

Minutes of the Riebeek Valley Ratepayers Association Committee Meeting

Date: 11 January 2023

Time: 18:00

Venue: The Barn

1. Welcome

The Chairperson welcomes all present

2. Attendance

Jennifer Kamerman (JK)

William Pulles (WP)

Solveigh Smit (SS)

Henk Bruwer (HB)

Koos Erasmus (KE)

Basil Friedlander (BF)

3. Apologies

Joshua Geldenhuys (JG)

Mathiam Smit (MS)

4. The previous meeting minutes are accepted

5. Matters discussed:

5.1. Building guidelines progress

- 5.1.1. HB thanked those Committee members who had sent their comments regarding the rough draft of the building guidelines. Comments to be considered by HB and BF and added to the current guidelines draft, even if those comments are contrary to the points set out in the draft, by the next meeting.

- 5.1.2. JK to have a discussion with both Warrick Raubenheimer and Ronel Ackermann, long-time residents and architects in the Valley, regarding what the Committee is attempting to achieve with the building guidelines, and seek their expert input. JK to show them the Stanford Style guideline.
- 5.1.3. JK gave feedback that as yet, there have been no responses to her requests from Greyton, Stanford and McGregor Heritage/Conservation societies. The purpose of the enquiries is to ascertain how these towns have managed to contain and influence new built development projects. What are the terms of engagement with their municipalities regarding this issue, what have been the challenges and successes? JK to make follow-up enquiries with the respective societies, as well as with the respective municipalities, and give feedback to the Committee by 2 February.
- WP requested that JK also include Montagu.
- 5.1.4. HB suggested that the RVRA invite Alwyn Zaayman to the Riebeek Valley for a tour of the positive aspects of our build environment. Further, that we form a working group, whose members are from both the municipality and the RVRA. Committee to discuss the details of how we will present this invitation to Mr Zaayman and possible dates for the event at the next meeting.
- 5.1.5. It was agreed that any feedback from the other towns will be shared with the Municipality.
- 5.1.6. BF queried whether the Swartland Municipality provided guidelines re the building of the new area in Malmesbury which appears to have been controlled. BF suggested that the town planner at the time, one

Bertie Verster, might be able to give useful input. BF to make enquiries.

5.2. Appeal decision re ERF 1237 Riebeek Kasteel

WP to meet with developers on site to discuss the agreed reduction of the number/density of the residential dwellings, as well as architectural matters.

WP to feedback to Committee post this meeting. WP to write feedback regarding the outcome of the appeal, which will be posted on the RVRA website.

5.3. ERF 1911 follow up

HB enquired whether WP had received any feedback from the Municipality regarding residents' objection to the rezoning of Erf 1911. WP to follow up and revert at the next meeting.

5.4. New IDP public submission process

BF to follow up at the next Ward Committee meeting the status of the public's commentary regarding the new IDP and feedback to the Committee. JK requested that the municipality submit an action plan for each issue category raised in the submissions.

5.5. Ward Committee meeting minutes

SS Requested that the Committee receive Ward Committee meeting minutes for both towns, and that these be posted on our website. BF to make the request.

5.6. Website

5.6.1. WP proposed, and was unanimously supported, that Joshua be commended for the excellent work that he has done in the development of the RVRA website.

- 5.6.2. It was agreed that January the 31st, 2023 will be the “go live” date for the website.
- 5.6.3. JK expressed that she felt that the copy on the website needed to be edited. JK to submit her edited version of the Our Purpose page to JG and to the Committee for comment before the next meeting. All Committee members to do oversight of the website copy, and submit suggestions/additions to JG to effect before the launch date.
- 5.6.4. JK to review the current content on the Membership page re benefits of becoming a member, and circulate edited copy to the Committee for comment before the next meeting.
- 5.6.5. WP suggested that the JG install blocks on access beyond the landing page. When a ratepayer registers, a password will be sent to them so that they have full access to the site. Further, that we mention on the website, (and in our New Year letter to members), that complaints by members re municipal services etc. will not be entertained if the complainant is not a paid-up member of the RVRA. Both points were agreed to by the Committee.
- 5.6.6. JK mentioned that it is important that members are aware that there is a formal process to follow when they wish to bring a complaint to the RVRA. This is with particular reference to objections to development proposals where the member/members would like the RVRA Committee to support the objection. JK to create a form and circulate to the Committee for comments by mid-February.
- 5.6.7. BF to submit a short bio to JG before the launch of the website.

5.7. Letter to members

JK will only draft a letter once the website is launched, as we need to give

tangible examples of what the Committee has achieved. All Committee members to submit a few lines of feedback regarding any of their specific initiatives, to JK by mid-February.

Re annual membership fee: It was agreed that JK will mention in the letter that the Committee has paid for the set-up of the bank account, as well as the website software. It was agreed that only a passing reference is made in the letter to the fact that we are “considering” the development of building guidelines.

6. Meeting concludes

The meeting adjourns at 20:00

The next meeting: 8 February 2023, 18:00 at The Barn

Signed:

Date:
