



**Minutes of Special General Meeting
held on Tuesday 22 July 2014 – 19h00
at Stanford Table**

PURPOSE: To discuss fundraising requirements and options

1. Welcome

1.1 Bea Whittaker, chairperson, welcomed everyone to the meeting

1.2 The attendance register was circulated and it is on record that 48 members were present, this constituted a quorum. The attendance register is available on request.

1.3 The meeting was preceded by a presentation by Bernard Oberholzer re the proposed Queen Victoria Street and town entrance precinct, part of the greater Stanford Rejuvenation Project. Stanford Conservation, Stanford Tourism and Stanford Ratepayer's Association decided during 2013 to jointly support a *Stanford Rejuvenation Initiative*, commissioning well-known landscape architect and Stanford resident Bernard Oberholzer to draw up a plan on how to sensitively marry town planning requirements with the village's heritage character.

Those present were generally in favour of the improvement of Stanford's streetscape appearance. A copy of the presentation is available on the website www.stanfordconservation.co.za.

The concept behind the rejuvenation plans is not only to improve the main road (Queen Victoria Street), but to provide a better 'sense of place' to a number of Stanford areas. Bernard Oberholzer has therefore also been commissioned to draw up the following precinct plans:

- *Market square (village green) and adjacent roads:* This is long overdue as the dust problem on the roads in summer, and the drainage problems of the village green in winter, need urgent attention. The one can, unfortunately, not be done without the other. In addition, a solution has to be found for the additional parking requirements to be made available without defacing the 3A heritage graded (i.e. local significance) village green, and the 2B graded (provincial significance) St Thomas' Anglican Church.
- *Stanford's water courses:* Compared to the rest of the Overstrand, Stanford sadly lacks facilities for tourists, especially along the river. A survey of needs conducted in 2011, identified these and they will be incorporated into another precinct plan that will form the basis of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to be done for tourism facilities within the 32-metre riparian zone. This EIA will be undertaken in the municipal 2014/15 financial year as part of the Ward 11 requested ward-specific projects.
- *Bezuidenhout Street community area:* There is a huge need for a better sense of place at the existing community centre, as well as to upgrade the road/pedestrian facilities

between Mathilda May and De Bruyn Streets. No funds are available for the tarring of this section, but a sidewalk will be built as part of the funds obtained via the Overstrand Greenest Town award in 2011 and 2012. The precinct plan will form the base of how and where the sidewalk (and future improvements) will be constructed.

2. Fundraising requirements

- 2.1 Bea Whittaker (BW) explained that Stanford Conservation (SC) has been fortunate in having available the “Green Team” twice a week to maintain the wandelpad, public gardens, graveyards etc. There is, however, no guarantee that this job-creation initiative by the Dept of Environmental Affairs will be available ad infinitum. It is therefore important that SC start raising funds to maintain the momentum provided by the Green Team. Some funds are raised by means of the monthly ‘Wine & Wisdom’ evenings at present, which is a great success thanks to the excellent organising by Annie Ranger. These funds are used for SC’s contribution to maintain the wandelpad, such as weed-eater fuel, herbicide, bridges and benches etc.
- 2.2 BW explained that funds will also be needed for other projects identified by members and the committee, such as the Stanford Rejuvenation Initiative. The municipality does not have the money to in future fund ‘nice-to-have’ projects. A number of projects have been identified and were realised via ward-specific projects in the past 2 years, but it will become more and more difficult to secure funds via the municipality. These projects are also subject to spending of less than R100K/year, which makes it impossible to fund large-scale projects.
- 2.3 As an example, BW explained that the ward committee managed to secure funds in the 2014/15 financial year for the required environmental impact assessment for the tourism developments along Stanford’s water courses identified by the community by means of a public participation process during 2011/12. It will, however, be difficult to get funds for the required infrastructure, such as a boardwalk, floating jetty etc. If the community can raise funds, it will be easier to go to external funders (or even the municipality) to propose partnership projects to realise our ideas.
- 2.4 BW said that the committee had come up with various ideas for fundraising – one of them being a 100s Club where 100 people become members of the club, each paying a pre-determined amount every month, and a lucky draw is made every 2nd or 3rd month. The concept is that 50% of the funds remain for SC, and the remaining 50% is available for the lucky draw.
- 2.5 The general consensus was that this funding option must be pursued.
- 2.6 The following issues were raised by members present:
 - Payments via debit order, future payments or monthly accounts.
 - A function to do the draw, or an audited draw informing every one of the winners of the draw.
- 2.7 Royd Frith proposed (accepted by unanimous consent) that the committee research the various issues raised and report back electronically to members re the decisions made.
- 2.8 There was general discussion about membership fees, and it was agreed that membership fees should be proposed at the next AGM.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 19:20.