

**Minutes of the F.O.S.T.E.R. Annual General Meeting held at  
18h00 on 3rd October 2017 at Cape St Francis Resort**

- 1. Chairman's Welcome:** Richard Cowling  
Attendance of 43 participants – see attached register
- 2. Apologies:** John Elliott, Chris and Laura Cowling, Heilie Uys, Bart and Caryl Logie, Murray Stewart, Greg Milne, Marc Maingard, Deb and Paul Nicholson, Chris and Valda Barratt, Tim and Sue Elliott, Yvonne and Peter Bosman, Dane Shaw.
- 3. Minutes of the previous AGM held on 7th October 2015:** Proposed: Al Brady, seconded Debbi Hudson.
- 4. Chairman's Report:** Richard Cowling said he would be brief, the detailed Chair's report would be available on the website.  
(Only additional comment on these items is minuted as the Chair's Report covers the details)  
Items on the report that he discussed were:
  - 4.1. Preamble:** Richard gave a brief overview of the year and the three major positive stories: Massive response to our plea for funding resulting in a large funds and membership increase. New committee members that have introduced new ideas and enthusiasm to the group. Lilian Bakers contribution to the creation of the Walk on the Wildside project which will continue to be used after her resignation. Richard thanked her for her efforts in creating this legacy.
  - 4.2 Committee Members and Associated members:** See list  
Richard reported that Debbi Hudson has resigned and thanked her for her contribution.
  - 4.3 Fundraising; See Lilian Baker's Report**
    - 4.3.1 Projects and Events**

**The FOSTER Fun Run 2016:** 200 entrants, nett profit R12,000.00  
The Fun Run/walk will be discontinued to concentrate efforts on the Golf Day on 26th December 2017

**The Golf Day:** Garry Milford asks that the community spread the word to secure sponsors and players.

**Walk on the Wildside:** Lilian will no longer be available to run this project.  
(Details available on Chairman's Report)  
Pierre Van der Walt wanted to compliment Lilian, saying that in his dealings with her and this project, he has found her to be transparent and highly professional in every way.
    - 4.4 Marketing & Membership:** Joan Brady, Jal Rigaard report;  
Our camera trap continues to attract a lot of interest from Facebook followers who are excited to see that there is so much wildlife in our reserves.  
Thanks to Chris and Richard Cowling for managing the trap.  
Membership is currently 300. This is the highest ever.
    - 4.5 Reserve Management:** Dave Bowmer's report  
(Details in Chairmans Report)  
The fire and consequent need to maintain firebreaks as access for fire and emergency vehicles has added considerably to general maintenance costs. The figure now about R86 000.00 annually.  
Richard thanked Dave and his team for looking after our reserves in such a hugely effective and efficient way.
    - 4.6 Fire Management:** A ban on controlled burns is in place after the huge regional fires.
    - 4.7 Responding to Developmental pressures:**  
Nothing significant to report. (See Chair's report)

**4.8 Reserve Proclamation:** (Details in Chairman's report) FOSTER now has a Memorandum of Understanding in place with Kouga Municipality for management of reserves in their name and has submitted the same to Transnet to formalise FOSTER's stewardship of Seal Point Nature Reserve.

Rob Smith asked which reserve Shark Point falls into.

Richard replied that it is part of Cape St Francis Nature Reserve (CSFNR) of which part A has been proclaimed and parts B and C are not yet proclaimed. Shark point is part of the proclaimed area.

Richard asked if Wentzel Coetzer, Biodiversity Stewardship facilitator for The Greater Kromme Stewardship (GKS) of Conservation Outcomes could give a brief overview of the situation.

**Wentzel:** Conservation Outcomes is a Non-profit Organisation financed by the windfarm owners and intended to facilitate a stewardship for the nature areas in the greater Kromme areas.

A primary objective is to ensure state owned land is secured and managed for conservation purpose. CSFNR has been identified by them as a priority.

One problem is that East Cape Parks and Tourism (ECPT) are reluctant to be appointed to manage this reserve as they do not have the funds or capacity to take on additional areas.

Ways of raising funds are being investigated and negotiations with Dept. of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs & Tourism (DEDEAT) are ongoing but could still take a while.

