



## Ingwelala Share Block (Pty) Ltd

Reg. No. 1983/006997/07

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Tuesday 20 February 2018

### ***Message from the Chairman***

Dear Members of Ingwelala,

After a successful December/January period for Ingwelala, 2018 has kicked off with much happening in the area.

#### **Dam update**

##### Wilkens Dam (Argyle No.2 Stuwal Dam – Vygeboom)

This was the closest dam to our Argyle property (near Timbavati Crossing) and through our efforts, was subject to a directive from the Department of Environment Affairs dated 17 August 2012 to cease reconstruction of the failed dam wall. The dam wall remains damaged from the 2012 Flood and no further information has been received that Wilkens intends to rebuild this dam wall. We continue to monitor the developments at the site.

##### Peru Dam (Victor Wilkens Dam)

The Peru Dam is the next dam upstream from the Wilkens Dam that also failed in the 2012 Flood and which is currently subject to environmental authorisation for the repair and rebuilding of its wall. During the impact assessment phase, Ingwelala made submissions requesting that provisions be made for dam overflow and an ongoing flow-through system. The authorities only took our first request into account and ruled that the dam wall must include a 'fish ladder' (during dam overflow, a means for fish to jump back over the dam wall).

On 12 February 2018 we lodged an appeal with the authorities requesting that the environmental authorisation that they issued be set aside until our concerns (proper water flow-through) are adequately addressed. We currently await their response.

#### **WiFi Trial at Members Area**

The WiFi trial at the Members Area over the November, December and January period was successfully undertaken in order to see if we can improve the Internet service and experience for our Administration, Members and Guests. Consequently, a WiFi User Requirement/Specification has been formulated by Brian Cilliers and will be published for Service Providers to tender for improved Internet services at Ingwelala. We will keep you posted of developments in this regard.

#### **Sibon Roof Repair**

The roof at Sibon above the dining area was originally poorly designed and constructed, resulting in serious compromise to its support beams and structure over the last few years, including the buckling and cracking of the retaining walls and the splitting of the main poles. When the 2017/18 budget was formulated, a provision was made in the capex budget to rebuild this roof and the Sibon Camp was block booked for this

maintenance from 15 January 2018 to 28 February 2018 (6 weeks). This project is currently underway and a new roof is being installed. We have taken the opportunity to raise the new roof height to achieve the required 45-degree pitch that will span an increased floor area under thatch, to be used to form a casual seating area.

### **Umbabat Warden**

One of the components in fully complying with the requirements of the Protected Areas Act is for the nature reserve that we are a part of (Umbabat) to have a full-time Warden. Landowner Associations within the Umbabat have successfully consulted with their members regarding the appointment of a full-time Warden. I am pleased to advise that Bryan Havemann, previous Timbavati Warden, has accepted the job of the Umbabat Warden and relocated from Chi Mani Mani into accommodation provided by N'tsiri. He is a seasoned professional with a wealth of wildlife management experience that we are very pleased to have on board. Although a great asset to the Umbabat, this development will significantly increase the operating costs of the Umbabat that will have to be recovered from all the landowners through their monthly contributions. The immediate cost impact for Ingwelala is a monthly increase in our Umbabat contribution from RK 56 to RK 70 (a 25% increase).

### **Municipal Rates and Taxes**

Over the last year or so, we have been advising of the impending commencement of the nature reserves buffering the KNP being liable for paying municipal rates and taxes to their Local Authority (in our case, the Bushbuckridge Municipality). Extensive investigation and planning in this regard over this period has been undertaken by Nkorho, Umbabat, APNR and other neighbouring reserves. On 15 February 2018 we received the first batch of statements/transaction listings for some of our properties, backdated to July 2014 (we were expecting backdating to July 2016). Properties that have no improvements on them are currently not subject to rates and taxes, so this covers most of Argyle, Buffelsbed and our portion of Op Goedehoop (7 properties). The Camp area and Sibon are ratable due to all the dwellings (5 properties covering the Camp area and Sibon). At the end of January 2018, our estimated liability for Ingwelala is RM 1,1 and Sibon RK 62. There is a possibility of receiving a 50% discount if the outstanding accounts are paid by the end of March 2018. We are part of a collaborative team that is analysing these accounts, checking on our zoning, checking on the accuracy of the rates applied and obtaining legal advice, and who will meet with the Municipality soon and endeavour to negotiate discounts and rebates for us. We will keep you informed as soon as we have more definitive information, but it looks like all Members are going to be faced with an arrears rates account as well as increased monthly levies going forward (currently estimated to be around R18 per share per month).

### **Counter Poaching update**

At a local and regional level, the poaching pressure on our rhino population continues, on an increasing basis. The threat is exacerbated where independent landowners, not belonging to any Association, are uncooperative towards a unified approach to counter poaching strategies. On some properties there is a void in security services.

However, for those landowners in the private sector who are proactively engaging in counter poaching measures, where sharing information and resources is paramount, January 2018 produced several significant successes in this discipline. In a space of seven days, 4 (four) heavy caliber rifles were recovered along with 7 (seven) arrests in four separate incidents. Noctuam, the security service provider for the Umbabat, recovered one of the four rifles. These successes are vital to send the strongest message possible to the poaching fraternity.

The tragic incident that occurred on Friday evening 9 February 2018 in the northeastern section of the Umbabat adjacent to the KNP where lions killed a suspected poacher, highlighted in the local and international media the scourge of poaching, although for sensational media reasons. Unfortunately Ingwelala was incorrectly cited as the place where this all took place. The Umbabat Chairman has issued an official statement on this incident that has already been circulated to all the Members.

## **Staff Movements**

With the departure of Mark and Karen Shaw, various Staff changes have become necessary in order for us to effectively manage Ingwelala and deliver the services that our Members require whilst at Ingwelala. Housing has always been a constraint, so job roles often have to be re-arranged in order to accommodate the skills and experience of management couples recruited.

Judy Robinson (previously in Reception) has been promoted to replace Karen Shaw as our Administration Manageress – well done Judy and we wish you all the best in your new role!

Lynette Hitchcock has joined our Ingwelala Reception team on a short-term temporary basis whilst we are in the process of recruiting and onboarding replacements.

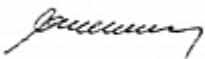
The recruitment cycle to fill the vacancy of Conservation Manager (and 2IC to the Reserve Manager) is underway.

During 2011 the Board approved an increase in the management staff compliment in order to better manage time-off periods that all the management staff have due to them working 7-days a week and 52 weeks of the year. To offset the additional cost of employment, opportunities were identified for Ingwelala to provide Members with certain specialized services (gas and solar) rather than using external service providers. This solution necessitated finding the right combination of skills and experience. I am pleased to announce that we have now secured such a couple, Dave and Adel Annandale, who commence employment on 1 March 2018. Dave will be employed as our Infrastructure Manager (he is a qualified diesel mechanic and certified gas installer) and his wife Adél employed in the Reception area as our Front of House Manager. They both have experience in working in a share block scheme such as ours.

## **Meet and Greet the Board**

If you are going to be at Ingwelala over the weekend of 24 and 25 February 2018, a Meet and Greet the Board will take place on Saturday evening 24 February 2018 in Argyle Boma (bring and braai). The first Board Meeting of 2018 will be taking place at Ingwelala over this weekend. Not only will this be an opportunity for Members to chat with some of the Board members, but also for the Board to interact on a less formal platform with Members. You are encouraged to support this Communication Portfolio initiative.

Sincerely



**Kevin Alborough**  
Chairman