

L I R A
LEISURE ISLAND RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 20 DECEMBER 2017, 6PM,
AT THE LEISURE ISLAND COUNTRY CLUB

1. Present

60 members as per the attendance register, plus accompanying persons. Apologies for non-attendance were noted from: Johan de Bruyn, Andre Immelman, Paul Kotze, Peter Mare, Ricky Maskew, Jenny Shields, Andre and Gwen van der Merwe.

2. Welcome

The Chairman extended a warm welcome to all members present and to Cllr Mark Willemse. A quorum being present, the Chairman declared the meeting open.

3. Objectives of LIRA

The Chairman reminded members that the objectives of LIRA are to:

- Ensure that the Island's environmental heritage is nurtured and protected.
- With KM, SANParks, SAPS and Nature Conservation, to implement appropriate laws and regulations for Leisure Island; and to ensure the supply of services and good governance for roads, traffic, cleanliness, etc.
- Maintain effective security
- Undertake, organise and implement, as appropriate or necessary, any matter of clear and important interest or right to the benefit of members.

4. Minutes of Previous General Meetings

Minutes of the general meetings over the past year, as reflected below, were **Taken as read, Adopted and Confirmed by the meeting as correct:**

- Annual General Meeting held on 20 December 2016
- Extraordinary General Meeting held on 20 July 2017
- Informal General Meeting held on 23 November 2017.

These minutes are all available on the LIRA website.

5. Matters Arising from the Previous Meetings

The Chairman reported that the suggestions made at the Informal General Meeting to become more 'aggressive' with Knysna Municipality (KM) around the Sea Walls and gum trees were considered by the Committee at its meeting on 5 December.

In view of the impending court case on 27 February 2018, it was decided to hold back at this stage and rather adopt a co-operative, constructive approach, more in keeping with the partnership relationship LIRA has established with KM over many years.

6. Report of the Committee – Year ended 31 October 2017

Noted that the Committee Report had been posted on the website on 7 December 2017 as per notice of the Annual General Meeting which had been circulated on that date.

6.1 Island Safety and Security

Total cost for island safety and security for the year was R1 005 022 which represents 83% of the Association's total costs.

Noted that, of the 432 households on the Island, 314 pay levies to LIRA. Cost per household for Island security is therefore R3,200 per annum or R267 monthly.

If every household paid levies, the annual security cost per household would be R2,315 or R193 per month.

KM has given permission to LIRA to extend 24/7 surveillance in the Green Hole area where easy access to the Island exists from the bush across the lagoon. The plan is ideally to implement thermal imaging cameras at these points, but their cost is likely prohibitive, so standard cameras, with infrared detection, and linked to the Allsound surveillance network will be installed.

The goal is to maintain the excellent results of 2017 and to stay ahead of increasing crime.

The Chairman noted that there were only three minor and opportunistic security incidents on Leisure Isle in 2017, compared to 21 in 2016 and 24 in 2015.

Allsound reported that a total of 828 security incidents occurred in other parts of Knysna in 2017.

John Knowles congratulated LIRA and Allsound on these outstanding results for Leisure Isle and queried why some homes were members of LIRA plus also pay Allsound for their home security?

The Chairman and Declan Nurse (manager of Allsound) pointed out that LIRA members already enjoy a discounted home security rate with Allsound.

In addition, Insurance companies do not insure household contents unless home security is provided by a Security Company.

6.2 Membership

Following an active recruitment drive in 2017, membership increased from 300 (70,0%) at end October 2016 to 314 (72,7)% at end October 2017.

This figure had actually been higher (74,8%) in June, July and August but had subsequently dropped because of the high number of property transactions on the Island from August onwards.

Leisure Isle has been experiencing a mini property boom since the fires in June.

Of the 118 non-contributing households, 35 are in the process of disposal, 24 are unknown reasons for not being members, 15 cannot afford, 14 refuse to join, 10 have tenants, 8 are second properties and 11 have stopped paying. In this last category, some of these people have subsequently paid their 2017 levies.

6.3 Island Infrastructure

6.3.1 Fire Prevention and Management

The Chairman outlined the various measures which had been undertaken both during the June fires and subsequently:

- A team of volunteers had done fire detection patrols around-the-clock in June. This team can quickly and easily be called into action again, should the need ever arise.
- Areas with high fuel load had been identified and cleared (along Woodbourne Drive and northern section of Greenhole).
- An expert study was conducted on the gum trees. This study found the trees were not a fire risk but certain branches on some trees were identified as needing trimming to reduce risk of falling branches.
- Fire Department has located and marked most of the hydrants on the Island.

