

LANGEBAAAN RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (LRRRA)

LANGEBAAAN BELASTINGBETALERS-EN INWONERSVERENIGING
(LBBIV)

VOORSITTERSVERSLAG VIR 2011

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CHAIRMANS REPORT FOR 2011

It is indeed a privilege and honour to deliver to you my report regarding the activities of LRRRA and its Executive Committee for the period under review from **1 January 2011 to 31 December 2011**.

The elected Executive Committee members for the abovementioned period were as follows:

Chairperson: **Jaco Kotze**
Vice -Chairperson: **Clement Matthews**
Secretary:..... **Frans Palm**
Treasurer: **Hannes Vermeulen**
Additional Members:
Miranda Matthews
Anton Vonck
Jim Law
Roger Young

The following additional members were co-opted:**Johan Ackron**
Mel Richter
Janeen Potgieter

The total paid up membership as to date is 109. Unfortunately there are almost 250 non-paid up members.

Meer lede moet aansluit en ten volle opbetaal wees, nie net om meer verteenwoordigend te wees nie, maar ook om ons finansieele stand te verbeter. Ons het die proses om lidmaatskap baie verbeter en diegene wat n rekenaar en internet tuis het kan dit vanaf die gerief van u huis of kantoor doen. Hierdie proses maak dit ook moontlik vir Langebaan-grondeienaars wat elders woon om lidmaatskap op te neem. Daar is wel na 31 Maart 2011 kennisgewings aan nie-opbetaalde lede gestuur om hul te herinner aan hul lidmaatskap, maar ten spyte daarvan was daar nie noemenswaardige reaksie nie. Daar is toe wel besluit om die datum tot wanneer lidmaatskap betaalbaar is vir 2011 tot 31 Oktober 2011 te verleng. Hierdie poging skyn wel suksesse te lewer.

Ongeag hierdie pogings het die lidmaatskap nie veel vanaf verlede jaar verhoog nie. Die proses is as volg:

Diegene wat nie van die stelsel gebruik kan maak nie kan vanaand betaal en hul Lidmaatskapvorms voltooi.

Soon after the **AGM last year**, which took place on the **5 th January 2011** the newly elected Executive Committee had their first meeting and structured itself to function better.

The individual committee members were allocated in several different portfolios according to their specific field of expertise and or preference.

The portfolios are as follows:

Chairperson: Jaco Kotze	Economic Development , Spatial,Planning, & Environment
Vice-Chair Clement Matthews	Social Development & Welfare/Marketing
Secretary: Frans Palm –	Local Government Issues
Treasurer: Hannes Vermeulen –	Local Housing/Law enforcement
Additional Member:	
Miranda Matthews:	Social Welfare
Mel Richter	Roads and related Infrastructure
Jim Law	Tourism,Environment.
Johan Ackron	Economic Development/Spatial Planning
Janeen Potgieter	Marketing
Roger Young	Health & Sport/Marketing
Anton Vonck	Marine related Engineering

Mr Anton Vonck unfortunately later resigned due to other responsibilities and unavailability.

REPRESENTATION:

The LRRRA through its Executive Committee has representation on various other institutions: The LRRRA are represented on various other committees and environmental bodies due to its interest in the management and well-being of Langebaan.

Such committees are:

- a. Thusong Centre
- b. West Coast National Parks Forum
- c. Saldanha Bay Air Quality Forum
- d. Saldanha Bay Communications Forum
- e. Ward 6 Ward Committee
- f. Langebaan Community Police Forum

The LRRRA is registered as an interested/affected party (A & IP) with various development activities and proposed developments in and around Ward 6 and we regularly submit comments in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment processes .

The LRRRA were intimately involved in various environmental related issues during the course of 2011, such as :

1. Beach Erosion related projects:

The LRRRA has registered as an I& AP with the Integrated Coastal Management process.

We are currently involved in the process of determining the terms of reference for the audit on the Langebaan groins.

The LRRRA would also engage in the process regarding the coastal setback lines.

Regional Reverse Osmosis Plant:

The LRRRA are also an registered I& AP with regards to the proposed Regional Reverse Osmoses plant planned in the Saldanha Bay region. This is a concept that the LRRRA tabled in 2007 during the initial proposal by Transnet to build a RO plant discharging into the Saldanha Bay. We are now satisfied that the penny has finally dropped with authorities regarding this

matter. We have to ensure that this proposal is properly planned and established on a suitable location with best available technology.

