

DARGLE CONSERVANCY

Action Plan Minutes

DURING THE COVID LOCKDOWN PERIOD BETWEEN APRIL & JULY 2020, VARIOUS “VIRTUAL” AND TELEPHONIC MEETINGS BETWEEN THE VOLUNTEERS/COMMITTEE WERE CONDUCTED TO ENSURE THE WORK OF THE CONSERVANCY COULD CONTINUE.

THESE MINUTES SUMMARISE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE DARGLE CONSERVANCY DURING THIS TIME.

Volunteer members: Ashley Crookes, Jenny Goddard, Kevin Barnsley, Lynne Garbutt, Stephen Lourens, Pauline Holden, Gugu Zuma.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The talk on the Phinda Button Spider scheduled for the 18th March, was cancelled at the request of the speaker due to Covid risks that emerged at the time.• It was agreed that we obviously could not go ahead with our AGM, originally scheduled for 13th May, and that a way to conclude this important meeting in one way or another will be finalised by end August.• A decision was sanctioned to donate an amount of R10 000 to FreeMe to assist them in looking after our precious wildlife during lockdown, and was paid over to them in May.• A further donation to FreeMe was also approved in respect of insulation requirements, and this was concluded in June at a cost of R16 000.• The lockdown had a devastating effect on the operations of the Howick SPCA, and we agreed to make a donation of food which was purchased at a cost of Rxxxxx and delivered to them mid-May.• A project to be followed up on is a “Guide to the Dargle”, and the use of an app was proposed.• We agreed in principle to become aligned with the Midlands Food Bank, potentially incorporating the Uplands River Project, Public Works Department and HDLA . Kevin has liaised with the relevant parties and an exploratory meeting with them has been scheduled for 12th August.• Jenny and Lynne are to embark on a project to clean up our member data base	<p>KB/All</p> <p>PH</p> <p>PH</p> <p>AC</p> <p>GZ</p> <p>KB</p> <p>AC</p>
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FEEDING SUPPORT PROGRAMME:

This project was the main focus of our efforts and attention during this period.

- During April it was agreed that the Conservancy would donate and assist in the distribution of food parcels to the needy (particularly school children of Dargle and Corrie Lynne schools who were not receiving their regular meals during lockdown). The DC Volunteers also decided to expand to the Zuzokuhle, Nxamalala and Impendle areas to help out very vulnerable children and their families identified there. A call for donations in support of this cause was sent out via social media and a fantastic response was received in the way of cash and fresh produce (see detailed attachment). Notably we received a very generous donation of R20 000 from the St Andrews Dargle Community Church. We also appreciated the food donations like vegetables from Manny Salgado and eggs from the Barnsley's farm, plus offerings from members' gardens and farms. This project would not have been possible without the amazing efforts of our Treasurer, Lynne Garbutt, assisted by Gugu Zuma and Nikki Brighton.

- Notice of Meeting: The volunteers agreed to hold a "face-to-face" meeting on 12th August and Jenny will send the notice. This will take place following the discussion with MFB etc.