

CCE Chairmans Report 2019/2020

Welcome and a big thank you to all residents for joining us for our first virtual AGM. As with most businesses and entities around the world, large facets of what the CCE does has been dramatically affected by the Covid pandemic. Fortunately with the easing of the lockdown measures, we should hopefully start to get back to a more normal situation. Despite the drama and challenges of 2020, the CCE has achieved an admiral amount and I believe that we are currently in a good position, ready to take the plans for our area to the next level over the next year.

Here is some feedback from our various portfolios.

The new Memorandum of Incorporation

The new memorandum of incorporation was accepted and adopted after our last AGM. As it turns out, this was very timeously instituted as one of the key factors in the MOI was the accommodation made for the holding of virtual meetings, both on a board and a public level. The past few board meetings have all been over Zoom, and here we are holding a Zoom AGM. The new MOI has also put the framework in place that has allowed for positive engagement with all residents and landowners over the past year.

Financial & Contractual

We did distribute a report from our treasurer, Brian Craig on the financial performance of the CCE over the past year in the AGM document pack.

In summary, we have performed well financially over the past year, recording a surplus in most months despite the challenges that the world has faced over the last 6 months.

CCE Membership:

As you will be aware, in 2019 the CCE board reduced the levies by a large amount in the hope of attracting more members to help spread the load more evenly across the community. Initially we saw an increase in the numbers, but due to a combination of various factors we have seen a stagnation in the numbers at around 84 members from varying categories over the past 6 months. Despite tabling and instituting various proposals with the aim of attracting more support from the river front properties, we continue to see very few riverfront properties participating in the CCE initiatives. Unfortunately this has resulted in a number of very unpleasant security breaches along the river.

I believe that increasing the membership base is something that the incoming board will need to address as a matter of great importance to maintain and improve our areas security, lifestyle and property values.

Security

As mentioned, we experienced a few horrific attacks on some of our residents along the river earlier this year, one of which resulting in the death of our dearly beloved friend and long standing resident Viv Brown.

Since these attacks, the CCE have installed a riverfront watch tower with monitored CCTV cameras and lights near Msawawa. As a short term measure, in collaboration with various river front residents we cleaned up large sections of the river front and have installed numerous security sensor sirens that act as an early warning system for residents along the river. We are still of the belief that the most effective solution to the river front security issues is going to be a united approach with all residents along the river working together and with the CCE to find a long term, sustainable solution.

ADT has performed fairly well in the area since being appointed as the CCE's preferred security provider in 2019. They have grown their footprint to the point that we now have a dedicated response vehicle in the area that can work in tandem with the CCCTV camera system. The CCE now receives a weekly report from ADT, highlighting any suspicious activity picked up by the CCTV cameras in the area.

The first phase of the CCTV system is fully installed and operational. We have 4 poles with LPR and overview cameras at the various entry/ exit points to the area. As mentioned we have also erected a military spec watch tower along the riverfront near Msawawa with 4 fully monitored overview cameras, with lights and security siren attached.

The covid lockdown has meant that we have had very limited interaction with Saps over the last 6 months. Blockwatch has also be non-existent, but is set to relaunch shortly. TRSS & Savika are still very active in the area meaning that we currently have a bigger security presence in our area than ever before and that's a good thing.

We will continue to stress the importance of the continued vigilance of all residents, especially in the coming summer months.

Estate management

KC landscaping has continued to maintain our gardens.

We still await our wayleave from council in order to embark on the pavement paving project, but it would seem that as usual, the government department productivity has been very hard hit by the covid pandemic.

We are currently looking at some long term solutions to the decaying Cedar Road wall. Every time the wind blows too hard or a car hits it, it cost us a fair chunk of money to fix.

Environmental & Conservancy

The CCE board has continued to engage with the various role players active in and around our area to ensure the conservation and preservation of our natural environment.

The main area of concern has been the river. We have been monitoring and adding input to the Joburg water sewer upgrade project. We have also been engaging with Joburg Water about the ongoing sewage problems that continually affect our river.

Legal and development

The CCE continues to monitor and positively engage on the development happening in and around our area.

We note the Gautrans project involving the alignment/ upgrade of the Cedar Rd/ R114 intersection.

Communication

We identify the importance of communication. The main communication tools that we have used over the past year have been our monthly newsletter, our various Whatsapp groups, our upgraded website, Facebook and Instagram.

We have been very happy with the newsletter that has been a monthly feature over the last year.

The website has been designed and developed as the main communication hub. Going forward, all information, documents and events will be directed through the website. The CCE directors have access to the live CCTV footage of all the cameras, the CCE map and other important information on the website. We have advertising pages and would like to encourage

landowners with cottages, B&B's and businesses to continue to advertise on the website and in the newsletter.

Social:

Socializing has been very limited of the past 6 months, but 2019 saw the return of some of the old favourite CCE social events. We saw the Fun Run, Bakkies by Candle light, Old Cogs, the Run and walk group and the sweepstake. Hopefully with the lockdown levels easing the incoming board will be able start planning some social events in the near future.

Conclusion:

I would like to conclude by thanking all the board members for the time and efforts that they have put in over the last six months.

Warren Williams – Vice Chairman

Brian Craig – Treasurer

Rob Erikson- Miller

Mark McClue

Mark Warren

Derek Warren

And a big thank you goes to Jenni who, despite going through what must have been the toughest time of her life has continued to keep things going.