



DOCRRRA CHAIRMAN'S REPORT ON 2020 / 2021

Welcome to the *21st^h Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Dolphin Coast Residents and Ratepayers Association (DOCRRRA)*.

It is my privilege to present this report for DOCRRRA, for the 2020/21 financial year ending in February 2021.

At our last successful AGM, there were 10 committee members elected. This followed with the establishment of various subcommittees. We remain grateful to Simbithi for their continued support and facilitating of our in-person meetings. Committee meetings take place every two weeks, via Zoom, and Council and other KDM meetings, via MS Teams. Membership remained stable during the year, and we thank our loyal, as well as new supporters.

During the year, DOCRRRA dramatically stepped up its digital presence. This is evident in our totally renewed website and blogging service, a Facebook page, an Instagram, and Twitter presence, as well as a Zoom account. There has been much activity on these and DOCRRRA's exposure was enhanced. Sadly, the KwaDukuza Municipality (KDM) took some time before their officials became available on similar networks.

Our relationship and cooperation with the Organization Undoing Tax Abuse (OUTA) was further strengthened, as they closely follow our attempts with great interests and support.

During the year we received great support from our local newspaper, the North Coast Courier, as well as from our local radio station, 88FM. Recently we were also invited to be interviewed on a new local Ballito TV morning show.

DOCRRRA's policy to engage and cooperate with civic organizations on the Dolphin Coast continued with the engagements with the Ballito UIP, various Ward Councillors and committees, both the Salt Rock and Ballito Neighbourhood Watches, the Courier Orphan Fund, and The Ilembe Chamber of Commerce.

KDM

Within 27 days of the new year, Covid-19 hit us and various levels of Lockdown occurred for the rest of the year. This proved most challenging in liaising with our Municipality.

The DOCRRRA team scrutinized the Annual Report and Annual Financial Statements for the 2018/19 year and spent numerous hours preparing a submission on the draft budget for 2020/21. This culminated in a meeting with the senior executives of KDM in June. Some concessions were negotiated on the revised austerity budget. During the information sharing session, the relationship bonds with KDM were strengthened.



The KwaDukuza Concerned Residents group became very active and submitted a petition on the budget to KDM. Various attempts, including a dedicated meeting between DOCRRA and representatives of the group, to agree a cooperation agreement, was unfortunately not successful.

DOCRRA was again officially recognized by KDM as the residents' representative body for the "South" of KwaDukuza. All KDM stakeholder communiques are shared with DOCRRA. It is worth mentioning that all the work DOCRRA does on the KDM finances, property rates and budgets and more, is to the benefit of all residents in KwaDukuza. DOCRRA endeavors to attend all stakeholder meetings arranged by KDM on the Dolphin Coast.

Some successes included:

- the delay, and hopefully halting, of the sale of public open space at Townsend Park. The detailed legal opinion on the sale of public open space and the procedures not followed, clearly made an impact.
- The challenge on using bond funding for the purchase of office space for KDM.
- We were instrumental with providing bylaw information to authorities so they could ensure safety and security initiative program for keeping the beaches under control.
- Due to various meetings and interactions with KDM's Parks and recreation, Electricity and Civils departments, the very low base levels of service, were improved by 11%.
- By attending monthly Council meetings, much valuable information could be shared with our members.

DOCRRA Membership and Finances

A clear indication from our Annual Financial Statements reflects membership income growth with nearly 40%. This resulted in a R95 000 surplus, bolstering our reserves to just under R350 000.

Community Activities

During strict Lockdown, DOCRRA played a key and active role in the very successful KZN homemade soup initiative for those in need in and adjacent to the Dolphin Coast. When this came to an end in August 2020, the establishment of the Dolphin Coast Outreach (DCO), which falls under the DOCRRA banner, extended and expanded this initiative. Our Dolphin Coast Community supports us with on average 2000 liters of Soup per month, clothes, children's toys, books, baby starter packs, dry goods and loads of written off hotel linen. The 10 charities who receive this support are most grateful, and DOCRRA is pleased to be able to make a difference to those in need in our community.

DOCRRA also played an active role representing our community on the Estuary regeneration initiative, the long-anticipated Roads and Traffic study and influencing the KDM team on road, pothole and streetlight repairs and maintenance.



Supporting the Community

Thanks

I would like to thank our volunteer committee who spend many hours serving the community. To Flip our vice chairman who is our anchor, our former chairman Ken for his continued support on a range of issues, Deon our treasurer who keeps us balanced, Hans who ensures our safety, with Flip, (they both serve on ward committees as well as both neighbourhood watches), Penny who is always a fountain of information, Vanessa who makes us digitally wise, Mary who always brings another perspective, Gaby with her extensive community network, Don the professor for his wise counsel and Brian who joined us during the year who has become our KDM Finance guru. Lastly to Stephanie, our virtual and part time executive officer, a big thank you.

Regards,

Deon Viljoen

DOC RRA CHAIRMAN