IDZ

The LRRA with special acknowledgement to Mr Johan Ackron submitted a comprehensive report and comment on the feasibility studies of the proposed IDZ during October 2011. Our comments were well received by WESGRO. The LRRA have been thanked and a message of appreciation on our role we played were conveyed by the relevant Provincial Department.

Erven 158 & 159

The L.R.R.A commented on the SANDF,s application to build 20 military married quarters on these strategically important pieces of land just off Oostewal street next to the Dutch Reformed Church. This land was donated to SANParks Trust for the sole purpose of developing it as a resort. We had no response from the applicants since our comments and we actively oppose this development. The LRRA did provide other suitable options to this development. I want re-iterate that the SANDF is and were always part of the Langebaan community. We are in support of the development of suitable living quarters for 4 Recce ,but it has to make sense in terms of the broader town planning and future of Langebaan.

MR 559

The L.R.R.A became actively involved in the discussions with the Provincial Roads Department during the public participation process regarding the final negotiations before the construction started last year. Unfortunately no final agreements could be reached in terms of the Long Acres /Curro Crossing design as well as the equestrian crossings to the beach. Irrespective various pleads to the Provincial Roads Department and to MEC Robin Carlisle the department still continued with their initial design and outlay of the road. We did manage to convince the contractors to set aside a budget for landscaping and beautification of the storm water retention pond next to the Langebaan sewage plant and intersection with the R 233. We will pursue this in the next few weeks to come.

Salamander Boat Yard Project

We reported last year that this project were halted due to the fact that no environmental studies nor authorisation were granted to proceed with this project. Ever since the LRRA,s intervention, proper studies were conducted and the necessary environmental authorisation were passed by DEAT to proceed with the project. This project is close to completion. Although the LRRA concerns regarding the visual impact were dismissed by visual impact specialists we are now of the opinion that our comments and concerns were valid due to the huge visual impact of the bulk structures as it currently stands. I hope the new committee will support me in this exercise.

Wind Energy Facility Applications

Uyekraal,Langefontein,Mittal applications

The L.R.R.A commented on all these various wind energy facilities within the Ward 6 area. We are in support of green energy, but seriously question these specific facility locations. There were close to 18 such applications in the immediate geographic area of Saldanha Bay Municipality last year.

LPG Gas Discharge Facility

The L.R.R.A is actively engaged in the commenting process of this proposed facility in the Port of Saldanha .We are in support of this project, but again has to raise its concern about the preferred location of this facility. “STAY OUT OF BIG BAY”. Various other LPG discharge options were negotiated. This application is now in its final EIA stage.

Solar farm at West Coast Engen area.

The LRRRA extensively commented on this application .Although we are hugely in support of this green energy alternative in the Saldanha Bay area, we unfortunately cannot support the specific location of this application at such a high order tourism route and entrance to Langebaan. We suggested various other suitable locations closer to industry.

Remainder Farm 292 Oostewal (Proposed “Shark Bay” Development)

The LRRRA actively opposed this application made by Dormell Properties (Pty) LTD by means of its environmental sub committee, the Langebaan Action Group(LAG).The LRRRA (LAG) extensively commented on this proposed application and the Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Planning declined this application on 7 April 2011. This seems to be proof that we were correct in our view and comment regarding this development application. The applicant are now on appeal to the MEC.

White Road case (LRRRA vs Dormell Properties Pty Ltd

Dormell Properties Pty Ltd closed of this road subsequent to their failed attempt to develop the land on Remainder Farm Oostewal 292. Dormel Properties Pty Ltd gradually closed off both ends of the road shortly after the Department’s decision on 7 April 2011 and the road was finally closed on 15 May 2011.The LRRRA through its legal team tried to convince Dormell Properties to re-open the road for public use, but all our attempts failed. This failure urged and forced the LRRRA to approach the Cape High Court for a ruling on 20 June 2011. Judge Baartman ruled that the case be heard on 24 November 2011.The Judge did give an interim ruling that no member of the public could be charged with either malicious damage to property nor trespassing with reference to the “White Road “ till final ruling on the case.

An urgent application was placed on the Cape High Court Role and heard by Judge Shcaba on 24 November 2011 .We still await judgement. Feedback from our legal team was that the High Court comes out of recess end of January 2012 and that we should expect a ruling shortly after.

