

RAMSGATE RATEPAYERS' & RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION (RRRA)
Minutes of the 12th Annual General Meeting Held On
3th April 2018 at 17:30hrs
Venue: Ramsgate Lions Community & Recreation Centre

1. Welcome

The Chairman opened the meeting at 17:30 and welcomed all present. As the notice for the meeting had been properly served and there was a Quorum, the Chairman declared the meeting duly constituted.

2. Attendance

Present as per Attendance Register No 35.

3. Apologies

Apologies were announced for Councilor Dave Watson, Retha Murray, Sally Brooker, Nick and Leslie Pole, and Alicia Sparks.

4 Minutes of Feb 29 March 2017 AGM

The Chairman said that the Minutes had been circulated and asked if they could be taken as read and correct. Bruce Dickson proposed that the previous minutes were correctly recorded and this was seconded by Mvumi Tsewu. There was no Matters Arising from the Minutes.

5. Chairman's Report

Grahame Cilliers presented the Chairman's report, facilitated with a power point presentation.

In summary:

The RRRA mission is the same mission as the other 3 NGO's and that is – **“To ensure that Ramsgate remains a unique place to live, work and play in.”**

NGO co-operation between the other three Ramsgate NGO's had been great and synergies that had been identified, include a combined data base, common branding and an agreed document for the allocation of specific responsibilities. Pauline Lee was thanked for her unselfish efforts in assisting to achieve this.

With respect to the Special Rating Area which had been approved, a Ramsgate Urban Development Precinct NPC (RUDP) had been formed and its directors appointed. Their inaugural meeting was imminent, and they would manage the community funds, focus on increasing synergies and ensuring that Ramsgate remains a unique place to live, work and play in.

Thanks were extended to John Scott and Phil Hampton for their tireless efforts to maintain and enhance our Marine Ramble. Two petrol brush cutters, garden tools and paint was purchased; new braai facilities were installed; broken steps repaired and indigenous flora replanted, all during the year.

Road maintenance remained a challenge, largely due to RNM budget constraints. Thanks to Doug Sparks a healthy relationship remains with the RNM Road Managers and clearly pothole repairs are now being done more professionally than they were in the past. Where budget is available, they are now being cut square and deeper and three month plans have been insisted on and are now in place.

Serious problems remain with Marine Drive (R620) which is under the control of KZN Department of Transport, and their Cost Center in Port Shepstone, which is dysfunctional in our and many others opinion. Here we have an unhealthy relationship and urgent requests are copied to their head office in Pietermaritzburg. Dave Watson, our Ward Councilor, is also helping in this regard and this problem has also been taken up with the KZN Legislative for a solution.

Although beaches and beach facilities is primarily an agreed Tourism responsibility, thanks must be extended to Bruce Dickson and his team, for their efforts. Regular inspections are conducted, liaisons with beach officials are taking place and reports are sent to UGU SC Tourism.

The need for folk to report lack of, or broken municipality services, was stressed and the meeting was reminded to report all complaints (other than water and sanitation) to bit.ly/uguresidentsrequest and for water and sanitation requests to bit.ly/uguwaterandsanitation

In developing a strategy for UGU water outages, the RRRA have established a subcommittee who have looked at borehole options, but found that to be too expensive and there was a high risk of potential sabotage. However UGU management has been approached to consider including emergency boreholes into future capital budgets. A water tank trailer option is currently being investigated and thanks were extended to the many voluntary vehicle drivers in Ramsgate, who have already offered their assistance.

The control of the www.ramsgate.co.za website would be reviewed by the RUDP soon. The Ramsgate News Updates Face Book page now has 1 000 friends and positive comments and photos on the page are welcome. Ask your neighbors and friends to also join the page.

6. Treasurer's Report

Grahame Cilliers presented the Treasures Report, also assisted with a Power Point presentation.

He advised that hard copies of the audited Financial Statements were available to anyone requesting them, and he would also send them out to individuals in digital format to anyone interested in receiving them.

In summary the Association was in a good and heathy financial situation.

Key numbers presented were:

Income in 2017 of R57 237 more than doubled 2016's income of R21 616. These were largely due to increased subs and donations obtained after a request was included in a newsletter.

Expenditure in 2017 amounted to R36 103 compared to R16 419 the previous year, mostly due to agreed focused expenditure on the Marine Ramble, the maintenance and development of a better data base, extra costs to help ensure that the SRA was achieved.

