



Umthombo Fair View Spring Project

Site meeting held with Afri-Coast Engineering, Makana Municipality & Spring sub-committee on Wednesday 9 September 2009 at 14h30

1. Present:

Mr Kevin Bates (Makana Municipality), Mrs Angela Barberton (KCC), Mr Thando Bili (Afri-Coast Engineers), Ms Nikki Köhly (KCC, minutes), Mr Len Kruiskamp (Fairewood Nature Reserve), Mr Tsepang Setipa (Afri-Coast Engineers), Prof Dominic Thorburn (GRA), Clr Julie Wells.

Apologies: Dr Jim Cambray (KCC), Prof Fred Ellery (Environmental Science).

2. Makana Greening Project:

Clr Wells introduced the Mr Bili and Mr Setipa of Afri-Coast Engineers, and noted that the spring upgrade was one of 4 sites in Grahamstown covered by the DEAT Makana Greening Project grant.

3. Spring upgrade plans:

Mr Bili summarised the main changes that would be made at the spring:

3.1 Water pipe: To be re-routed under R67 road to the side facing Fairewood Nature Reserve, and original area covered over and revegetated.

3.2 Parking area: To be surfaced appropriately and parking bays created.

3.3 Entrance & exit: One entrance/exit at northern end, where road visibility (and hence safety) is best.

3.4 Revegetation: Indigenous vegetation to be planted to stabilise banks of parking zone. *KCC to advise on species.*

3.5 Gabion baskets: To be placed alongside road where water pipe will emerge.

3.6 Pathway & steps: To lead from parking area down to water pipe. If possible, create accessible route (wheelchairs, prams, etc).

3.7 Deck: Large deck to be constructed in front of water pipe, with space underneath for water to flow. *Recommend use Polytimber rather than wood.*

3.8 Outflow to Fairewood: Water pipe outflow to be channelled back into stream.

3.9 Waste bins: To be placed appropriately.

4 Additional recommendations & comments:

4.1 Waterless toilet: To be placed at northern end of parking area.

4.2 Pissaire: To be included for male users.

4.3 Waste management: Makana Municipality to service waste bins on a regular basis. Disposable & recyclable waste bins to be placed in pairs on deck and in parking area.

4.4 Educational signage: To be erected on deck and in parking area. Provide history of the spring, value of water resources, rationale of spring upgrade, etc, in English & Xhosa.

4.5 Armco barrier: To be erected alongside parking area, and also to block off old site.

4.6 Site caretaker: Employment of a site caretaker could limit misuse of the site.

4.7 Pond: Pond created below outflow, on Fairewood Nature Reserve side of fence, would provide attractive view for spring visitors, including birds and animals (educational potential).

4.8 IAP removal: Removal of invasive alien plants on north side of road, including Fairewood Nature Reserve would create employment and develop skills. *KCC advise on species.*

4.9 Communications: Progress updates via Afri-Coast newsletter, as well as current methods (emails, website, KCC meetings).

5 Way forward:

5.1 Consultations: No further consultations are necessary, as the spring project has been widely publicised over the past few years.

5.2 Project boards: To be placed at site, providing information about upgrade and where to find more information.

5.3 Educational signage: KCC to provide input regarding content.

5.4 Technical information: Ms Köhly to send Mr Bili the KCC spring upgrade proposal, list of IAP species, list of recommended indigenous plant species, and contact information for Polytimber and waterless sanitation suppliers.

6 Closure:

Ms Wells closed the meeting at 15h30.

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