



# Port Owen Marina Authority (npc)

Reg # 1999/010199/08

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## POMA Newsletter: June 2018

### 1) Governance

We wish to welcome John de Meillon to the Board as Alternate Director for POWA. John is a qualified Chartered Accountant and will be a great asset to the Board. We are looking forward to work with John and are certain that he will be making a much-needed contribution.

### 2) Dredging

AT LAST! GOOD NEWS!

2.1) We have reached an “in principle” agreement with DEADP at a meeting in Cape Town on 18 June 2018 regarding the Part 1 amendment requests to be submitted. These are:

2.1.1) Dredging will be allowed 12 months per annum.

2.1.2) Dredging can be done from 06h00 to 20h00 from Monday to Friday, provided that this happens only during daylight hours (this means summer months – in winter daylight hours will determine working hours). The requirement for a 200 cu m/s outgoing flow rate remains.

2.1.3) Dredging silt (particles <0.5 mm) can be pumped directly into the river, bypassing the settling ponds. A sampling protocol will ensure that dredging spoils (particles >0.5 mm) will be diverted to the settling ponds.

2.1.4) Benthic study requirements with specific reference to the St Joseph’s shark population have been scrapped.

2.2) The following now has to be done:

2.2.1) A Fee of R2 000.00 has to be paid (this is done).

2.2.2) DEADP officials to do site visit (They were here on 21 June 2018).

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- 2.2.3) The formal amendment request has to be completed with full motivation and description of methodology and procedures (we are busy with this and will submit by 5 July 2018). We expect the amendment to be approved by end July.
- 2.3) We agreed with DEADP to immediately start with a longer-term project with the ultimate aim of being able to do away with the separation dams. This entails completely revising the current Maintenance Management Plan (MMP). This will require a full Environmental Impact Study and will be looking at reclamation projects on the riverbanks as well as inside the Marina.
- 2.4) We have received the crane donated by Robtek and Mike Little and his team is hard at work with the refurbishment in order to get our own dredger operational. As soon as the installation has been completed, we shall commence dredging in terms of our current EA.

The dredging plan decided on will be done as follows:

- 2.4.1) Clean up the Western Entrance to improve the water flow rate and ease of navigation for boats entering the Marina. This phase will be used to iron out any technical issues with the dredger.
- 2.4.2) Move the dredger to the Eastern Entrance and commence dredging of the Loop (including Flamingo Cove).
- 2.5) We will now meet with the tenderers to confirm the new operational requirements and parameters with the aim of giving them the opportunity to update the submissions received in February 2018. The ideal situation will be to appoint a contractor for the bulk of the channel dredging and then do the “nooks and crannies” with our own machine.

### **3) Live-aboard sailors**

We can confirm that the last illegal live-aboard sailor, family and his boat has left the Marina.

### **4) Annual Berthing and Jetty Fee Payments**

Blommie Koen will issue monthly fee invoices in July 2018. Those clients wishing to pay the annual fee in order to secure the 7.5% discount, must please contact Blommie and request an annual invoice. Please remember that the annual payment must be made by end July, in order to qualify for the discount.

We thank the clients who have already contacted Blommie. Well done!

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## 5) Walkway and Embankment Repairs

We have started with the repairs as per the priority schedule below.

Order	Property	Year
1	1871	2018
2	1862	2018
3	3406	2018
4	3416	2018
5	1866	2019
6	1857	2019
7	3418	2019
8	3423	2019
9	3427	2019
10	1849	2019
11	1848	2019
12	1847	2019
13	1846	2019
14	1845	2019
15	Public space	2019
16	1843	2019
17	1842	2020
18	1841	2020
19	1840	2020
20	1839	2020
21	1838	2020
22	Public space	2020

Owners must please understand that, due to the absolute preference given to funding the dredging, only crisis level repairs to walkway and embankments will be done for the next 3 years. If you are concerned regarding the state of the infrastructure at your property, please contact the Marina Manager to do an inspection.

## 6) Yacht Basin Development

A final public participation meeting is scheduled for Saturday 30 June 2018. After this meeting, the POMA Member Organisations will make submissions to the Board via their respective Directors, to enable the full Board then to formulate and budget for long term plans.

Please remember, the main driver for the development exercise is the need to replace the four remaining wooden jetties in the Yacht Basin. Currently only 50% of the berths are occupied.

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Please try to attend the meeting on Saturday, we need all the input we can get to enable us to compile a viable plan.

## **7) Funding**

One of the strategic decisions taken in 2017 was to broaden the revenue base over and above the revenue earned from jetty and berthing fees paid by POMA Clients.

Due to the obvious huge economical contribution by the Port Owen taxpayers to the wider Velddrif/Laaipek economy, we targeted the Berg River Municipality with a view to increase the annual Municipal Grant. A series of meetings were held with the BRM Mayoral Committee (the first one was in November 2016, still under Chairmanship of Russel Foster), and I am happy to report that the POMA Grant has been increased by 40% with effect from 1 July 2018. This represents an increase of R400,000 average per annum.

We are now busy with reviewing our forecast for the next 3 years, especially with the expected lower dredging cost, but the increase will without doubt help us to complete the “Big Dredge” with less help from the banks.

## **8) General**

It is always easier to write a report when one has good news, and for me it was an absolute pleasure to write this one.

I think we can now look at the future with hope and the knowledge that we are making progress and very soon, POMA will be rid of the shackles preventing it from performing its duties.

Enjoy the rain, the beautiful weather and be safe out there!

**Abe Uys**

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