6.3.2 Benches at Amanzi

In response to a question from John Knowles that the unsightly benches at Amanzi – an issue highlighted at last year's AGM – were looking even worse this year, the Chairman outlined the steps which had been undertaken so far:

- Ricky Maskew and Clive Bennett met with the owner in March, after which the canoes tied between the benches were removed.
- Further meetings and correspondence by the Chairman and other Committee members requesting the owner to remove three of the benches were stonewalled.

The Chairman also pointed out to the owner that he has taken control of a large piece of land (the parking area at Amanzi) which belongs to KM.

- In September the Chairman approached Cllr Mark Willemse to get permission from KM for LIRA to remove three of the benches. This permission was granted in November.
- However, in reviewing the matter, the Committee is of the view that it is KM's responsibility to remove the benches as they stand on KM property.
- Cllr Mark Willemse undertook to ensure the removal of three of the benches.

6.3.3 Water shortage

Sally Marais asked Cllr Willemse if special concession could be applied to LI households over the festive season, given the influx of visitors, not to be penalised if water consumption exceeded 20 kl in the month.

Cllr Willemse said that, to date, no penalties have yet been applied. He invited any affected people to contact him direct as rebates could be considered.

6.4 Leisure Isle Festival

The Leisure Isle Festival held on 4-5 November was once again very successful and enjoyed by residents and visitors.

A record R264,523 was collected for charities, the main beneficiaries of which were e'Pap Children's Feeding Scheme (R50,056), Hospice (R47,395) and KAWS (R34,640).

6.5 Steenbok Nature Reserve

Steenbok Nature Reserve, which receives funding from LIRA and KM, continues to bring delight to residents, visitors and their pets.

The Report of the Committee was adopted by members present.

7. Audited Financial Statements – Year ended 31 October 2017

The Chairman presented the detail of the audited Financial Statements. Comment was offered by the Chairman on various items.

Noted that the surplus for the year was R7,442 after providing R50,000 for legal fees and R55,750 for trimming of gum trees.

The Annual Financial Statements were then approved by members.

8. Budget for the year ended 31 October 2018

The details of the budget were then presented and various items explained. Noted that a modest surplus had been budgeted.

The levies for 2018 were given:

Annual	R4400 (4,8% increase)
Monthly	R 390 (5,4% increase)

The Budget and Levies for the year ending 31 October 2018 were approved by members.

9. Election of the Committee

The Chairman paid tribute to Ricky Maskew and Johan de Bruyn who had both indicated their intention of retiring from the Committee in December 2017 after years and years of valuable contribution. Ricky had been Deputy Chairman and Johan was Head of Security. They will both be sorely missed.

Noted that David Stromberg had been co-opted onto the Committee during the year and that Declan Nurse has been nominated to replace Johan in the Security Portfolio. The Committee has nominated David Stromberg as Deputy Chairman going forward.

Following all the nominations received, the Committee Portfolios for 2018 are the following:

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Chairman | Keith Hollis |
| • Deputy Chairman | David Stromberg |
| • Infrastructure | Paul Kotze and David Stromberg |
| • Security | Declan Nurse |
| • Financial | James Botha |
| • Membership | Arjen and Ingrid Meter |
| • Communication | Brenda Neall |

- Environment

Clive Bennett

In addition, Peter Dieterich continues to provide valuable contribution in managing the LIRA database.

The Chairman advised that he has been in the position since 2007 and that he intended retiring at the end of 2018.

10. General

The following issues were raised by various members:

Sea walls – legal dispute

John Koch queried whether the Court Case on 27 February was definitely going to happen as it seemed ‘such a waste of time and money’.

Derek Mitchell, SC, said that no answering papers had yet been received, despite the 1 November deadline.

Cllr Mark Willemse said that some money has been put aside by KM for sea wall alleviation but that SANParks wantd to dictate what gets done, which is more than what KM can afford.

Lampposts on the causeway

Sheena Mare drew attention to the erosion happening on the southern side of the causeway, resulting in many of the lampposts getting close to the edge. Cllr Willemse undertook to look at this.

Upcoming festive season events

Carol Wolman and Sheena Mare encouraged people to support the following upcoming events:

- **Splash event – 28 December**
- **Carols by Candlelight – 21 December**
- **Pipe Band on Bollard Beach, 6.30pm, 30 December**

Donations towards security guards’ bonus

Contributions towards the security guards’ bonus could be made either at the AGM or at Carols by Candlelight. The guards have once again done an outstanding job this year.

There being no further business and discussion, the Chairman declared the meeting closed.