

Mnr Hoogenhout

The amphitheatre will not go ahead, we are in the process to amend the or propose an alternative in the BAR application that will be distributed to all parties on record for comments before submitting it to the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning.

The period of no response to date is that people who we did not have any e-mail addresses, were send all the documentation via registered post. In order to make sure that they did receive it, we allowed a period of time to see whether there is any response on the meeting held.

By next week we will compile plans and amended BAR that will be send to all the parties on record for comments before it is submitted to province. The latter has been informed and is keeping the file open until such time we have gone through the process as per agreement with parties at the meeting.

Regards

hanneen

1462

EnviroAfrica

Environmental Planning and Impact Assessment Consultants
 Omgewingsbeplanning en Impakbeoordeling Konsultante

49

6 March 2015

Mr C Hofmeyr
 P O Box 70
 SOMERSET MALL
 7137

Dear Mr Hofmeyr

16/3/1/1/E2/14/13: UPGRADING OF THE PIET-SE BOS EN GROTTA BEACH AREA, HERMANUS

Your communication dated 10 October 2014 with regard to the abovementioned project refers.

The Overstrand Municipality have indicated that they are not considering the construction of an amphitheatre any more and as such it is also indicated as a non-preferred option in the revised final BAR. Please note that we are not allowed to remove this non preferred option from the BAR as it remains part of the documentation and options considered, but reasons supplied why it was discarded. Your documentation will be included in the final BAR handed in for decision..

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The beach has lots of open spaces and the development of the restaurant has been referred to the Executive Committee of the Overstrand Municipality for their consideration and opinion.

The building was designed by a professional architect and it must be noted that opinions differ.

Exco will decide on the future of Dutchies as I understand that it does not have toilet facilities. The municipality is keen to have a decent restaurant on their Blue Flag Beach.

The diversion of the road around Dutchies was investigated and found not to be a viable and realistic option as there are sewage infrastructures and a pump-station in the gap between Dutchies and the milkwood forest to the east.

Yours sincerely

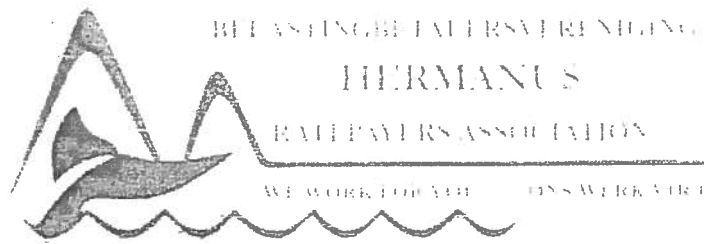


Charel Bruwer Snr

P O Box 4
 ONRUS RIVER 7201
 Tel: (028) 3162888
 Fax: 0865132141
 Cell: 0828050190

CK 2007043835/23
 VAT No 4380237091

Charel Bruwer Snr
 Charel Bruwer Jnr
 Bernard de Witt



7 October 2014

Messrs EnviroAfrica
P O Box 4
Onrus River
7201

By e-mail: charel@enviroafrica.co.za

Dear Mr Bruwer,

COMMENTS ON PIET SE BOS/GROTTO BEACH UPGRADE - BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT - CIRCULATED BY THE OVERSTRAND MUNICIPALITY ON 12/9/2014

The abovementioned Revised Basic Assessment Report (July 2014) circulated for comment by the 10th October 2014 refers.

The Hermanus Ratepayers' Association (HRA) hereby submits the following comments. The comments are split into three separate categories, namely; process, procedure and substance.

1. Process

The way in which the revised BAR has been presented in which three alternatives (A1, A2 and A3) are presented and discussed, following which Alternative A3 is recommended as the preferred alternative, strongly implies that Alternative A3 is that alternative on which consensus was reached at the public meeting on the 18th January 2014.

As the minutes of the said meeting show, there was absolutely no consensus among Interested & Affected parties (I&APs) at the meeting about Alternative A3 being a preferred alternative. If anything, the consensus was that the wetland rehabilitation was fully supported and the majority of I&APs appeared to think that Dutchies Restaurant should be rehabilitated to comply with health and safety regulations.

2. Procedure

In terms of the statutory procedure, it is a requirement - specified in Section D: Need & Desirability (Part 7) - that the municipality comments in Appendix E what the implication will be on the infrastructure planning of the municipality (priority and placement of services and opportunity costs). There is additional provision in Section I: Appendices – Appendix E – Permits/licences from any other organ of state including service letters from the municipality.

The fact of the matter is that Appendix E is missing from both the electronic documentation circulated for comment by the municipality to I&APs, as well as in the hardcopy documentation available in the Hermanus Public Library. The procedure has therefore not been complied with as the development will have services and budget implications as well as opportunity cost implications in relation to other projects not being done.

3. Substance

The proposed rehabilitation of the Grotto wetlands is fully supported by the HRA however the proposed restaurant development on the Nautilus site is opposed by the HRA.

The main reason for opposition is that developing restaurants – whatever the business model – is not the core business of the municipality and our ratepayers do not want to be party to it.

It is also common knowledge that the municipality is extremely short of capital funding to implement the basic services that it is supposed to provide in terms of the Constitution – let alone contributing to some restaurant development next to Grotto beach.

Please feel free to contact the HRA should you wish to discuss any of the above comments in greater detail.

