

Minutes of the 18th Open Meeting of the Environment & Natural Resources Committee held on Thursday, 17th January 2019 @ 10:15am in the Council Chamber.

Present:	Hon. Russell K Yon	-	Chairman
	Hon. Dr. Corinda Essex	-	Deputy Chairperson
	Hon. Cyril K Leo	-	Member
	Hon. Cruyff G Buckley	-	Member
	Mr Derek Henry	-	Director of ENRD
	PC Amber Isaac	-	Police Representative
	Mr Deon Robbertse	-	Roads Manager
	Mr Darren Francis	-	Roads Inspector
	Mr Nyasha Chikwati	-	Management Accountant
	Mr Nicky Lawrence	-	Secretary
Apology:	Hon. Gavin G Ellick	-	Member (Medical leave)

Welcome.

The Chairman welcomed everyone present and proceeded with the Open Agenda of the Environment & Natural Resources Committee. Mr Nyasha Chikwati attended for familiarisation with the Committee.

The Chairman was not forewarned of Mr Chikwati's attendance and said he will write to officials for an explanation. Mr Chikwati gave members a brief overview of his role in Corporate Finance and his reason for attending the meeting.

Open Agenda.

18.1 Matters arising from Open Minutes of 13th December 2018.

Namibian Iceplant.

The Chairman reported that the Invasive Plants Specialist will be preparing an illustrated document about the invasive Namibian Iceplant (*Galenia populosa*) which will be circulated to the Committee and also through the Press Office.

Action: Invasive Plants Specialist

Heritage Report.

The Director informed members that the ENRC Sub-Committee has amended the Heritage Report and the final version will be ready to be presented to Executive Council in February.

Action: Chairman.

Road Traffic Regulations.

The Chairman reported that there are a few items to be added to the Road Traffic Regulations which arose from a special meeting with the Attorney General and members of Tourism. He said he would prefer to bring the Ordinance and Regulations into force at the same time and will pursue this with the Personal Assistant (PA) to the Attorney General (AG).

Members spoke of a raft of important matters to take forward with the AG's Chambers but there is a lack of resources and continuity of staff in Chambers. The Deputy Chairperson asked the Chairman to raise these concerns with Executive Council if no progress is made by AG's Chambers. The Chairman said ExCo is aware of the situation and the matter has also been raised with the Governor regarding assistance for AG's Chambers.

Action: Chairman.

Request for approval of Government Landlord House designs.

Awaiting arrival of Head of Property to discuss.

18.2 Jamestown Parking Survey.

The Deputy Chairperson reported that there are several outstanding issues relating to being able to finalise the Jamestown Parking Survey. There has been changes in personnel as well as lack of finance to implement it, and lack of resources on the ground to enforce it. The technical survey of the whole of Jamestown must be completed so that the Working Group can identify areas where vehicles can park safely.

When asked about progress on the Jamestown survey the Director reported that the intention had been to complete the survey by mid-January. Unfortunately, a member of staff had an accident which has delayed finalisation of the survey although most areas in Jamestown have been surveyed to date. It is anticipated that the survey will be completed in time for February's meeting.

The Deputy Chairperson said there was poor response to the survey from commercial operators. The information required which is not intrusive would have assisted with the survey. The Deputy Chairman proposed that a letter be sent from Committee to all businesses that did not respond to inform them that if they do not provide the relevant information by a certain deadline they will not be considered when it is planned to roll out the proposed parking scheme.

The Deputy Chairperson asked members views on giving businesses a final chance to respond to the survey or be left out when the scheme is implemented.

Action: Deputy Chairperson/Secretary

St. John's Parking Proposal.

The Roads Manager told members that the proposal is still with the Planning Office and funding will have to be sought to progress this work.

Action: Roads Manager

Proposal for parking at disused Quarry.

It was reported that a contractor has been undertaking fencing works on this site.

Greenland's.

It was reported that vehicles are parking outside Greenland's which is causing an obstruction to shoppers. Solomon's have resorted to using '*Merchant - No Parking*' signs to address the situation.

The Market.

It was also reported that vehicles are parking along the pavement outside the Market which is also causing congestion. The area at the back of the Market is being used as a personal park by tenants of the Market.

These issues are to be addressed during the walk-through of Jamestown.

Action: Chairman.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10:40am.

The next meeting of the Environment & Natural Resources Committee will be held on **Thursday 21st February 2019 @ 10:00am in the Council Chamber.**

Confirmed.....*Blon*.....Date *13 FEB 2019*.....