



News Letter 20 August 2019

Pollution

A disturbing new trend seems to have developed of late on the Estate. Some residents and/or their guests are showing complete disrespect for the environment in which we stay. Litter is often found near the roads, simply thrown out of the vehicle, or is left behind when visiting the various dams or the bird hide. This not only poses a danger to wildlife ingesting it or being cut on the glass, but is also unsightly to anyone entering or staying on Raptors View.



Rubbish left at the bird hide at Guineafowl Dam



Waste picked up at Osprey Dam on 10th August

If anyone is seen discarding their rubbish anywhere in Raptors View, they will receive a minimum fine of R2000. Please report any offenders to the office immediately.

Feeding of wildlife

Monkeys etc

We are still receiving reports of wildlife, especially Vervet Monkeys, posing a risk to residents when looking for food. Some monkeys have become habituated to food being placed outside, even if only for the birds. They will not hesitate to attack humans if they feel threatened or want to access the food.



On two occasions we have also found oranges put out for the game to feed on. This will attract the monkeys and baboons and the animals may have to be destroyed if they become a problem. If you are doing the feeding, this will be on your conscience....

It is against the Homeowners Rules section 4.2 to feed any wildlife or birds on the Estate, and a fine of R2000 for a first offence will be imposed on anyone caught. Last winter we had animals die due to being fed the incorrect food, so please do not do this.

Baboon patrol

Two staff members do daily patrols to keep the baboons away from residences. If you see the baboons please inform Estate management so that the baboons can be chased before causing any damage to houses.



Baboons are still a problem and several dustbins have been raided recently.

A resolution was passed at the AGM, whereby owners must store their refuse in bins with baboon proof locks. It is also advisable that members install cages in which dustbins can be kept. This will negate the baboons getting to the bins.

Domestic pets

No domestic animals may be brought onto Raptors View and/or kept as pets, as per Rule 5.10 of the Homeowners rules. We occasionally receive reports of dogs barking, and action will be taken against offending residents. NO cats, dogs, reptiles, birds, rodents or any such pets are allowed on the estate. If pets are found in your possession or at your home, you will immediately receive a minimum R2000 penalty and instruction to remove the pet from the estate.

The penalty will be doubled for every additional day that the animal remains on the estate illegally.

Game

Management are continuing to put out lucerne and grass for the game. This is done twice a week at five alternate stations. The animals are generally in a good condition despite the drought. We will continue feeding throughout the winter and into spring, depending on the rainfall patterns.



Catfish capture in Osprey Dam

We had noticed that the water level in the Osprey Dam had been dropping significantly, and that the catfish (barbel) would soon be stranded. Tinus and his team caught 85 catfish using nets and released them into the school dam. During the rainy season they will make their way back down to Osprey Dam.



Game capture

To date we have managed to capture the following animals from Raptures View:

Burchell's Zebra – 10

Giraffe: 8

Kudu: 10

Waterbuck: 10

There are still four giraffe to be caught. We will be catching Impala in the near future and also have a few Nyala to remove.

If we are unable to capture all the required Impala, we will have to resort to culling in order to reduce the numbers to the recommended stocking level.

Speeding

We are doing random speed trapping and heavy penalties for breach of this rule are being handed out. Please remember that the speed limit is 30km/h.

In addition, we have joggers, walkers and cyclists constantly using the estate roads, part of the reason why people came to live here. Please keep to the speed limit and slow down around pedestrians and cyclists to minimise their dust. This is just polite behaviour.

Speeding also poses a risk to our wildlife, especially when attempting to cross the road. Bear in mind that we stay in a wildlife estate and need to respect the habitat.

Furthermore, in the breach of the rules, speeding penalties (as displayed at both the estates entrances) are as follows:

- 31 to 34km/h (R250)
- 35 to 39 km/h (R500)
- 40 to 44 km/h (R750)
- 45+ km/h (R1000 to R2000)

Painting of satellite dishes

There have been a number of new residents and tenants moving onto Raptors View in the last few months. Please note that all satellite dishes need to be painted the same colour as the exterior walls of the house, as per Architectural Rule 18.1. If not painted, they are an eyesore for other residents and can be seen from far off.

AGM feedback

The AGM was held at the White Rhino Hall on 3rd August 2019, and was attended by 58 members.

Capital projects levy

The Ordinary Resolution number 4 was approved, allowing the board of directors to incur capital expenditure up to R1.65 mil. Management will commence with these projects in the near future.

Roads

An update on the roads tender was sent with the minutes of the 2019 AGM as well as further information on 14th August.

Please note: The current road work that our staff are doing does not form part of the tender and is merely an attempt to repair the worst areas of the surface.

Fire

Due to the dry conditions currently being experienced, the risk of runaway fires is greatly increased, especially with the gusty August winds.

Please take care when lighting fires, and only do so in favourable conditions, in areas specifically designed for this purpose.

We also request that any information regarding a possible veld fire be passed onto management as soon as possible, even if it just the smell of smoke, so that it can be investigated, and action taken if necessary

Walking

Please remember that the southern drainage line/river bed is out of bounds for walking due to the close proximity of the homes to the river bed and the invasion of privacy of these homes. Some of these stands extend over the drainage line which make this private property.

Admin

Please be advised that Roz will be away on leave from 12.30pm Wednesday 4th September and returning on 17th September 2019. If you require visitor cards during this period, please ensure that your information reaches Roz no later than Monday 2nd September 2019.