Yours sincerely,



Bob Stanway
CHAIRMAN

WHALE FESTIVAL OFFICE •
CORNER MAIN ROAD AND PATERSON STREET •
PO BOX 134 • HERMANUS • 7200
TEL & FAX: 028 313 1351
E-MAIL: ratepayers@hermanus.co.za
www.ratepayers.co.za
OFFICE HOURS
MONDAY TO FRIDAY: 09H00 – 12H00

WALVISFEES KANTOOR •
HOEK VAN HOOF WEG EN PATERSON STRAAT •
POSBUS 134 • HERMANUS • 7200
TEL & FAKS: 028 313 1351
E-POS: ratepayers@hermanus.co.za
www.ratepayers.co.za
KANTOOR URE
MAANDAG TOT VRYDAG: 09H00 – 12H00

EnviroAfrica

Environmental Planning and Impact Assessment Consultants
 Omgewingsbeplanning en Impakbeoordeling Konsultante

6 March 2015

Hermanus Ratepayers Association
 c/o M R Stanway
 P O Box 134
 HERMANUS
 7200

Dear Mr Stanway

16/3/1/1/E2/14/13: UPGRADING OF THE PIET SE BOS EN GROTTA BEACH AREA, HERMANUS

Your communication dated 7 October 2014 with regard to the abovementioned project refers.

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The NEMA process makes provision for application for development within 100 metres of the high water mark. The footprint of the building will not be larger than the total previous footprint.

The beach has lots of open spaces and the development of the restaurant has been referred to the Executive Committee of the Overstrand Municipality for their consideration and opinion.

The building was designed by a professional architect and it must be noted that opinions differ.

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Yours sincerely



Charel Bruwer Snr

P O Box 4
 ONRUS RIVER 7201
 Tel: (028) 3162888
 Fax: 0865132141
 Cell: 0828050190

CK 2007043835/23
 VAT No 4380237091

Charel Bruwer Snr
 Charel Bruwer Jnr
 Bernard de Witt

1466

Annexure E 19/75

⑥

Regional Post

Rec'd 15/10

IAN AND AMANDA ODENDAAL

8 Acacia Street
DURBANVILLE
7550
Tel: +27 21 914 2616
Fax: +27 21 914 2614
Cell: +27 82 444 2117
Cell: +27 82 440 7411
Email: ian@omnipro.co.za/
amandaodendaal@gmail.com

10 October 2014

EnviroAfrica Overberg
P O Box 4
ONRUS-RIVER
7201

For Attention: C A Bruwer (Fax 086 513 2141/email charel@enviroafrica.co.za)

Dear Mr Bruwer

16/3/1/1/E2/14/2026/13: PROPOSED UPGRADE OF THE PIET SE BOS AND GROTTO BEACH AREA, HERMANUS

The notification of the Municipality on 12 September 2014 and our previous correspondence refer.

Firstly, we would like to underline our objection to Alternatives 1 or 2 (non-preferred). These alternatives would have a long-lasting negative effect on the environment and the community of Hermanus.

Secondly, your Basic Assessment Report dated July 2014 has not explored as an alternative the option discussed at the public meeting of 18 January 2014 (and supported by the majority of attendees - refer to verbatim minutes) that the existing Dutchies site should be upgraded and extended to fulfil the function of a restaurant and that there was no need for a restaurant on the Old Nautilus site. The concerns raised included the construction of a building within 100 metered of the high water mark which based on good scientific reasons should make any new development on this side of the road no-go. In addition, various road and road safety options were also suggested which have not been addressed in this report. It is our opinion that these community proposals should be explored as alternatives rather than the current Alternatives 1 and 2 to which the public clearly objected.

When considering the development impact of such proposals the economic viability of having two restaurants in this location should also be considered. The trade has a strong seasonal nature and would create issues for the viability of both service providers. Hence our support for the proposal to rather upgrade the existing restaurant and support their success through appropriate improvements, as opposed to the creation of a new development site.

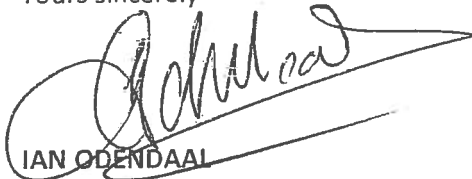
In addition, the proposed footprint on the Old Nautilus site is very large and apart from height, no other development constraints such as bulk or coverage have been set out on which the community can comment. This would allow the development of a fairly substantial building which could negatively affect viewlines from the road; views from Dutchies and the character of the area.

We are also concerned that apart from a slightly amended (still dated June 2012) site development plan there are no updated plans on which the community can provide input.

The changes to the Basic Assessment report as set out in the preceding paragraphs need to be included in order for the community to consider a fair reflection of their inputs and proposals. Our focus should be on the protection of this valuable but frail piece of coastline and therefore the Municipality and community should work together to ensure that no proposals detract from and further damage the environment of Hermanus.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter in writing to the author.

Yours sincerely



IAN ODENDAAL

For JEAN-MANDI TRUST

- Cc - Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
Attention: Directorate: Integrated Environmental Management (Region B)
Private Bag X9086
CAPE TOWN
8000
Fax 021 483 4372
- Kai Albrecht
kha@kfa.co.za

EnviroAfrica

Environmental Planning and Impact Assessment Consultants
Omgewingsbeplanning en Impakbeoordeling Konsultante

62

6 March 2015

I&A Odendaal
8 Acacia Road
DURBANVILLE
7550

Dear I&A Odendaal

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Yours sincerely



Charel Bruwer Snr



overstrand conservation foundation, trading as
whale
COAST CONSERVATION
ensuring wonders never cease

⑦ Read
2/10

2014-10-02

ATTENTION: MR CHREL BRUWER Snr

EnviroAfrica
 PO Box 4
 Onrus River
 7201

Fax: 0865132141

Dear Sir

**AMENDED PROPOSED UPGRADE OF PIET SE BOS AND GROTTO BEACH AREA,
 ERF 4771 HERMANUS (DEA&DP Ref.No. 16/3/1/1E2/14/2026/13)**

Your letter dated 12 September 2014 and the attached Basic Assessment Report dated July 2014 refer.

