

DARGLE CONSERVANCY

Action Plan Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 12 October 2017

Present: Ashley Crookes, Gugu Zuma, Nikki Brighton, Jenny Goddard

Apologies: Pauline Holden, Brenda Grant, Lynne Garbutt

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The minutes of the previous meeting, having been re-circulated, were taken as read 	
Items carried forward from previous meeting:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NPO documents required for SARS are still work in progress 	LG
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inhlosane Trail restoration – agreed that the new owner of the property could probably manage this on his own. Brenda to contact him to encourage him to become a member. (New - It is pleasing to note that R10 is now being charged for the walk) 	BG
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road signs (wildlife warning) – Bongani Mncube has died, so Nikki has followed up with Sandile Dladla sandile.dladla@kzntransport.gov.za 033 3303314 	NB
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NB still to begin Dummies Guide to Dargle Living – paid for by DC 	NB
Finances:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current bank balances: Current account R29 828,78, Money Market account R56 548,27 	
Members' Programme:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inhlosane Spring Hike : Scheduled for 4th November at , and to include members of Nxamalala Environmental Club. The conservancy will pay R700 towards the taxi to transport the club members. Gugu to get a quote from Mr Ngubane. Barry to be asked by Ashley to do the poster which will be sent out to mailing list by Jenny. Nikki to attend to Facebook etc. Pauline was nominated in her absence to head up the provision of food. 	GZ AC JG NB PH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See items 2 & 3 under Anti-Poaching 	
Education:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pat McKrill Snake Talks arranged by GZ at Lions River, Corrie Lynn and Dargle Schools was successful although not many local farmers or their staff attended. 	
General:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spekboom Cycle Tour was advertised as promised. Their next event is a Dargle Hills Hike, where a small contribution will once again be donated to 	NB

the Dargle Conservancy. NB will attend to publicising on the various conservancy platforms.	
<p>1. Anti - Poaching:</p> <p>1. The recent incident on Benn Meadhon was debated at length, with insight to the personal circumstances of a person involved provided by Gugu (who happens to be a neighbour of “Mr X”). In line with the conclusion that a proactive/preventative approach is best, the committee have decided to try the following: Provide Mr X with dog food for his obviously starving dogs, and supply him with seedlings, fencing, poles etc to enable him to grow his own food. Gugu will explain to him that his actions will be monitored, and any sign of reverting to poaching will result in all support being withdrawn. Whilst the committee have no expectations as to how this project will pan out, all agreed it was worth trying over the next 12 months. The maximum amount to be dispersed from conservancy funds over the period is R5000. GZ, JG and NB will liaise directly in order to initiate and manage the process.</p> <p>2. Another pro-active measure agreed to was that the KZN Crane Foundation Anti-Poaching lessons will be taken into local schools, and funding of R3000 from Dargle Conservancy will be utilised for this purpose.</p> <p>3. NB is going to speak to the local SPCA with a view to arranging an educational visit as a further action towards educating our youth.</p>	<p>GZ/JG/NB</p> <p>NB/GZ</p> <p>NB</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife Sightings: There are issues with the scientific details required on the website, which has been taking up a lot of Paul’s time. To avoid this, he is preparing a “style sheet” for contributors to be able to use and hopefully label pictures correctly. All agreed that only good quality photographs should be permitted on the website, and as this function is outsourced the conservancy cannot make exceptions. 	NC/AC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dargle River : Mr Zuma is to be assigned 2 days to continue clearing the river (within budget). 	NB
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Oribi count : JG to send out an mail with relevant information and contact details to members soon. 	JG
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCF : Funds have been deposited into our account to be managed by ourselves according to request. NB is the Custodian of all MCF archived records, computer hard drive etc. 	LG/NB
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update mailing list : Lynne to send Nikki a list of all members, including email addresses, phone numbers. Nikki has undertaken to contact the members telephonically in order to update details. The conservancy will cover costs incurred by Nikki. 	LG/NB
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notices and previous minutes will be sent “formally” to committee members via email prior to each meeting 	JG
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7.00 pm Next Committee meeting will be held on 11th January 2018 	AC/JG