



# Port Owen Marina Authority (NPC)

Reg # 1999/010199/08

PO Box 506 Velddrif 7365 · Tel 022 783 0943 · Fax 0865462112

E-mail: [poma@poma.co.za](mailto:poma@poma.co.za)

## Newsletter: March 2022

Welcome to Autumn, the season of mild weather, beautiful days and the expectation of good winter rains and home fires burning!

I hope you are all keeping well and adhering to safety protocols to ensure that Covid and all its variants die a certain death soon.

### Governance

The marina manager is currently busy with an audit of jetties and other infrastructure in the Marina. Please remember that no private infrastructure, whether fixed or floating, is allowed in the waterways without POMA authorisation. The process and documentation is available on our website, [www.poma.co.za](http://www.poma.co.za). If you have infrastructure, including ride-on or Hi-Lift docks on the water with no paperwork, please follow the procedure and ensure it gets registered.

Due to changes by Google in their access permissions, all documents for download on our website ([www.poma.co.za](http://www.poma.co.za)) will be unavailable for download until Friday 1 April 2022. Our apologies for this - the web designers are working to move all the documents directly onto our website, which should also speed up the downloading of forms and documents.

### Fees for 2022

The current fee structure is available on the POMA website, or if you prefer, you can collect a copy from the POMA office.

### Dredging

I have promised to release any news on the permitting process as soon as it is available and am just as frustrated as you are with the apparent lack of progress.

This is the situation today:

### DIRECTORS

A J Uys (Chairman); D Robinson; J Moolman; J Scudder; B Van Rensburg  
H Lambrechts (Alt); G Breeze (Alt); J de Meillon (Alt); L Delport (Alt)



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- After the initial applications for dumping and discharge permits lodged in 2020, we received a list of queries and questions from the two departments (one for dumping and another for discharge) within DFFE, during the first quarter of 2021.
- The highly technical and detailed information requested by the Department necessitated the use of specialised consultants. We appointed Messrs WSP during March 2021 and attended a series of meetings between them and the two departments to clarify some of the questions and then went to work. The major requirements included a detailed dredging plan with, sequenced, pre-determined dredging areas, intensive soil, and water sample analysis for each dredging area to check for contaminants and a host of other requirements.
- This work was ultimately completed in early January 2022 and our response was submitted on 7 February 2022. We received acknowledgement of receipt from both departments, with the Dumping team asking for 30 days to respond (30 working days lapsed on 22 March) and the Discharge team committing to respond by 7 April 2022. We have not yet received any further response from the Dumping team.
- Some clients have asked me whether there are statutory, prescribed, response times for these officials when dealing with the applications. For the Dumping team there is none. For the Discharge team there is a directive that the decision must be given within 180 days from the date that they have received a completed application. An application is deemed completed only when there are no more questions on the subject from the Department.
- So, what to do now? Our advice is not to rush the officials, so the decision is to wait until 7 April 2022 and see what happens. We believe that our submission is complete and that we should get the necessary responses during April. In the meantime, we are preparing to start dredging at short notice. The equipment has been serviced and the rehabilitation of the sluice gate and sluice at the settling ponds will be completed very soon.

## **Embankments, Walkways and Open Spaces**

As soon as the rehabilitation of the settling pond has been completed, the work on the walkways and embankments will continue as planned.

## **Law Enforcement**

The number for the Marine Rangers is as follows:

- Hotline – 067 412 9922

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## Ulva Removal

We are fighting to keep the summer Ulva growth at bay and remove the dead weed. It is really a problem at the moment with the barge out harvesting the dead weed on a daily basis and hopefully it will slowly reduce as we enter the winter months, and the weed goes into regression.

## Fire Prevention

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

## Rehabilitation of the POMA infrastructure in the Yacht Basin

This issue refers to the replacement of the old fixed, wooden jetties remaining in the yacht basin.

It has been reported to the Board that there is a growing need for replacing the Delta, Echo, Golf, and India jetties with floating docks similar to Foxtrot and Hotel, because of ease of access to boats for the older skippers and crew members.

The Board is faced with the following issues:

- The dredging scenario must be clear and defined in order to secure the funding.
- The finance model for the jetty replacement has to be decided on. There is both a strong call for outright POMA ownership as well as requests for the purchasing of allocated berths as in the case of all the current “Candock” jetties.

A strategy meeting of the Board and interested and affected parties will be held early in May, assuming that the dredge permit outcome will be known by then and the financial processes can be completed to assist with the deliberations.

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## General

We are looking forward to an exciting year. Dredging the waterways remains our main focus and we hope to be able to give good news soon.

As I write this, it's raining, and the wind is from the Northwest. Nasty water in the Bay. Please be careful and safe on the water.

**Abe Uys**

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