Whale Coast Conservation supports in principle the recommendation for the rehabilitation of the wetland area and upgrading of the picnic area, mooted in Section E of the Basic Assessment Report (BAR), with reservations elaborated later in this letter. The development of a new restaurant on the footprint of the old Nautilus Restaurant is, however, not supported for the following reasons, which are elaborated on below:

- Continuing with the planning of the proposed restaurant in the knowledge that there is strong opposition to the development constitutes disrespectful disregard for strongly argued objections during the public participation process.
- The BAR takes as a given the need for the building of a restaurant and its proposed location. It offers no motivation for or justification of the development of a restaurant and provides no alternatives that don't include the proposed restaurant or for its location.
- There is no consideration given in the BAR to the impact of the proposed restaurant on the environment or to its obvious vulnerability to coastal attrition and storm surges or to the effects of climate change, despite the clear evidence that the existing Grotto beach infrastructure is being destroyed only 100m east of the location of the proposed restaurant.

1 Disrespect of Community Input

Municipal officials have continued to plan the development of the proposed restaurant following vigorous opposition to the proposal during the public participation meeting called by the municipality on 18th January 2014. This meeting was well attended by a broad cross-

TEL +27 28 316 2527 FAX 086 695 0046 CELL +27 72 185 5726

E-MAIL wcc@ocf.org.za WEBSITE www.whalecoastconservation.org.za

Green House, R43 (opposite Lynx Rd turn off to Vermont), Hermanus PO Box 1949 Hermanus South Africa 7200

PBO 18/11/13/4541 NPO 020-771





section of community representatives and the level of objection was clearly evident. Despite this, the municipal planning officials and politicians have seen fit to continue to plan the proposed development without explanation or any motivation of why this is considered to be in the public interest.

It was clearly proposed during the public participation meeting on 18th January that consideration should be given to improving the Dutchies Restaurant building to bring it up to an acceptable standard. Please explain why this alternative is not put forward as part of the BAR.

It is contended that the disregard shown for clearly expressed community input is disrespectful and that it constitutes inappropriate use of municipal office and authority. This disrespect for community input undermines the credibility of the public participation process conducted by the Overstrand Municipality and its consequences are that the consultation process is fatally flawed.

2 Need for the Proposed Restaurant

The development that is the subject of the BAR in question originated as a request from the community for the restoration the former wetland area that was at the Piet se Bos Picnic area and to improve the recreational area. This was embellished by the municipal planning department to include an elaborate amphitheatre and beach front restaurant and presented as a fully developed design as part of a basic environmental impact assessment prior to any public involvement or consultation with any of the proponents of the original idea. The planning department has exceeded its mandate.

At no stage in the design or public participation process has any evidence been offered by the municipality that there is any need for the embellishments made by the planning department. There has been no disclosure of the financial case for the proposed embellishments or of how the municipality intends to finance their development. The department concerned should be asked to explain why it without consultation extended its consideration beyond the scope of what was mooted by the community and be called to give account for the expenditure of public funds associated with the planning work that has been done on the embellishments.

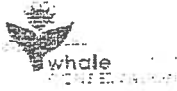
It is hereby suggested that the municipality disclose the documentation that

- justifies the decision to extend the proposal to include the design of the proposed amphitheatre and restaurant
- shows the need and return on investment for these proposals for the expenditure of public funds.

The lack of motivation of need for the proposed restaurant renders the BAR incompetent and fatally flawed.

3 Environmental Impact

The site for the proposed restaurant is in the littoral active zone and should be a no-go situation for all infrastructural development. Municipal planning and environmental services department officials have been intimately involved in the detailed discussions relating to the determination of the set-back line for development that has been run by the Provincial



Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning and are well aware that the site of the proposed restaurant is seaward of any reasonable set-back line. There is no justification given for ignoring this knowledge other than that the proposed location is on the footprint of a former building.

There is clear evidence of how storm surges and tidal action has eroded the beach and eastern parking area at Grotto Beach and it is common knowledge that the road and existing infrastructure along the beachfront are under threat of being eroded by future storm events. It is observed that the sand on the beach in front of the proposed restaurant site has been eroded in the past two years making the shore embankments more susceptible to storm surge damage.

Expert opinion is not offered with the BAR as to what are the possible consequences of erecting a building in the proposed location.

Given the foregoing, it is argued that the proposal to develop a restaurant on the former Nautilus Restaurant footprint constitutes recklessness and should not be allowed.

It is hereby recommended that in the public interest the Council should decide that the footprint of the former Nautilus Restaurant cannot be used for any building development now or in the future.

4 Wetland Restoration and Recreational Area Improvements

Whale Coast Conservation wholeheartedly supports the proposals to restore the wetland area on the northern and eastern sides of the Piet se Bos picnic area and the improvement of the picnic and recreational component of that area.

It is recommended, however, that the municipal planning department should transparently engage with the original proposers of the idea on what this redevelopment of the area should comprise of. In this respect, the Cliff Path Management Group and the Hermanus Botanical Society should be invited as partners in the development proposal to work towards defining how the wetland redevelopment can be accomplished.

The recreational area has historically been used by members of the Mount Pleasant and Hawston communities as a braai area. It is recommended that serious consideration should be given to retaining some braai facilities. This is an important aspect of the use of the area given that it is likely that existing braai facilities located at the eastern parking area, which is likely to be lost to sea erosion, are likely to be lost to those communities. In this respect, the municipality is advised to engage constructively with the communities that have historically used those braai and picnic facilities and to take serious note of their hitherto ignored concerns and interests.

The lack of meaningful public involvement in the planning of the future development of the wetland and recreational facilities renders the public participation process fatally flawed and it is recommended that the Council enters into meaningful consultation before proceeding further.