ROP (SDF)

Die L.B.B.I.V het intensief deelgeneem aan die kommentaar aangaande die Ruimtelike Ontwikkelings Plan . Ons het met die hulp van n Professionele Stadsbeplanners Konsultant n goeddeurdinkte ROP dokument saamgestel en is tevrede dat hierdie goeie insette n sterk standpunt sal inneem aangaande die verdere ontwikkeling van Langebaan. Die konsep ROP soos deur die Raad goegekeur, was grootliks onaanvaarbaar en was deurweek met politieke inmenging. Die LBBIV het hom tot die Wes-Kaapse Department van Beplanning gewend om aandag aan die Raad se ondeurdagte ROR te skenk. Ons het n volledige verslag aan die Departement deurgegee en het erkenning van ontvangs ontvang en verwag eersdaags terugvoer daaromtrent. Ons glo stellig dat beste praktyk sal seevier.

Munisipale aanslag:

Dit het verskeie kere hierdie afgelope jaar gebeur dat die Saldanha baai Munisipaliteit rioolstortings in die baai veroorsaak het. Meeste van hierdie stortings is wel weens nalatigheid maar ander selfs doelbewus. Ons versoek die publiek om ons oë en ore te wees met hierdie tipe van wanpraktyke.

Die L.B.B.I.V het hierdie jaar ook sterk gefokus om die werklike stand van ons infrastruktuur kapasiteite te bepaal. Dit het duidelik aan die dag gekom dat die Raad en SBM nie eerlik is aangaande die werklike stand daarvan nie en dat daar groot kapasiteits tekorte bestaan ten opsigte van:

- a) Stormwater bestuur
- b) Riool en rioolwerke bestuur
- c) Stortings terreine
- d) Drinkbare water kwaliteit
- e) Elektriesiteits netwerk en verspreidings vermoens.
- f) Pad infrastruktuur.

PLAASLIKE OWERHEIDS AANGELEENTHEDE

G.O.P proses:

Alhoewel die G.O.P proses wel tydens die 2011 jaar beter verloop het as in die vorige jaar bestaan daar steeds n gebrek aan publieke deelname. Die versekering is gegee dat hierdie dokument met groot deeglikheid en visie saamgestel is en Wyk 6 van groot voordeel sal verseker indien daaraan gehoor gegee word.

PUBLIEKE VERGADERINGS

Die LBBIV het nie die kwartaalike publieke vergaderings gehad soos beplan nie. Die nalating in die eerste en tweede kwartaal was weens die Munisipale verkiesing in Mei 2011.

Die LBBIV het daarna n publieke vergadering vir die derde kwartaal beplan ,maar het weens die onsekerhede aangaande die hofgeding besluit om die vergadering eers te he sodra daar meer duidelikheid is om die situasie aan die lede mee te deel.Die saak is egter toe uitgestel na 24 November 2011.

Die LBBIV onderneem om egter sy belofte gestand te doen en tydens 2012 ten minste vier gereelde publieke vergaderings met sy lede te hou waartydens kwellinge aangespreek sal word.

Die uitvoerende komitee het gereeld op 'n maandelikse basis vergader waar sake van belang en ander aangeleenthede rakende Wyk 6 bespreek is, met gejaardgaande besluite en die uitvoering daarvan.

- 1) 5 Januarie 2011 A.J.V
- 2) 8 Februarie 2011 Exco
- 3) 8 Maart 2011 Exco
- 4) 19 April 2011 Exco
- 5) 31 Mei 2011 Exco
- 6) 6 Julie 2011Exco

- 7) 29 Julie 2011 Exco
- 8) 10 Augustus 2011 Exco
- 9) 19 Augustus 2011 Exco
- 10) 27 September 2011 Exco
- 11) 24 Oktober 2011 Exco
- 12) 12 November 2011 Exco
- 13) 3 Desember 2011 Exco

All written comments and letters referred to in this report are available on our Website www.langebaanratepayers.co.za.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all members and other interested residents for their support. The responsibility to ensure that the LRRRA achieves its goals and objectives is not only vested with the Executive Committee, but indeed with every member.

My hartelike dank ook weer eens aan die lede van die Uitvoerende Bestuur vir die bevoegde manier waarop u sake hanteer en afgehandel het en ook vir die goeie gees waarin dit geskied het. Daar wag sekerlik nuwe uitdagings op die LBBIV in die komende jaar, maar as die nuwe uitvoerende bestuur wat aanstons gekies sal word, voortbou op die fundamente wat u gelê het gedurende u termyn, voorspel ek net groter suksesse vir die LBBIV in die komende jaar wat voorlê.

In conclusion I foresee that with the necessary support, commitment and determination by you as the ratepayers and residents, this Association will go from strength to strength and therefore my best wishes accompany the LRRRA during 2012.

Jaco Kotze

Voorsitter Langebaan Belastingbetalers- en Inwonersvereniging