

**Minutes of a teleconference meeting of the Noetzie Conservancy Owners’
Association
8 May 2008**

Present

Carl Metelerkamp (Chair), Eion Brown, Julie Gosling, Santie Den Boestert, Rookan Podesta, Cathy Shimmin, Penny Suckling, and Nick Taylor

Apologies

None

1. Meeting of 3 April

1.1 Minutes

There were no corrections to the minutes.

1.2 Matters arising

1.2.1 Green Waste Management Site

Santie said that 4 satellite dumping sites are to be set up. The Environmental Liaison Committee has not yet been established.

1.2.2 Meeting with the Mayor

Nick reported that he had send Eion’s report on the meeting to the Mayor’s secretary on 18 April, with a letter of thanks. Nick was requested to enquire as to whether there has been any response to the report.

1.2.3 Budget

Julie reported that she had raised R600 through the sale of Tim Everitt’s calenders. It was noted again that this money is not to be used for legal fees.

1.2.4 Noetzie infill

Carl thanked Eion for the work he has put into the NCOA response to the Final Scoping Report. Eion reported that a copy had been sent to CNdV for comment, but no response had been received to date; Eion undertook to follow this up. A discussion on the strategic approach of the NCOA ensued, and a consensus emerged that we should take a pragmatic view to the proposed development, rather than a ‘go for broke’ attitude which rejects out of hand any development whatsoever. Such a pragmatic approach would engage with the developers on specific issues, such as objecting to any building on the existing car park, and keeping the siting of the Old Wagon Road in its present position.

1.2.5 Website

Carl was again complimented for his work on the website and the Newsletter.

1.2.6 Boardwalk

Eion noted that the boardwalk, as currently planned, is too narrow. It was agreed that Julie will take Eion’s objection in this regard to the Knysna Municipality.

1.2.7 Urban Edge

It was agreed that Carl would write to the KM requesting that Noetzie remain outside the Knysna urban edge.

2. North Cottagte

There were no objections to the plans, and it was agreed that Julie will sign them on behalf of Carl.

3. Neil Metelerkamp’s Boathouse

There were no objections to the planned boathouse. Eion recommended that plastic sheeting be used rather

than galvanized roofing because of the greater durability and lighter weight of the former.

4. Legal status of the NCOA

Penny suggested that converting the NCOA to a Section 21 company may be advantageous. Carl thought that we would not qualify, as a Section 21 company is required to trade, while Cathy wondered whether this move might involve us in stringent reporting obligations. It was agreed that Penny would investigate the matter.

5. Lindsay B&B

It has come to the attention of the Committee that a large wedding is being planned at the B&B. This would be in contravention of the terms under which the Knysna Municipality granted consent for the castle to be used as a Bed and Breakfast establishment. It was resolved that Rookan should enquire about the details and draft a letter to Alan de Souza stating that, while the NCOA has no objections to occasional functions if they involve close friends or family, the running of activities on this kind on a commercial basis are not acceptable.

6. Trading activities at Montrose

It is clear that the commercial activities centred at Montrose castle are continuing. This is frustrating in view of the fact that Pezula has been informed by the KM that these activities contravene the terms of their B&B consent. Julie volunteered to phone Ed Hill and ask his advice on next steps.

7. Budget

Cathy undertook to mail the budget to members.

8. Fire Management

Julie reported that Paul Gerber from DWAF had been to see her about fire management at Noetzie, and it was resolved that the NCOA should register with the Fire Protection Association of the Southern Cape.

9. Letter from Justine Sharples

Santie reported that she had received a letter from Justine Sharples inviting a rep from the NCOA to attend a fundraising workshop on 21 May. It was agreed that Santie and Rookan should confer and either one of them will attend, or, if both are unable to, then they should approach Wendy to see if she is available.

10. NSRI sign on Noetzie beach

Julie expressed concern that the large sign erected by the NSRI on Noetzie beach may serve as a beacon for perlemoen poachers who have become active in the region in the last months. Julie will speak to Richard Meyer of KM about these concerns.

11. **Next meeting:** 18h30 on Thursday 5 June.