5 Conclusions

- 5.1 The BAR as presented is fatally flawed because the planning department has exceeded its mandate from the community without proper consultation and has ignored strongly expressed input during a well-attended and representative public participation meeting held on 18th January 2014.
- 5.2 The BAR is fatally flawed because it does not establish the need for the proposed restaurant or include alternatives that the community offered for building it.
- 5.3 Building any structure on the footprint of the former Nautilus Restaurant ignores known information about and clear evidence in the immediate vicinity of coastal erosion and the vulnerability of municipal infrastructure to storm surge and tidal damage. This is reckless and the proposal should be scrapped.
- 5.4 The design process has not been transparent or engaged with community interest groups, including the originators of the development idea or historically disadvantaged communities that have traditionally used the recreational facilities that are proposed to be removed. This renders the participation process fatally flawed and it is recommended that meaningful public engagement should be used to rework the plan.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of this comment and include its content into the record.

Yours faithfully

Rob Fryer
Manager

(7a)

EnviroAfrica

Environmental Planning and Impact Assessment Consultants
Omgewingsbeplanning en Impakbeoordeling Konsultante

6 March 2015

Mr R Fryer
P O Box 1949
HERMANUS
7200

Dear Mr Fryer

16/3/1/1/E2/14/13: UPGRADING OF THE PIET SE BOS EN GROTTO-BEACH AREA, HERMANUS

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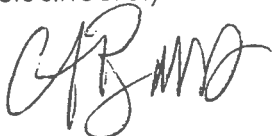
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Also note that the statement that historically disadvantaged communities will have their facilities reduced is totally incorrect. In fact one of the objectives is to make the area more accessible to them.

Yours sincerely

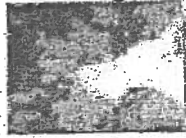


Charel Bruwer Snr

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Cell: 0828050190

CK 2007043835/23
VAT No 4380237091

Charel Bruwer Snr
Charel Bruwer Jnr
Bernard de Witt



8 Received 10/10

EDEN COURT TRUST

OASIS HOUSE · 96 UPPER ROODEBLOEM ROAD · UNIVERSITY ESTATE · 7925 · SOUTH AFRICA
 P.O. BOX 1217 · CAPE TOWN · 8000 · SOUTH AFRICA
 TEL: 27-21-413 7860 · FAX: 27-21-413 7915 · EMAIL: info@oasisrescent.com · WEBSITE: www.oasisrescent.com

Our ref: GRO\Grotto Beach
 Your ref:

Date: 10 October 2014

ENVIROAFRICA

PO Box 4
 Onrus River
 7201

VIA EMAIL: charel@enviroafrica.co.za

Dear Sir

AMENDED PROPOSED UPGRADE OF PIET SE BOS AND GROTTA BEACH AREA, ERF 4771, HERMANUS

1. The above matter and your amended application forwarded to us on 12 September 2014 refer.
2. We have taken note of your amended proposal and your "preferred alternative"; however, have noted that you have not considered **all possible alternatives** before arriving at your proposed preferred alternative.
3. As per your report your considered alternatives are the following:
 - 3.1. The upgrade consisting of the construction of the amphitheatre and restaurant area coupled with the re-instatement of a portion of the original wetland and modified outlet structure around a section of the perimeter of the development footprint (alternative A1 – non-preferred);
 - 3.2. The upgrade consisting of the construction of the amphitheatre and restaurant area coupled without the re-instatement of a portion of the original wetland and modified outlet structure around a section of the perimeter of the development footprint (alternative A2 – non-preferred);
 - 3.3. The re-instatement of a portion of the original wetland and modified outlet structure around a section of the perimeter of the development footprint that will consist of the upgrade of the picnic and braai area as well as the construction of the single storey restaurant on the old Nautilus site footprint (alternative A3 – preferred);
 - 3.4. The No-Go option, in terms whereof the wetland area will not be reinstated and the footprint of the Old Nautilus restaurant will remain an open base, and the area will not be upgraded to aesthetically to a more pleasing area than it presently is.
4. Your preferred option is option A3 (paragraph 3.3 above) and your basis for arguing this is that the amphitheatre (set in A1 and A2) was vehemently opposed and the "No-Go option" will not present "any of the positive social, economic or environmental impacts associated with the proposed preferred alternative 3"; however, you have failed to consider **all possible alternatives**.
5. We submit that there is a 4th alternative, which would have "the positive social, economic or environmental impacts associated with the proposed preferred alternative 3", and possibly have a

greater benefit than A3. The 4th alternative is to re-instate a portion of the original wetland and modified outlet structure around a section of the perimeter of the development footprint that will consist of the upgrade of the picnic and braai area and to include the current footprint of the old Nautilus restaurant into the improved natural area.

