LANGEBAAN RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (LRRA)

LANGEBAAN BELASTINGBETALERS-EN INWONERSVERENIGING (LBBIV)

JAARVERSLAG VAN DIE VOORSITTER: 2017
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON: 2017

Dit is my voorreg om die Jaarverslag van die aktiwiteite van die Vereniging vir die afgelope kalenderjaar aan u voor te hou.

Die verkose Uitvoerende Komiteelede vir die tydperk onder bespreking is soos volg:

Voorsitter/Sekretaris	: Mnr F S Palm
Visie Voorsitter/Tesourier	: Me M Bester
Addisionele Lede	: Mnr J van Rensburg.
	: Mnr E Mouton
	: Me C Lotter
	: Mnr A Deyzel

'n Voorstel dat die Tesourier uit eie geledere aangewys sal word, is algemeen aanvaar.

Gedurende die jaar het die UK sewe keer vergader en verskeie aangeleenthede bespreek en hanteer. Die vergadering van 12 Junie 2017 verdien spesiale vermelding. Tydens daardie geleentheid het die UK met Rdle. Kruger en Venter vergader aangaande die waterkrisis. Die UK is eerstehands ingelig oor die planne wat die SBM maak om te verseker dat die watertoevoer na SBM nie gestaak sal word nie. Soos u almal weet is die krisis nog nie verby nie en lees ons van hoëvlak samesprekings wat plaasvind (ook hier plaaslik) ten einde die krisis te bespreek. Ons vertrou dat dit nie slegs by praat sal bly nie, maar dat daadwerklike stappe gedoen sal word om die krisis aan te spreek. Die LBBIV wil sy beste wense aan die SBM oordra, maar in dieselfde asem ons afhanklikheid teenoor die Skepper betuig.

VERTEENWOORDIGING:

Die Vereniging geniet verteenwoordiging op verskeie gebiede om die belange van die inwoners te verteenwoordig. Sodanige komitees en/of fora is die volgende:

1. Weskus Nasionale Parkforum
2. Saldanhabaai Lugkwaliteitsforum
3. Saldanhabaai Forum
4. Wykskomitee vir Wyk 6 en sedert die verkiesing, ook op die Wykskomitee vir Wyk 14
5. Gemeenskapspolisieforum vir Langebaan
6. Transnet se Omgewingsbelangeforum
7. Munisipale Kuskomitee

The Association regularly register as an interested and affected party and comment on various development activities and development proposals in both wards in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment processes.

MUNICIPAL INTERACTION

A key objective of the LRRA is to keep itself informed on municipal affairs without becoming involved in party political matters. This is especially relevant where certain development proposals involve Wards 6 and 14. Another one is to engage in open communication with the municipality especially as far as public participatory processes and applications are concerned. There is ample provision in the Systems Act, 2004 that obliges the SBM to allow such interaction. The Ward councillor plays a very important role in achieving these objectives.

I must say that the channels of communication between the Exco and the Ward councillor are open indeed. An example to emphasise this was referred to ***supra*** when the Exco and the councillor met discussing the water crises. This probably is also possible because of the LRRA's representation on the two Ward Committees. However, the LRRA maintains and holds the opinion that the Ward councillor should convene public meetings to provide feedback to the community who elected him/her to that office.

I am aware that the Ward councillor for Ward 6 holds a different opinion. He says that the exposure and interaction with the public at public meetings are limited and unsuccessful due to the low turn- out. He is in favour of an official electronic municipal newsletter throughout the municipality. I am afraid that such a step will not be in compliance with the law because the law stipulates that "the duty of a municipal council" inter alia, is to "encourage the involvement of the local community" – section 4(2) (c); "and consult the local community about the level, quality, range and impact of municipal services provided by the municipality …….and the available options for service delivery" – subsubsection (e). The Exco will keep on requesting such public meetings.

The Councillor is quite impressed by the feedback that he received after his walk about amongst the business fraternity last year. Business owners were encouraged to address in writing their questions, problems and general enquiries directly to him as ward councillor. At a ward committee meeting he mentioned that the biggest problem experienced by the businesses, was parking (or the lack thereof) in the CBD. This is not surprising. Most of the development proposals on which the LRRA furnished comments requires a relaxation of the parking requirements. Instead of providing a certain number of parking spaces on the erf in terms of a formula, the applicant requires a relaxation to maximise his development. In the process he cannot comply with the policy on parking and this has the result that public parking is encroached upon. The LRRA is not in favour of the Council approving such applications. (Two examples: Erf 844, Langebaan (Oostewal Street); Erven 518/521, Langebaan. (Main Street).

The public meeting regarding the IDP was held on 11 October 2017. I conveyed to the official concerned as well as the Ward councillor that this exercise was very disappointing. Those present could not establish to what extent the Capital Programme for 2016/17 was finalised. Neither could it be established what projects are approved for this financial year. Also, the public did not review the priorities for the next financial year and that made me to say that the meeting was a waste of time and merely a tick-box exercise.

The following 4 projects are listed in the IDP and are in the process:

1. Oostewal Konstruksie

Ons verstaan dat die formaliteite t.o.v. die tenders vir hierdie projek afgehandel is en dat die projek na alle waarskynlikheid in Januarie 2018 sal begin. Die voorgestelde kontrakteur is Marraccon en die kontraktydp[erk is 8 maande. Die ontwerp is sodanig dat die middel eiland wegval, en ek neem aan die landskapering ook. Twee-rigting verkeer sal tydens konstruksie plaasvind en hopelik sal dit nie so ontwrigtend wees soos tydens die konstruksie van die Tweede fase nie.