The Chair requested that the financials be accepted by the meeting. John Scott proposed their acceptance and this was seconded by Phil Hampton.

Questions and Comments were then invited from the floor:

- Mike Geiger asked whether any payments have been made by the RUDP to the Ramsgate CPF. The Chair pointed out that this was the wrong forum to raise this kind of query but advised that the newly formed RUDP would be having its inaugural board meeting soon where this will be discussed and decisions in this regard made. He added that the intention from the very beginning, was that these funds would be allocated to CPF requirements as a priority,

until such time as they had all the equipment and resources needed to do their job and thereafter any remaining monies available would be considered for other NGO requests.

- Mike Geiger said that RNM seem to be claiming and debiting tax on the monthly SRA levy of R45 and suggested that this was erroneous as VAT is only applicable on a product or service when the vendor is VAT registered, which the CPF is not. The Chair also suggested this was the wrong forum to raise this kind of query but added that he would raise this concern with Chantel Elliot & Co and with the RUDP at its inaugural meeting.
- Costa Costaras addressed the meeting and commented that he was of the opinion that Ramsgate was in serious deterioration mostly because of shocking service delivery by the authorities. He added that in December 2016 many, including his child, suffered with sickness as a result of drinking municipal water. He said that Ramsgate required much bigger initiatives, than obtaining an emergency water trailer, which, in his opinion would not work, the committee should rather focus on motivating for large funding projects to repair damaged infrastructure. He advised that Durban had motivated R32 billion to improve its Water Front, and that Ramsgate should be motivating projects to more senior authorities. He added that in Ashmead road every second or third house was for sale and this is largely due to a lack of service delivery and old and broken infrastructure. The Chairman responded that he took note of these comments and asked for persons to put their hands up to help the team.
- Carla Steenkamp said that she had been experiencing serious problems with an unfair property evaluation, and had been battling with the authorities to resolve her obvious problem. Ray Basson explained to the meeting that the RNM outsourced their valuations to an approved company to assist it with its annual evaluations, and each year better evaluations were promised. He further explained that the methods used to calculate and obtain a value were only history and aerial photography, and that the insides of properties are not inspected. He explained the appeal procedure saying that you could also appeal about a neighbor's property, and asked all to first use this slow moving appeal procedure, if they were not satisfied with their evaluation. He further offered to assist anyone who after appeal, were still unsatisfied, by drafting an official letter to RNM on a RRRRA letterhead.
- John Murray suggested that the water trailer idea to assist suffering folk during water outages was a fantastic initiative. He also added that the RUDP had not yet received a budget from the CPF and that this was delaying payments to the CPF.
- Roger Makings asked whether anything could be done to improve the Margate beach area and said that the nearby Olympic swimming pool was currently green. He was advised that this area fell outside of the RRRRA's mandate, and should be raised with the MRRA and/ or the Ward Councilor.
- Roger Makings commented that the CPF was one of the main problems in Ramsgate and were failing in their duties to react quickly in emergencies. He was advised to contact the CPF leadership if he experienced future problems. John Murray said that he had never experienced or heard of slow reaction times for CPF response, but only to the contrary with praises to them for such fast reaction. Rob Henry supported this comment and added that the CPF were doing a fantastic job.

John Murray proposed that both the Chairman's and Treasurers reports be approved. This was seconded by Carla Steenkamp and the motion was approved by all.

7. Appointment of Auditors

It was suggested that Mr. Brian Ter-Morshuizen of "Icount" accounting firm be re-appointed as Accounting Officer. Carla Steenkamp proposed and Peter Kilian seconded it and the motion was

approved by all.

8. Election of Committee Members

- Under the terms of the Constitution, Grahame Cilliers, Ray Basson and Doug Sparks will stand down but are available for re-election. The above named persons were re-elected unanimously.
- Philip de Jager will be standing down and is not available for re-election.
- China Mkwanazi, Mvumikazi Tsewu and Bruce Dickson have another year to go before re-election.
- Felix Mhlana, Sandy Kingdon and Lesley Pole have made themselves available for election and they were all elected unanimously.
- The Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary positions will be elected by the new committee.

9. General

There was nothing further to discussed.

10 Closure

The Chairman thanked all present for their attendance, his team and the Lions Club for facilitating the cash bar and for the use of their hall, and invited all to join him for a drink.

The meeting closed at 19h00.