6. We submit that there is no need to proceed with any construction of any restaurant on the old Nautilus site footprint, whether it is multi-storey or single storey. You have conceded in your application that A3 will result in "additional noise impacts that are associated with the enhanced use of the upgraded public area and the catering for an increased and changing tourism experience". It is clear that there has been no real attempt to mitigate this impact in your proposal, as you have disingenuously associated the potential increased noise impacts to the "mass public use of the picnic and braai area", but have failed to deal with the actual catalyst for the increased noise being the proposed restaurant.
7. You are correct in your submission in section 8 dealing with the Socio-Economic aspects of the proposed development area in that the "Grotto Beach area is (sic) very popular public recreational area for both local residents and visitors and a major attraction for tourists who use this extensively as a recreational area ... The picnic area is also a popular day venue and braai area for historically disadvantaged communities" (our emphasis).
8. We are in agreement that the "current wetland system is dysfunctional and does not ensure proper filtering of the wetland drainage water discharged over the beach". We are also in agreement that any upgrade to any ecosystem which results in the improved "ecological functioning of the system" needs to be supported, especially where the discharge is occurring onto a Blue Flag Beach. Finally, we are also in agreement that any improvement or upgrade of the existing picnic and braai area and amenities, can only be beneficial to growing tourism in the area. However, we cannot support any proposal which piggy-backs on this altruistic ideal, to achieve a purely financial objective, and which detracts from and reduces the actual benefit of the proposed upgrades.
9. Currently, access to the picnic and braai area is controlled through a boom (which you correctly state in your proposal) and is used during the day light hours. Therefore any noise which does exist, reaches a peak during these hours and does not extend into the evening, and is centred around these areas. To now promote the construction of a restaurant which "can be rented out to a [private] restaurateur", will of necessity mean that the number of people that will be frequenting the area will increase (as it will no longer be limited to merely those who wish to use the picnic and braai facilities) and the area of noise will be spread over a wider area (as the restaurant will now be included) and over a longer period of time (as the restaurant will want to benefit from night time trade).
10. You have not seriously considered all the alternative options, our option 4 is more than realistic and negates all the negative points you have raised with regard to the "No-Go option", without any impact associated with the building of the proposed restaurant:
 - 10.1. The wetland area will be re-instated;
 - 10.2. The footprint of the old Nautilus restaurant can be incorporated into the improved natural area;
 - 10.3. The area will become more aesthetically pleasing than it currently is;
 - 10.4. It will make the area usable as an improved picnic and braai area;
 - 10.5. It will enhance the other community and tourist recreational uses for the area; and
 - 10.6. It will be possible for an additional income to be generated for the Overstrand Municipality from seasonal entrance fees to help offset the costs of maintaining the Blue Flag Beach.

11. Therefore your application is defective and clearly prepared in a manner to motivate a pre-agreed intention to build a restaurant, without taking into account the true nature and impact of the proposed development. There is another alternative, it is a sensible alternative, and an alternative we would support, and which must be considered and presented.
12. It is for this reason that we are required to object to your entire application and are unable to support any of the proposals.
13. Accordingly you are required to again note our objection and confirm our status as an interested and affected party.

Regards



Glenn Rooseboom

1477

EnviroAfrica

Environmental Planning and Impact Assessment Consultants
 Omgewingsbeplanning en Impakbeoordeling Konsultante

89

6 March 2015

Mr G Rooseboom
 P O Box 1217
 CAPE TOWN
 8000

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The NEMA process makes provision for application for development within 100 metres of the high water mark. The footprint of the building will not be larger than the total previous footprint.

The beach has lots of open spaces and the development of the restaurant has been referred to the Executive Committee of the Overstrand Municipality for their consideration and opinion.

The building was designed by a professional architect and it must be noted that opinions differ.

Exco will decide on the future of Dutchies as I understand that it does not have toilet facilities. The municipality is keen to have a decent restaurant on their Blue Flag Beach.

The diversion of the road around Dutchies was investigated and found not to be a viable and realistic option as there are sewage infrastructures and a pump station in the gap between Dutchies and the milkwood forest to the east.

Yours sincerely



Charel Bruwer Snr

P O Box 4
 ONRUS RIVER 7201
 Tel: (028) 3162888
 Fax: 0865132141
 Cell: 0828050190

CK 2007043835/23
 VAT No 4380237091

Charel Bruwer Snr
 Charel Bruwer Jnr
 Bernard de Witt

⑨ Received 14/10

Charel Bruwer

From: Natasha Curry [natashacurry@telkomsa.net]
Sent: 13 October 2014 10:16 AM
To: charel@enviroafrica.co.za
Cc: simondpt@hotmail.com; David.Curry@investecmail.com; Stuart Elliot; Liz Curry
Subject: Amended proposals for Piet se Bos and Grotto Beach area

To whom it may concern,

As a regular visitor to Grotto Beach with my family, I echo the concerns of Mr Pickstone-Taylor listed below:

I think points (1) and (3) are particularly valid, i.e. protecting the environment rather than repeating the past mistake of building too close to the high-tide mark and re-routing the road behind Dutchies to create a safe, pedestrianised beachfront area.

Kind regards

Natasha Curry
 (Grotto Cottage)

From: Simon Pickstone-Taylor [mailto:simondpt@hotmail.com]
Sent: 09 October 2014 10:18
Subject: Grotto Beach Action Group - respinde to amended proposals for Piet se Bos and Grotto Beach area

Dear fellow Residents,

There might well be differing opinions amongst us on the proposed new 1 story restaurant building on the old Nautilus site. However I wish to make you all aware of the fact that they are not commenting on the revised proposal on our behalf other than on the Amphitheatre option and encourage you all to send in comments (e-mail written comments are being allowed this time around) to: charel@enviroafrica.co.za

My personal concern is that so much time and energy was focused on the proposed Ampitheatre at the 18th January 2014 meeting, that very little time was spent discussing the proposed restaurant option. There were certain good points, relating to the proposed new restaurant on the Old Nautilus site, made at the meeting by us which have been completely left out of the option 3, which seems to be going ahead. I wish to briefly give my view on the new restaurants, so that if any of you agree with me, you might also e-mail your written respond to Bruwer before the dead line.

The following points were made at the 18th January 2014 meeting:

1.) There is now a South African law in place making it illegal to build any structures within 100 meters of the High tide mark, this is to protect the fragile coastal environment. Thus building on the site of the old Nautilus would be illegal. There is a legal loop hole saying that if there was a building before a certain date there, a new one can be rebuild.

If we support protecting the environment, why are we supporting using a legal loop hole to continue to damage the environment on Grotto beach, rather than rehabilitating the site of the old Nautilus restaurant with indigenous plants etc. and rather supporting the expansion of the present Dutchies restaurant building, which is further from the beach? There are very good scientific reasons why building within 100 meters of the High tide mark is damaging, why are we not using this as an opportunity to not repeat past mistakes based on ignorance?

