

# DARGLE CONSERVANCY

*Committee Meeting Minutes · 3<sup>rd</sup> of June 2015*

---

Present: Nikki Brighton, Brenda Grant, Gugu Zuma, Ashley Crookes, Brandon Powell

Apologies: Robin Barnsley

## *Nature Reserve M.C.F. – B.S.P.*

Nothing Further	x
-----------------	---

## *Dassie Relocation*

Nothing Further	x
-----------------	---

## *Alien Plants*

The DC is part of the MCF project (N3TC funded) to train people to clear invasive plants along the Dargle River. Details to be finalised.	NB
---	----

## *Liaison with the K.Z.N.C.A. & Other Conservancies*

The KZNCF really has a new lease on life. NB attended their AGM on 14 May	
---	--

## *Living Local*

A Young Entrepreneurs' Day was the theme for the June Dargle Market; the DC to give the young entrepreneurs –from local schools – Dargle Dollars to spend at the market as they wish.	NB
---	----

## *Committee Tasks & Portfolios*

<p>Nikki Brighton – Chairman – 083 473 3074 <a href="mailto:chairman@dargleconservancy.org.za">chairman@dargleconservancy.org.za</a> Ashley Crookes – Vice-Chairman &amp; Wildlife Sightings – 082 460 1815 <a href="mailto:vicechair@dargleconservancy.org.za">vicechair@dargleconservancy.org.za</a> Brandon Powell – Secretary – 082 657 1518 <a href="mailto:secretary@dargleconsevancy.org.za">secretary@dargleconsevancy.org.za</a> Robin Barnsley – Treasurer – 083 307 1212 <a href="mailto:treasurer@dargleconservancy.org.za">treasurer@dargleconservancy.org.za</a> Brenda Grant – Development Secretary – 082 853 7815 <a href="mailto:development@dargleconservancy.org.za">development@dargleconservancy.org.za</a> Gugu Zuma – Education 063 104 5046 <a href="mailto:education@dargleconservancy.org.za">education@dargleconservancy.org.za</a></p> <p>The DC requires dedicated management for its Facebook page by the time of the next meeting. Please come up with ideas of who could do this!</p> <p>All agreed il Postino is a good place to meet. DC paid for drinks and pizza to share.</p>	<p><b>ALL</b></p>
---	-------------------

## *Finance*

<p>Bank Balances for the 5 June 2015 Current account: <b>R15 903.81</b> Call Account: <b>R58 748.46</b></p>	
---	--

## *Communications*

<p>NB &amp; BP to put together Winter Newsletter for the end of July. Provisional topics: Road Speed, pedestrian safety and road-kill problems, Wildlife Sightings, Owl Box Report, Hunting &amp; Poaching Concerns, Films List, Development Concerns, report on local events, a call for Library Books for the Corrie Lynn School.</p>	<p><b>NB BP</b></p>
---	-------------------------

## *Membership Programme*

<p>Brandon to arrange the archaeologist to do presentation on the original inhabitants of the Dargle area.</p> <p>Neville van Lelyveld will soon be doing a "where to find snares" workshop for</p>	<p><b>BP</b></p>
---	------------------

landowners at Lemonwood and will liaise directly with Katie Robinson.	
The DC is to sponsor R5000 in installation fees for members who would like to buy Shane's owl boxes. Ten DC members ordered and boxes have been installed. Just three members still to install.	NB
DC members offered the opportunity to take part in a online Owl course and seminar offered by Monty Brett (value R600).	
A winter Inhlosane walk is to be planned for the end of July. The DC will encourage local children to attend.	BP GZ

## *Development Monitoring*

BG is to work with Barry Downard and Penny Rees to find out about DC development concerns and recent history. Thank you Brenda for taking on this important portfolio.	BG
---	----

## *Membership & Recruitment*

There are 10 outstanding subscriptions to whom NB will write. Heather Mackenzie has requested that she receives her subscription notices by post and the DC will, of course, oblige. Pam will send post notices to all who have not paid yet. A comprehensive list will be available shortly.	NB
---	----

## *Education*

NB is to compose a draft budget for DC education projects in the coming year.	NB
Planned 2015: Corrie Lynn & Dargle Schools visit to Kilgobbin Forest. 4 July, 10.30am Dargle Drag-Race & Dress-Up Day with Gugu's Nxamalala Holiday Club with useful prizes (DC-sponsored) for outfits and wire-cars made from recycled materials.	
GZ would like to volunteer to make the Nxamalala Club a monthly one. The DC applauds her dedication and will allocate part of its education budget to her programmes for the children.	GZ
The Nxamala children are to be encouraged to make their own contributions to the monthly Dargle Wildlife Sightings, via GZ and Sabelo Zuma. No photographs required but names and surnames, please.	GZ

Tammy Caine's Owl talks in English and Zulu took place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June and were a great success for their content and the crowds that attended.

## *Trail Cameras*

The DC Committee has decided that when there are no members waiting to use the wildlife cameras they may be rented to Friends of the Conservancy (non-members from neighbouring conservancies, for example) for R200 a month. DC Members take precedence (still R100)  
Judy Douglas from Curry's Post and Caroline Leslie from Kwa Wula are the first two non-members to approach us.

AC

## *Dargle River*

The DC is planning a fundraiser and awareness campaign with the help of Jethro Bronner, who is going to have a QR code on the Alfa Romeo that he is driving from the Dargle, South Africa to Dargle in Ireland. This will enable anyone he meets along the way to easily make a donation to the DC efforts to remove invasive plants from the Dargle River.

Steampunk Café in Lion's River (Michael Goddard) and il Postino (Chris Darroll) have agreed to support this project.  
Nikki to work with Barry Downard to design catchy slogans and graphics for display in the restaurants etc.  
Dedicated Rivers page to be created on the DC website.  
Nikki to set up easy payment methods, including GivenGain and SMS.

NB

## *Liaison with the Lion's River Club*

NB has written to Julia Rees offering to use the DC's contacts and media to publicise the Lion's River Club's Trails Festival.

NB

## *Constitution Revisions*

Between committee meetings decisions on matters arising will be made via email;

ALL

please ensure that you Reply All so that other committee members know whether there is consensus or not, or further enquiry needed. These points will be added to the minutes as we go.	
---	--

### *Gifts*

The DC made a donation to Free Me on behalf of Barry Downard, as a thank-you present for long and honourable service to the DC.	
---	--

### *Road Signs*

Bongani Mncube from KZN Dept of Transport is on study leave and will follow up with NB soon regarding the Wildlife warning signs we requested a couple of years ago.	<b>NB</b>
--	-----------

### *Poaching*

Poaching is a severe issue at the moment (especially along the Petrusstroom Road). 4:30 to 8:00am on Sunday mornings being apparently the peak time, when up to fifty hunting dogs have been seen out with their owners. The DC is to send out the SA CAN helpline number on email and Facebook.	<b>NB</b>
--	-----------

### *Biodiversity Stewardship Programme*

There is a small amount of funding left with MCF for the Biodiversity Stewardship Programme.	<b>NB</b>
--	-----------

### *Cape Parrots*

NB organised the Cape Parrot Count this year as Sally Cumming was away.	<b>NB</b>
---	-----------

Next Meeting Dates: the 12<sup>th</sup> of August and the 7<sup>th</sup> of October.

