



Port Owen Marina Authority (NPC)

Reg # 1999/010199/08

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Newsletter: July 2021

The Covid virus is still amongst us and we need to be super-careful in the coming months. I see that the experts are now asking for quick changes to the regulations in order to manage the pandemic more efficiently, so expect to see regular adjustments and remain vigilant.

1) Governance

- 1.1) It is with sadness that we announce the resignation of our Finance and Admin Controller, Blommie Koen. Blommie will leave us at the end of August.

Blommie joined POMA in August 2018 and has made a huge contribution toward the organisation of the office and improving communications with stakeholders.

- 1.2) As part of our commitment to serve the community, Blommie did all the secretarial duties required by the Berg Estuary Advisory Forum during the last 3 years. Thank you, Blommie, and well done!

2) Dredging

- 2.1) Our consultants, WSP, is hard at work to complete our permit applications for Dumping and Discharging into the Ocean. This is a time-consuming job, calling for great detail and modelling. So far, they are doing a good job and are delivering on their time lines. We shall report on specific progress once we get formal feedback from the Department.

- 2.2) We are expecting the publication of an advertisement calling for comments on the latest draft of the Berg Estuarine Management Plan (BEMP). The long-awaited BEMP, once approved, will assist us in monitoring the management of the Estuary in a structured manner. At the last Berg Estuary Advisory Forum meeting, CapeNature announced that they are working on a model to enable them to efficiently report on progress. This is something that POMA has insisted on for the last four years, but which was not possible due to the fact that there was no approved BEMP.

DIRECTORS

A J Uys (Chairman); D Robinson; S Crafford; J Scudder; B Van Rensburg
S Joubert (Alt); G Breeze (Alt); J de Meillon (Alt); L Delpont (Alt)

You may well be asking, “Why report this under dredging?”, well, the Integrated Coastal Management Act (ICMA), which regulates the issue of Dumping and Discharge permits, is very specific in its instruction that the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), when contemplating the issue of permits, must take into account the contents of existing Estuarine Management Plans. The Department for the Environment and Development Planning (DEA&DP) had formally agreed to include the requirement for dredging the Port Owen Marina in the BEMP. We are eagerly awaiting the publication of the latest draft.

3) Embankments and Walkways

After reviewing the Embankment Repair Priority Listing, EXCO decided to leave it unchanged. Emergency repair requests must please be lodged with the Marina Manager, and it will be dealt with as in the past.

The walkway repair programme remains unaltered.

4) Law Enforcement

Please note that the waterways will remain open during the lockdown. You are expected to adhere to all safety and health protocols for the duration.

5) Fire Prevention

Please note that the Basic Standard Operating Procedure for Fire Prevention in the Marina is now available on the POMA website.

6) General

Please be extra careful out there. Be mindful of the health requirements and always be safe!

Abe Uys