Shirley Cowling asked whether portions B and C of CSFNR were zoned as rural, agricultural or open space.

Wentzel says it has been assigned to DEDEAT.

Willie Uys said there is new legislation by which DEDEAT will hand conservation to ECPTA.

Richard suggested that private citizens should use their voices...write letters to demand that these areas be proclaimed and publish these letters in the media.

**4.9 Financial Report:** Lilian Baker's report: Financial statements (balance sheet and income and expenditure report) for the period 01/03/15 to 29/02/16 are attached to the Chair's Report.

Richard thanked Lilian for her impeccable financial records.

#### **4.10 Items from the floor:**

Norman Newcombe extended a welcome to Warren Manser from The Kromme Trust and said he looked forward to collaboration with them.

Emily Buchanan asked about the current policy on memorial benches.

Jal responded that FOSTER is now asking for R5000.00 per bench/per 5 years to be placed at a FOSTER approved site. The first one has been paid for and positioned. Many people would like benches to be placed in the Seal Point Reserve which we don't have a formal mandate from Transnet for as yet.

Memorial benches are not something we want to become too involved in.

Garry Milford said he went on the 'Wild Flower Chase' with Dave Bowmer on Saturday which was fantastic so well done to Dave!

Warren Manser asked about the wildlife information collected on camera traps.

Richard replied that they are busy collating data from the last 2 years which was very interesting. It would seem that heavy human traffic over peak seasons seems to chase the wildlife away temporarily but it returns very quickly after busy seasons end.

After the fire there was an increase in numbers of animals, presumably seeking sanctuary in the unburnt areas. After the regrowth of greenery in burnt areas, the wildlife seems to have dispersed again.

Pierre van der Walt asked if FOSTER is aware of Operation Phakisa and any effect it may have for us.

Richard replied we would keep an eye on it.

John Wilson said he thinks there is a fundraising conflict between FOSTER and the Civic Association. He believes there should be collaboration between the two in this regard as there was a lot of confusion as to the role each plays in the village.

Richard replied that we are talking to Civics and The Boardriders Association about synergising and planned to meet with them soon.

**4.11** Joan Brady asked if the report was adopted. Willie Uys proposed the acceptance and Shirley Cowling seconded.

#### **4.12 Election of Committee Members: (See 4.2 above)**

Nominations were invited from the floor, none received.

Nominations had been made for all standing members, except Debbi Hudson. The meeting supported this unanimously.

The Committee is:

Richard Cowling	Chair; Proclamation; Events
Lilian Baker	Treasurer; Outreach
Dave Bowmer	Reserve management
Joan Brady	Secretary; Membership and Marketing
Jal Rigaard	Marketing; Infrastructure
John Elliot	Fire management; Events
Garry Milford	Fundraising; Events
Jenny Rayment	Fund raising; Events
Debbi Hudson	Fund raising; Events
Paul Nicholson	Fund raising; Events

**Associate members**

Chris Cowling  
Al Brady  
Emily Buchanan  
Shirley Cowling

Warren Manser said they would organise for someone to represent the Kromme Trust on the FOSTER committee

**4.12. Closure:**

Richard closed the meeting.

ATTENDANCE REGISTER

FOSTER AGM 2016

	A	B	C
1	NAME	EMAIL ADDRESS	FOSTER
2			member
3	Joel Brady	bradjes@netactive.co.za	✓
4	Debbie Nicholson	debbienic@telkomsa.net	✓
5	Paul Nicholson	nicholsonpa@telkomsa.net	✓
6	RAIDA HILLIGAN	hilligan@mweb.co.za	✓
7	Dave Bourne		✓
8	Dawid Cupido		✓
9	JEAN MAZAM	scavite@telkomsa.net	
10	Norman Newcombe	normanj.newcombe@gmail.com	✓
11	Debbi Hudson	kougarprintinfo@telkomsa.net	✓
12	Jal Rigaard	Jal.Rigaard@gmail.com	✓
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24	Lilian Baker	csfgs@telkomsa.net	✓
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34	Al Brady	badies@netactive.co.za	✓
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