2.) The proposed new restaurant appears to cover a very large area, bigger than the area built on by the previous Nautilus and Goue Vissie before it. It is out of keeping with the present beach we enjoy (looks like an airport building).

3.) The road running in front of Dutchies is dangerous to children and pedestrians enjoying the beach area: The road course should be changed and taken behind Dutchies on the mountain side and then come round it on the lagoon side to join the existing road to the lagoon. This would allow Dutchies to extend their seating forward towards the sea (popular for views etc.) and make it much safer for pedestrians. It would also force cars coming down the hill to slow down more.

4.) The present Dutchies restaurant could be expanded towards the mountain and seating area towards the sea, making a new restaurant building unnecessary.

My view is that the present owners of Dutchies business have done a great job in upgrading their food and services and deserve to be rewarded by allowing expansion of their premises. Their building was designed as a shop. It is not legally fit for a restaurant to the best of my knowledge. If we have two restaurants on the beach, one is likely to go bust due to the seasonal nature of Voelklip customers.

Thank you for reading this e-mail and I encourage you all to also send your written response to the proposals to Bruwer before the deadline. It might be the last opportunity you have to prevent permanent mistakes from being made to the area.

Best wishes,

Simon (Pickstone-Taylor)
(La Gratitude Villa)

EnviroAfrica

Environmental Planning and Impact Assessment Consultants
Omgewingsbeplanning en Impakbeoordeling Konsultante

9a

6 March 2015

Ms Natasha Curry
Grotto Cottage
HERMANUS
7200

Dear Ms Curry

16/3/17/1/E2/14/13: UPGRADING OF THE PIET SE BOS EN GROTTO BEACH AREA, HERMANUS

Your communication dated 13 October 2014 with regard to the abovementioned project refers.

1-The Overstrand Municipality have indicated that they are not considering the construction of an amphitheatre any more and it is also indicated as a non-preferred option in the revised final BAR. Please note that we are not allowed to remove this non preferred option from the BAR as it forms part of the documentation and options considered. If you require more clarity on this issue please consult with officials from the provincial department of Environmental Affairs and Development planning.

2-The NEMA process makes provision for application for development within 100 metres of the high water mark. The footprint of the building will not be larger than the total previous footprint. There is no loophole being used as the application is subjected to environmental assessment.

3-The development of the restaurant has been referred to the Executive Committee of the Overstrand Municipality for their consideration and opinion as a decision has to be taken on the issue of a restaurant for the Blue Flag beach with adequate toilets

4- The diversion of the road around Dutchies was investigated and found not to be a viable and realistic option as there is sewage infrastructure and a sewage pump station in the gap between Dutchies and the milkwood forest to the east. According to the municipality this infrastructure cannot be moved elsewhere.

Yours sincerely

Charel Bruwer Snr

P O Box 4
ONRUS RIVER 7201
Tel: (028) 3162888
Fax: 0865132141
Cell: 0828050190

CK 2007043835/23
VAT No 4380237091

Charel Bruwer Snr
Charel Bruwer Jnr
Bernard de Witt

Charel Bruwer

From: Elbe van Heerden [Elbe.vanheerden@hermanustimes.co.za]
Sent: 10 October 2014 12:10 PM
To: charel@enviroafrica.co.za
Subject: Feedback for: Grotto Beach

Good day-Mr Bruwer,

I am working on an update for the proposed upgrades at Grotto Beach as today is the last day for public comment.

Would you be able to let me know how many interested and affected parties responded to the amended basic assessment report?

Will we be able to access the responses received?

What is the next step in the process?

Can we give a date for as to when the comments will be available? Or any upcoming public participation meetings or pending decisions?

I am sure you will be flooded with comments today, so I will follow up on Monday? We will need the information by Tuesday at 11:00 at the latest for next week's edition.

Kind regards,

Elbé van Heerden
Journalist/Joernalis
Hermanus Times

T: 028 312 3717

F: 028 312 4316

C: 072 386 0594

E: elbe.vanheerden@hermanustimes.co.za

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Hierdie e-pos en sy inhoud is onderhewig aan 'n regskenninggewing oor elektroniese pos wat gelees kan word by <http://www.naspers.com/afrikaans/voorbehoud.php> 'n Afskrif kan aangevra word by csc@optinet.net

Charel Bruwer

From: alec dose [alecd@worldonline.co.za]
Sent: 08 October 2014 06:00 PM
To: charel@enviroafrica.co.za
Subject: GROTTO BEACH PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Dear Sirs

As the owner of a house in Hermanus I was amazed to read in the Hemanus Times that above are still on the table.

The wetland and picnic area was ruined by the Municipality some years ago by turning it into a parking area. This should be reversed and the wetland/picnic area restored as far as possible.

The site, surrounded by residences is not suitable for an amphitheatre and there is an existing small restaurant there which is adequate for the needs of beachgoers. There are plenty of restaurants of all types in Hermanus and a further one is not needed. One must assume the Municipality is just trying to make money.

A G DOSE
32 Erica St
ONRUST
SOUTH AFRICA

PH: 021 531 6264 or 082 902 5708

Charel Bruwer

From: Catherine Friedlander [cmfriedlander@gmail.com]
Sent: 10 October 2014 08:50 AM
To: charel@enviroafrica.co.za
Subject: Piet se Bos

Categories: Red Category

To whom it may concern:

As part owner of 240 11th Street, Voelklip, I wish to comment on the above-mentioned proposed development as follows:

- 1) I sincerely hope that the amphitheatre issue has now been put to bed and that it will not be snuck into the development when no one is looking.
- 2) I do not see any need for a restaurant on the old Nuatilus site, the existing Dutchies is more than sufficient for our needs and could be enlarged in its present position should it be felt that a larger facility is required. Building another (unattractive) restaurant on the flood line is not only unwise but superfluous to our needs and economically threatening to the owners of Dutchies.
- 3) I like the idea of moving the road, it makes sense both from a safety point of view as well as aesthetically.

