

## NEWS FROM THE JHA BOARD – NOVEMBER 2017

At the JHA AGM in September, the following Board members were elected:

H. Pieterse  
K. Vosloo  
P.J. Galloway  
P. Judd  
V. Schuhen  
J. Louw

At the first Board meeting on 14 October 2017, portfolios were assigned as follows:

J. Louw (Chair, and all matters not covered by specific portfolios)  
H. Pieterse (Vice-chair and legal matters)  
K. Vosloo (Infrastructure)  
P.J. Galloway (Security and homeowner services)  
P. Judd (Architectural Review Committee)  
V. Schuhen (Finance)

The following items discussed at the first meeting are highlighted for your information.

### 1. Security system

The Board will pay close attention to the functioning of the recently installed security system.

Phase 1 of the project has been installed and is operational. The staff receives weekly telephonic training from the consultant in the operation of the cameras. Unfortunately we are experiencing a number of problems at the moment that make the system ineffective for the purposes envisaged. It goes without saying that addressing and fixing these problems receive the highest priority from the Jakkalsfontein management at the moment

The most important of these issues are the following:

- False alarms. The system receives too many false alarms, triggered by animals, vehicle lights, and movement of the cameras themselves.
- The cameras are unable to detect human figures at distances of more than 300 meters at night.
- During rain showers water enters the “owl houses” that contain the electronic equipment.
- Cameras at the boundary with the Plattner Stables are mostly out of operation, caused by defective solar panel electronics.
- Lengthy delays are experienced to access camera images via the electronic tablets.

A number of improvements to rectify matters were discussed, such as stabilizing the camera posts, cleaning the camera lenses regularly, and replacing the owl houses. Some of these improvements are already being implemented.

As a result of the information received, the Board was of the opinion that Phase 2 could not be considered at this stage. It also confirmed the opinion expressed at the AGM, that Phase 1 be monitored for problems and operational effectiveness for six months before Phase 2 is considered.

## 2. Matters arising from the AGM

The Board listed all matters that arose from the discussions at the September AGM, to ensure that they receive attention during the year.

## 3. Outstanding debts

We are making steady progress in reducing the number of home owners who are in arrears with levies, as well as the amounts owed. We draw attention to this line from the 2017 AGM Minutes: "The meeting agreed that this request will be implemented and a list of arrear homeowners will be available for perusal at the next AGM". Homeowners in arrears will be informed of the situation well in advance of the next AGM.

## 4. Services to home owners

This useful service to home owners has expanded significantly over the years, and has to be managed carefully so as not to interfere too much with the usual maintenance and conservation activities on the estate. It remains a challenging set of tasks to manage, and we ask home owners to show understanding when it takes longer than they would prefer to attend to their requests. We will always try to let owners know what they envisaged waiting period is for especially large jobs.

## 5. Social activities arranged at Jakkalsfontein

Home owners are encouraged to approach the Board with proposals for social activities they wish to arrange at Jakkalsfontein. Although the Board will not take responsibility for organising such activities, it will support them if possible. The annual "fun run" at the end of the year is a good example of such an arrangement.

## 6. Dwars River viewing platform

A significant donation ten years ago from an anonymous homeowner enabled us to clear a five kilometre section of the Dwars River on Jakkalsfontein and to construct a hard surface hiking trail of roughly two km. This came to be known as the Dwars River Project. A further donation was received four years ago, and this enabled us complete the project. Most of you who used this trail will recall that it stops abruptly in the middle of nowhere. We are pleased to inform you that that is now a thing of the past: you will find a delightful viewing platform which provides a panoramic view of Jakkalsfontein and beyond. Benches are provided under a shaded canopy where wildlife can be observed while enjoying a picnic. It

goes without saying that we trust the usual (considerate) Jakkalsfontein conduct will prevail: noise is minimised, and no litter is left behind.



## 7. Security

At the last AGM of the JHA, it was decided that all security related incidents at Jakkalsfontein are to be reported on a monthly basis. On 15 October shortly after 21h00, two intruders, members of the *Proteles cristatus* gang, were identified on one of the trap cameras near the farmyard (see the image below).

No further security related incidents occurred on Jakkalsfontein during October. We thank homeowners for their positive response to our call to secure doors and windows of their houses when out of residence.

