



NKONKA TRUST

50 Haygarth Road, Kloof, 3610

Chairman's report for 2017/2018

This is the second Chairman's report tabled by Chris Harburn, the first being shortly after the new Trustees were appointed. Meetings with the Trustees have been held monthly, some of them being held at the reservoir and we are pleased to report that Terry Stewart from the Environmental department at the Durban Metro has also joined us at the monthly meetings.

The Nkonka Trust has made significant progress over the past year and we are pleased to report the following:

1. ESOR has completed their pipeline work and rehabilitated the construction zone. The pressure applied by the Nkonka Trustees has certainly paid off as the area is now looking very neat with almost all the alien vegetation (which was introduced by the construction) having been cut, poisoned or removed. The road, the drains and the reinstatement of the banks has been done to a high standard and we are happy with the end result.
2. Reservoir tap
We now have a small permanent water supply which was installed by the Metro at the reservoir. We are looking at the possibilities developing a pond of sorts to attract small animals or birds.
3. Burning the grass
During the year we managed to burn virtually the entire site. This was done shortly after spring rains and within a week the new growth was coming through. The bush is looking great and we are satisfied that the newly planted grass is preventing wash aways.
4. Perimeter roads
The clearing of the perimeter boundary track against the Mahogany Ridge fence is complete. We have employed a team there for over 7 months and they have opened up the bush against the fence in order for us to gain access to the fence, do a proper inspection and get contractors in to give quotes. They have also cleared away alien growth and opened up the drains. The plan is to continue along the top fence along the approach road.
5. Fence lines
The internal fence was removed by Terry and his team from Durban Metro. This had been on our outstanding to do list for a long time and we are pleased that it is now complete.

6. Naiker
During the year, we discovered one of our neighbours, Naiker had encroached onto our property. We reported this and held him accountable for the damages which he has started to rectify. The end result has been quite impressive but we are keeping the pressure on him to complete the landscaping, finishes, etc.
7. Notice board
We have installed a notice board at the gate. This will include phone numbers, symbolic dos and don'ts as well as a zipper code so that people can donate money to the Trust bank account if they feel they would like to contribute.
8. Finances
Guardian Professional accounting solutions has produced the audited Annual Financial statements for the year ending 28 February 2018. The Mahogany Ridge Ratepayers association contributed a further R25 000 towards the upkeep of the Nkonka Trust area. A letter of thanks was sent to the Chairman of the MRRA.
The cost of clearing the perimeter fence line has reduced our FNB account and we will need to look at other ways to supplement our income. The funds in the investment continue to grow, however we are trying not to utilise this as a means of supplementing income.

I am pleased with the progress that we have made over the past year and I wish to thank my fellow Trustees for their support.

I look forward to making further progress in the areas of security and conservation and hope that we can find sustainable ways of funding our efforts.

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Chris Harburn

October 2018