My thanks to those who assisted in the protest and an emphatic plea to the developers to take heed that we do NOT want Grotto Beach and environs ruined by over development!!

Catherine Friedlander.

EnviroAfrica

Environmental Planning and Impact Assessment Consultants
Omgewingsbeplanning en Impakbeoordeling Konsultante

129

6 March 2015

Ms C Friedlander

HERMANUS
7200

Dear Ms Friedlander

16/3/1/1/E2/14/13: UPGRADING OF THE PIET SE BOS EN GROTTO BEACH AREA, HERMANUS

Your communication dated 13 October 2014 with regard to the abovementioned project refers.

1-The Overstrand Municipality have indicated that they are not considering the construction of an amphitheatre any more and it is also indicated as a non-preferred option in the revised final BAR. Please note that we are not allowed to remove this non preferred option from the BAR as it forms part of the documentation and options considered. If you require more clarity on this issue please consult with officials from the provincial department of Environmental Affairs and Development planning.

2-The NEMA process makes provision for application for development within 100 metres of the high water mark. The footprint of the building will not be larger than the total previous footprint. There is no loophole being used as the application is subjected to environmental assessment.

3-The development of the restaurant has been referred to the Executive Committee of the Overstrand Municipality for their consideration and opinion as a decision has to be taken on the issue of a restaurant for the Blue Flag beach with adequate toilets

4- The diversion of the road around Dutchies was investigated and found not to be a viable and realistic option as there is sewage infrastructure and a sewage pump station in the gap between Dutchies and the milkwood forest to the east. According to the municipality this infrastructure cannot be moved elsewhere.

Yours sincerely



Charel Bruwer Snr

Charel Bruwer

From: John Heyns [jheyns@hermanus.co.za]
Sent: 08 October 2014 06:39 PM
To: charel@enviroafrica.co.za
Cc: nbotha-guthrie@overstrand.gov.za; karibrice@hermanus.co.za; smuller@overstrand.gov.za; cfo@overstrand.gov.za; cgroenewald@overstrand.gov.za
Subject: Grotto Beach Development - Fruitless and Wasteful Expenditure?

Dear Mr Bruwer,

As an Interested and Affected Party I have read through the amended version of the BAR, attached to your covering letter dated 12 September 2014.

I have two comments to make.

- 1) No mention is made of some excellent suggestions that were proposed during the Public Participation Meeting of 18 January 2014. In particular suggestions were made around an upgrade to Dutchies rather than build another restaurant on the site of the previous Nautilus restaurant. In brief the suggestions included a redirection of the road around the back of Dutchies and grassing the area between Dutchies and the beach, as well as upgrading Dutchies. Why is no mention made of this very sensible, and probably more affordable, suggestion?
- 2) In Section F.1.c of the document it is stated that the expected yearly income that will be generated as a result of the activity (presumably the proposed new restaurant) is ~R450000-00. Is this wishful thinking, or is it backed by a realistic financial analysis?

This entire exercise to date is characterised by unnecessary architectural work and unacceptable ideas. This results from a failure by the municipality to properly engage the ratepayers in the planning, and constitutes fruitless and wasteful expenditure. The upgrade of the wetland has some merit, but any other further expenditure should be very carefully considered.

Yours sincerely,

J Heyns

1486

EnviroAfrica

Environmental Planning and Impact Assessment Consultants
Omgewingsbeplanning en Impakbeoordeling Konsultante

(13a)

6 March 2015

Mr C J Heyns
P.O Box 1077
HERMANUS
7200

Dear Mr Heyns

16/3/1/1/E2/14/13: UPGRADING OF THE PIET SE BOS EN GROTTO-BEACH AREA, HERMANUS

Your communication dated 8 October 2014 with regard to the abovementioned project refers.

1-The Overstrand Municipality have indicated that they are not considering the construction of an amphitheatre any more and it is also indicated as a non-preferred option in the revised final BAR. Please note that we are not allowed to remove this non preferred option from the BAR as it forms part of the documentation and options considered. If you require more clarity on this issue please consult with officials from the provincial department of Environmental Affairs and Development planning.

2-The NEMA process makes provision for application for development within 100 metres of the high water mark. The footprint of the building will not be larger than the total previous footprint. There is no loophole being used as the application is subjected to environmental assessment.

3-The development of the restaurant has been referred to the Executive Committee of the Overstrand Municipality for their consideration and opinion as a decision has to be taken on the issue of a restaurant for the Blue Flag beach with adequate toilets

4- The diversion of the road around Dutchies was investigated and found not to be a viable and realistic option as there is sewage infrastructure and a sewage pump station in the gap between Dutchies and the milkwood forest to the east. According to the municipality this infrastructure cannot be moved elsewhere.

Yours sincerely

Charel Bruwer Snr

P O Box 4
ONRUS RIVER 7201
Tel: (028) 3162888
Fax: 0865132141
Cell: 0828050190

CK 2007043835/23
VAT No 4380237091

Charel Bruwer Snr
Charel Bruwer Jnr
Bernard de Witt

Charel Bruwer

From: Bob Knight [bob@propfintrust.co.za]
Sent: 09 October 2014 04:21 PM
To: charel@enviroafrica.co.za
Subject: Grotto-Beach matters

Dear Sir

I wish to record the following objection :

1. The proposal needs to totally exclude the possibility that an amphitheatre will ever be built, or any other such structure to house crowds and music.
2. The restaurant proposal is ridiculous ly large. The current Dutchies closes for Winter because they cannot sustain. Their premises needs to be upgraded and enlarged . And we do not need a white elephant build across the road on a technicality. One thing is for sure.....hermanus people will not support it, so it will be doomed from the start.

