



Port Owen Marina Authority (npc)

Reg # 99/10199/08

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POMA Newsletter: August 2017

Personnel:

Louise Jacobs is leaving at the end of the month after nine years of service to POMA. The requirement for a full-time Admin and Financial Administrator did not suit her at this stage of her life and she decided not to apply for the position.

We want to thank her for her valuable contribution over the years and wish her a well earned rest and the very best for the future.

Annual General Meeting, 20 September 2017:

There are a number of reasons for the earlier date this year:

- 1) The acceptance of the audited annual financial statements is a prerequisite for the payment of the annual Municipal Grant.
- 2) The need to vote on the acceptance of the proposed, updated, Memorandum of Incorporation.
- 3) The change in the POMA financial reporting period from the current July-June to January-December. This is done to ensure receipt of the annual Municipal Grant as early as July, which is crucial for the financing of dredging operations during the winter months. This change will necessitate having the AGM in April, of each year, in future.

We strongly recommend that Member Organisations invite a representative group of their members to attend the meeting, due to the important issues on the agenda and to ensure inclusivity. POMA clients, please engage with your respective Member Organisations if you wish to attend the meeting.

DIRECTORS

A J Uys (Chairman); D Robinson; S Joubert; P Odell; S Crafford; W Laing; B Van Rensburg(Alt); W O'Reilly (Alt); D Roberts (Alt); J Scudder (Alt)

Embankment and Walkway Repairs:

- 1) The design of the repair at Greg Lehey's and the adjacent properties has been finalised and work will start during the last week of August.
- 2) The repair of the walkway at Rob Newman's house was completed.
- 3) The above were the last of the big projects envisaged for this financial year (July-December) and the remaining minor repairs on our current priority list will be completed as per available funding.

If you have a concern regarding the embankments at your property, please lodge a request with POMA, in order for us to investigate and plan for the repair.

Dredging:

- 1) The emergency dredging programme for this season is progressing well. The dredger will move to the Eastern Entrance during the last week of August and the work in that area will be completed by the end of September 2017, when the dredging season, in terms of our current dredging permit, ends.
- 2) A comprehensive stakeholder feedback meeting was held on 12 August 2017. About 25 interested clients attended and, I believe, were very satisfied with the presentation. The presentation document is available in electronic format for clients that were unable to attend and are interested. Please liaise with Derek Robinson if you need information.
- 3) I have no news regarding the negotiations with the DEA. As soon as there is progress, you will be notified.
- 4) We met with the Berg River Municipality as advised earlier, but unfortunately the councillors, except for S Crafford, did not attend and we could not make progress on the financing aspects of the agenda. We are hoping that a further meeting with the Mayoral Committee will be arranged soon. We did get a commitment from the Municipal Manager that they will issue a three year contract for assistance this year, and this may assist in securing short-term finance in future.
- 5) We were introduced, by e-mail, to various officials of the Dept. of Public Works, whom will be managing the dredging of Laaiplek Harbour next year. We are hoping to reach an agreement with DPW regarding the handling of our own dredging spoils in terms of their dredging permit.

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- 6) We are very aware of past criticism regarding own dredging versus contracted dredging and have been keeping meticulous records of costs incurred during our dredging operation the last few months. I believe we are now in a much better position to evaluate tenders submitted by aspiring contractors in future. The major dredge planned for next year will have to be contracted out and we will make very certain that we appoint the most capable and cost effective contractor.

POMA Debtors:

Unfortunately, there are a number of clients that are still refusing to settle their POMA debts because of either not accepting the fee increase of the 2016/17 financial year as invoiced ,the stated "lack of service delivery" or other unstated reasons.

The POMA Board has no other option than to hand these accounts over for collection. The Paarl law firm of Faure and Faure will be approaching 24 clients in a final effort to settle the matter.

We wish to thank all the clients who are paying their fees on time. POMA can only fulfil its obligations in terms of the Memorandum of Incorporation with your support and co-operation.

POMA Forum:

I receive questions on a regular basis regarding POMA policy, fee structure, etc., and when given the answer, clients often say, "why did you not tell me that earlier?".

It is therefore suggested that you put your questions to us in writing, and I will then respond in writing via the newsletter so that all clients can have the benefit of the information given.

E-Mail Address Project:

In order to ensure that we have the correct e-mail address for each client, can you please send a mail to Blommie Koen at the POMA office to confirm the address you wish your mail should be forwarded to.

Hoping to see you at the AGM!

Abe Uys

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