

CHAIRMANS REPORT NOVEMBER 2021

Friends of Moreletakloof

Moreleta Kloof Natuurreseervaat



Friends of Moreleta Kloof (**FMK**)

Helios Street, Moreleta Park, Pretoria

WESSA Membership no: 1234925

Web site of Friends of Moreletakloof: www.moreletakloof.co.za

Facebook: Moreletakloof Nature Reserve

Mandate

The original Friends of Moreleta Kloof (FMK) legal entity was initiated in 1997 and registered as an Article 21 Company with Enterprise Number: M1997015983.

Due to changing requirements of the Friends Groups within the Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (**WESSA**) as well as the City of Tshwane (**CoT**) Nature Conservation Section, the management and legal structure of FMK had to be amended. As a result, it was decided to terminate the functioning of FMK as an Art 21 Company and to let the applicable registered Art 21 Company be de-registered at CIPC / CIPRO. This process is still in progress at CIPC / CIPRO.

The Friends of Moreletakloof is a member of WESSA, (membership number 1234925), to which all Friends groups must belong. The Friends of Moreletakloof is also registered at the City of Tshwane (CoT) as the Friends Group of Moreleta Kloof. A new constitution was drafted for FMK as a Friend under the direction of WESSA and approved during May 2018. FMK operates since then under the provisions and requirements of this new constitution as a Friend group under WESSA.

At the AGM of November 2017, several serving members (directors) resigned including the FMK Chairman, Mr Sarel van der Merwe.

The existing appointed accounting company for FMK was CMV for several years. During the 2017 AGM it was proposed that another person and different accounting company be appointed for the following time after the AGM of 2017. This proposal was approved at the AGM. The new appointed accounting person and related company supported the process wrt deregistration during 2018. The appointed accounting person then withdrew the support by early 2019. Unfortunately, the

documentation wrt above deregistration as well as the amendment of director's status at CIPC, got lost.

A new accounting person (Mr Leon Badenhorst) was appointed during late 2018 to support FMK and the process to compile the applicable Financial statements and auditing process, commenced.

Due to the delay of deregistering the Art 21 Company and a lack of support by a formal appointed person and related accounting company to support the completion of the applicable financial year's Financial statements, a formal AGM could not be conducted since 2018.

During 2021 the original accounting company (**CMV**) agreed to again support FMK with the accounting responsibilities and the formal audit of the FMK Financial statements. Thanks to hard work by Mr Leon Badenhorst, all the outstanding financial statements (2018 to 2021 Fin years) could be completed and approved by CMV and the current FMK directors (management committee).

The above explanation, and the related transition of legal entity, as well as the impact of Covid, delayed the process to formally function iaw the constitution of the new entity (WESSA Friends Group). This, fortunately, did not prevent Mrs Jeannie du Plessis and her dedicated team of voluntarily helpers to continue to do an excellent job with maintenance and support activities in the Moreleta Kloof Reserve.

Copies of the applicable management and legal documents such as Constitution, Minutes of meetings, and applicable financial information, are made available on the FMK's Facebook.

Election and / or re-election of the FMK Management Committee for the way forward, will take place at the AGM iaw the following guidelines of the new **FMK Constitution (WESSA Friends)**:

8 MANAGEMENT OF FRIENDS OF MORELETAKLOOF

8.1 *The management of the FMK shall be vested in a **Management Committee** [the "**Committee**"] which shall be elected every year, typically at the AGM.*

8.2 *The Committee shall have the power to do all things lawful to give effect to the aims and objectives of the FMK.*

8.3 *The Committee shall typically consist of;*

- a. Chairman, to be elected by the Committee;*
- b. Secretary;*
- c. Treasurer; and*
- d. One or more additional members, as may be required.*

Note: *The Committee will structure its management model (Committee) in accordance with prevailing requirements and will typically allocate portfolios (example marketing, projects) to appointed members. Some of the portfolios may be combined and/or allocated to an individual member.*

EVENTS 2018 – 2021

The following FMK activities and events depict just a high level summary for the period 2018 to 2021. Mrs Jeannie du Plessis will give a detailed feedback to the meeting at the AGM. Typical activities and events include:

Moreleta Kloof Spruit Clean-up
Bird Ringing
Walk with Kids form Pathways
Guided walks along the Moreletaspruit
General maintenance activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearing of invader plants • Clearing of overgrown areas. Team from Mainline Civil Engineering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening up and investigating sewerage pipelines. • Repairs by CoT Nature Conservation Team: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of Information Hut, toilet and related facilities
Tree Walk and Talk
Refer the FMK Facebook page for more information.

Projects (Currently and ongoing):

- Removing alien plants and trees from the Reserve:
This problem is being addressed. We have a few groups and committed volunteers at clean-up events, as well as students and school pupils working very hard to remove invader plants.
- Protection and maintenance of the Palisade Fence surrounding the Reserve:
We are actively seeking donors to help our partner, Nature Conservation, with the Maintenance and preservation of the palisade fence by means of a professional rust convertor. We have to date painted several hundred metres in Rutgers street. We still have a long way to go but, with the help of Nature Conservation and donations, we are confident that we will succeed.

Events (Currently and ongoing):

Jeannie is organizing regular events and outings to promote the Moreleta kloof and related FMK activities. This will be advertised at the FMK Information Den (close to the main gate) and also via the available communication facilities such as the FMK Facebook page.

Highlights

- Substantial progress to convert to the new legal entity (from Art 21 Company to Friend under WESSA).
- Restoring FMK's financial accounting and control.
- Active and dedicated support by volunteers working with Jeannie.

- The bird hide is functional and well used.
- Reduction of game in the Kloof addressed the overgrazing problem.
- Inspection and repair of sewerage lines (ongoing).
- Introduction of “Snapscan” as a new way to support FMK financial donations.
- Many exciting bird sightings ie.:
 - European Reed Wabblers
 - Buffspotted Flufftail
 - Swallow tailed Bee-eaters

Concerns

- General condition of the Palisade Fence is becoming a risk at specific areas.
- The occasional water leakages from the main reservoir in Rutgers street continues to be a point of concern that must be addressed as a matter of urgency. (It includes ensuring the required security of this strategical asset!).
- Forced entry through the Palisade Fence and wire fence at the reservoir area.
- Serious soil erosion (especially after heavy rains).
- The construction work at Rubenstein and Blouhaak regarding Fibre cable installations. (Damage by a building contractor to the palisade fence in Rutgers street in process to be addressed and repaired).
- Upgrade of main entrance and integration of facilities for guards.
- Lack of FMK membership and participation.
- Lack of FMK funds to support ongoing maintenance and support projects including maintenance of applicable tools and equipment.

Conclusion

Thanks to all the donors who contributed towards the upkeep of the fence as well as Johan Pieterse (CoT Nature Conservation) for repairing the fence on a regular basis. A big thank you to all who contributed time, money or labour towards the maintenance and caretaking of the kloof and the successes of the planned events. Thanks also to all the sponsors, students, and regular visitors to the Moreletakloof Nature Reserve.

Again, a special thanks to Jeannie and her loyal team of volunteers for their time and devotion spent on maintenance and conservation tasks, as well as for organizing various events throughout the year.



Andrew Meyer

Chairman FMK (Acting)

11 November 2021