Yours.

Mr C R H KNIGHT (CA) SA
Trustee The Bishoplea Trust
214 10th Street

EnviroAfrica

Environmental Planning and Impact Assessment Consultants
Omgewingsbeplanning en Impakbeoordeling Konsultante

149

6 March 2015

Mr Knight

Dear Mr Knight

T6/3/1/1/E2/14/13: UPGRADING OF THE PIET SE BOS EN GROTTO-BEACH AREA, HERMANUS

Your communication dated 9 October 2014 with regard to the abovementioned project refers.

1-The Overstrand Municipality have indicated that they are not considering the construction of an amphitheatre any more and it is also indicated as a non-preferred option in the revised final BAR. Please note that we are not allowed to remove this non preferred option from the BAR as it forms part of the documentation and options considered. If you require more clarity on this issue please consult with officials from the provincial department of Environmental Affairs and Development planning.

2-The NEMA process makes provision for application for development within 100 metres of the high water mark. The footprint of the building will not be larger than the total previous footprint. There is no loophole being used as the application is subjected to environmental assessment.

3-The development of the restaurant has been referred to the Executive Committee of the Overstrand Municipality for their consideration and opinion as a decision has to be taken on the issue of a restaurant for the Blue Flag beach with adequate toilets

Yours sincerely

Charel Bruwer Snr

Charel Bruwer

From: mmk@mweb.co.za
Sent: 10 October 2014 01:49 PM
To: charel@enviroafrica.co.za
Subject: Response to proposal to develop erf 4771, Hermanus (Piet se Bos and Grotto Beach) as an I & AP

Dear Mr Bruwer

We wish to formally note our objections to the final Basic Assessment Report (BAR) of September 2014 on the proposed development at Piet se Bos and Grotto Beach in Hermanus.

First, while you have noted the overwhelmingly negative response to the erection of an amphitheatre on the present picnic and braai site at Piet se Bos, both in the written submissions from I & APs and at the public meeting held in Hermanus on 18 January 2014, we are dismayed to see that it still remains a possibility in two of the alternatives proposed in the BAR.

May we remind you that the officials of the Hermanus Municipality present at the meeting of 18 January 2014 agreed that the construction of an amphitheatre at Piet se Bos would no longer be considered an option.

We would like to reiterate our objections to the construction of an amphitheatre at Piet se Bos as follows:

1) The picnic and braai site has traditionally been used by especially the financially disadvantaged people of Hermanus and surrounds. As the Hermanus municipality has closed down the caravan park and the other picnic site on Grotto Beach further to the east has become dangerously unstable due to the westward relocation of the lagoon estuary undermining the infill on which that picnic area has been built, the construction of an amphitheatre at the Piet se Bos braai site would remove yet another affordable municipal outdoor entertainment option in Hermanus.

2) No research has been provided to show to what viable financial use such an amphitheatre so close to the sea (barely 150 meters away) could be put. An open amphitheatre will only be used during the summer months. The noise from the sea as well as the prevailing summer south-east wind means that no traditional stage productions, nor subtle classical music performances will be heard. The responses to Section F(6) (b) under the heading Potential Noise Impacts are vague to say the least. What does the 'change in the public use to the area' noted under the heading Nature of Impact refer to? The only change in the public use of the area would be if an amphitheatre is erected, as there is already an existing restaurant "Dutchies" and an existing braai and picnic area. In the same section under the heading Proposed Mitigation it is proposed that the noise levels will be managed by proper marketing(!) and management. What does this management entail?

As the Hermanus Municipality is proposing to incorporate Piet se Bos into the existing Fernkloof Botanical Reserve framework, it seems far more appropriate to rehabilitate the wetland area and incorporate a fynbos rehabilitation project in the present picnic and braai area when renovating that facility for the enjoyment of all, than erecting a largely unusable amphitheatre with dubious financial prospects.

We object to the proposed construction of a restaurant on the 'footprint' of the old Nautilus restaurant for the following reasons:

- 1) No economic feasibility study on the viability of a second restaurant on Grotto Beach has ever been made public. In Section F (1) (c) of the BAR covering the socio-economic aspects of the proposed development income figures of R700 000-00 and R450 000-00 are noted. How were these figures arrived at? The nature of tourism in Hermanus is largely seasonal and during the offpeak tourist periods, these restaurants on Grotto Beach far out of town are not favourably located for passing trade.
- 2) To use the 'footprint' of the old Nautilus restaurant which was burnt down more than twenty years ago as a viable position for a new restaurant is an ecologically irresponsible action and disingenuous to say the least. As it has in the past, the structure and extent of Grotto Beach is again changing due to the influence of the westward movement of the Lagoon estuary which as mentioned above has undermined the only other picnic area adjacent to Grotto Beach. The beach is again in a state of flux, and it seems as though the restaurant is planned in an area which is below the High Water Mark. I would suggest that at the very least, an EIA should have been done on the proposed restaurant site and attached to this and the previous BAR.
- 3) The plan for the proposed restaurant attached to this BAR is new. It replaces the plan previously made public and discussed at the public meeting of 18 January 2014. It has never been discussed. The 'footprint' of the restaurant in the annexure to the BAR far exceeds the 'footprint' of the old Nautilus. This aspect should also be up for public discussion and possible legal scrutiny.
- 3) At the public meeting of 18 January 2014, several alternative proposals were made to the erection of a second restaurant. The upgrading of "Dutchies" which has at present minimal legally required restaurant facilities (it was not designed as a restaurant but as a shop) was proposed, as was rerouting the beach road to make the picnic facility and "Dutchies" safer for pedestrian use. Why have these proposals been ignored in this BAR?

We look forward to a response to our objections.

Yours

Marius and Karen Kruger

189 Tenth Street

Voelklip, Hermanus