: Current account: R9 756.37 Money Market account: R88 136.29 	LG
Member Programme	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talks for 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 24 January - Cape Parrot Talk (Prof Colleen Downs) ○ 14 February – Butterflies (Clive Curtis) ○ 27 March - Vultures (Brent Coverdale) ○ 27 April – Frog talk (Kirsty Kyle) ○ 29 May – David Johnson Galapagos Islands ○ 26 June – AGM ○ 31 July –Pangolin talk (Nicci Wright) (Ashley) ○ 28 Aug? – Rhinos talk (Jacques Flamaand) MIKE to confirm ○ iNhlosane hike – August/Sept ○ 25 Sept? Frog walk – evening walk with Andrew Solomon (Belinda?) ○ Oct – Kids Scavenger Hunt at iNhlosane Mountain/Mount Park Guest Farm (Julia Invernizzi) ○ 27 Nov? – David Johnson Earth Story? (Gilly) 	All
General	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belinda has agreed to continue as secretary, with Gilly managing the bookings for talks. • Lynne will be resigning at the end of the year. There is a possibility that she will continue to work remotely. Alternatively, Candy Slater might be interested in the position. • Gilly to draft the minutes for the AGM on 26th June. • Check the AGM minutes from 2023. • The AGM needs a 40% quorum, with all proxies to be kept. • Poster for AGM needs to be designed and shared with members. • Should we look at a speaker at the AGM to encourage attendance? 	AC
There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8.20pm Next Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, 14 th August.	AC