The work entails:

- The safeguarding of existing services;
- The removal of the existing bitumen/asphalt surface;
- Construction of the new road;
- Installation of a stormwater system, man holes, underground drainage systems;
- Installation of kerbs and channels;
- Construction of retention dams.

Almal van ons moet toegee dat hierdie projek die aansig van Langebaan ten beste verander het.
Die tandekryprobleme word algaande uitgeskakel, maar origens is dit ‘n fantastiese verbetering. Die LBBIV se standpunt was sedert 2006 dat die verbetering noodsaaklik is. Ons sien almal uit na die voltooiing van die hele projek.

2. Opgradering: Watersuiweringswerke

Die kapasiteit word van 2,8 miljoen liter per dag na 5 miljoen liter per dag verhoog. (Byna dubbel)

Die kontrakteur is Khubeka Construction en die kontrakwaarde vir die opgradering is R 12 226 632.00 BTW ingesluit. Die verwagte voltooingsdatum is 31 Januarie 2018 indien geen verlenging van die kontraktyd toegestaan word nie. Die omvang van die werk is soos volg:

- Massa grondwerke
- Konstruksie van slik droogbeddens;
- Nuwe aerobiese reaktor;
- Nuwe slik herwinningspompstasie;
- Nuwe slik meet bokse en “flumes”;
- Opgradering van meganiese toerusting;
- Opgradering van inlate.

3. Afsluiting van Vullisterrein, Rehabilitasie van onwettige terrein, Konstruksie van Oorlaaistasie

The appointed contractor is Peter Starke Civils and the contract value is R 44 450 000.00 GST included. The date for completion is the end of October 2018. The work entails:

- Rehabilitate the old refuse site and cap it;
- Remove the unlawful site and cap;
- Construct a transfer station with skips for “drop-off”.

The “drop-off” facility will allow the Langebaan residents to dump waste in the skips whereafter it will be transporte to the Vredenburg waste site.

4. Inhuis Sportfasiliteite-R 1 624 626

The Environmental Impact Study (EIA) was completed in (2016). Such a study is a necessary pre-requisite for the rezoning and subdivision processes. Thereafter tender

documentation was prepared for the appointment of a consultant and a site development plan (which is also needed for the rezoning processs. The consultant will also be responsible to manage the project. The EIA was initially delayed because of a new requirement for a traffic impact study with associated additional funding. The tender for the appointment of the consultant was advertised with closing date 19 January 2018. The appointment of the consultant will now follow the supply chain process.

5. Notice has been given that the SBM is planning a public meeting for Ward 6 on 15 February 2018 in the Community Hall, Langebaan. Members of the community are encouraged to make use of this opportunity to attend the meeting.

Ander aktiwiteite.
Save Langebaan Lagoon

On 3 August 2017 I attended a public meeting at the Mykonos Conference Centre regarding the proposed establishment of an aquaculture development zone in the Lagoon.

It appears that this organisation has a number of experts to its disposal in order to oppose this proposed development by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF).

After the legal background was explained and the way forward stipulated, it became clear that funds are needed in order to drive this process to the highest level in a professional manner. A Committee was formed in order to coordinate activities. The Chairperson/ Liaison is Mr Cliff Wright. What is important is that the Association pledged its support to the organisation in writing.

Gemeenskapstuin
Ek glo almal van u het die gemeenskapstuin gesien wat daar by die rioolwerke se terrein aangelê word. Ons wil graag die SBM gelukwens met hierdie inisiatief. Ek sien dat die tenks nou ‘n afdak het en ‘n toevoergeut gekry het! Dit word vertrou dat hierdie projek vrugte sal dra (letterlik en figuurlik).

Black Monday

The most successful project that the Association embarked upon during 2017, was the mass assembly of vehicles on Monday, 30 October 2017 in sympathy of the continued farm murder situation in South Africa. The success of this project shows that the community and surroundings can come together for a cause that touches them deeply.

More than 400 motor vehicles joined in a cavalcade for about 15 km. along the R 27 in a circular route into Langebaan. Ample media coverage was given and I would like to thank the Provincial Traffic Department for the escort service, the firm of attorneys who paid the applicable escort fee as well as all the participants in making this a successful event.

Finansiële Verslag

Die Vereniging het slegs 24 opbetaalde lede vir 2017. Dit uit ‘n “ledelys” van 380 gesinne. Dit sê iets van of die invorderingsmetodiek of die erns van die lede. Miskien moet die inkomende UK daaraan dink om fakture uit te stuur sodat dit as aanmaning kan dien. Die ledegeld vir 2017 het onveranderd gebly op R150.00 per jaar.

Die lede en nuut verkose komitee sal ‘n grootse poging moet aanwend om die ledetal van die Vereniging uit te brei. Ek wil vandag ‘n beroep doen op een en almal van u om asseblief die verskuldigde ledegeld te betaal. Hierdie organisasie is die enigste organisasie wat die gemeenskap van Langebaan op alle vlakke kan verteenwoordig en wat erkenning geniet as verteenwoordigend van die burgerlike gemeenskap.

Ek wil graag die Uitvoerende Komitee hartlik bedank vir al hul harde werk en opoffering. Dit was ‘n baie moeilike jaar maar ek is baie positief. Mag die Langebaan Belastingbetalers-en Inwoners- vereniging net van krag tot krag gaan. Dis ook belangrik dat die Vereniging behoorlik gemagtig word om namens die gemeenskap inspraak te gee op verskeie vlakke. Die fooie is werklik nie so onbekostigbaar nie.

Die feit dat die UK ‘n vergaderlokaal het met die goedgunstige ondersteuning van Mykonos is ‘n riem onder die hart. Dit op sigself is ‘n aanduiding van die breër gemeenskap se ondersteuning.

Ek dank u

Frans Palm

Voorsitter