

**Approved Minutes of the meeting of Heritage Western Cape (HWC)
Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Committee (APM)
Held on 5th October 2022, Monday on Microsoft Teams at 09:00 am**

1. Opening and Welcome

The Chairperson, Dr Lita Webley officially opened the meeting at 9:00 and welcomed everyone present.

2. Attendance

Members

Dr Lita Webley (LW)
Dr Romala Govender (RG)
Mr John Gribble (JG)
Prof Simon Lee Hall (SLB)
Ms Emmylou Bailey (EB)
Dr Jayson Orton (JO)
Dr Wendy Black (WB)

Members of Staff

Mr Nosiphiwo Tafeni (NT)
Ms Colette Scheermeyer (CS)
Ms Stephanie Barnardt-Delport (SBD)
Mr Olwethu Dlova (OD)
Ms Zikhona Sigonya (ZS)
Ms Ayanda Mdludlu (AM)
Ms Sneha Jhupsee (SJ)
Ms Natalie Kendrick (NK)
Mr Robin George (RG)
Ms Cecilene Muller (CM)
Ms Penelope Meyer (PM)

Visitors

Mr Phillip Hine
Ms Wilhelmina Seconna
Dr Ragna Redelstorff,
Ms Tessa Davids
Ms J Van Wyk
Mr Bradley Motte
Ms Tessa Davids
Mr JJ Le Roux
Mr David Halkett

Observers

None

3. Apologies

Absent

None

4. Approval of Agenda

4.1 Dated 5th October 2022

The Committee approved the agenda dated 5th October 2022 with additions and amendments. EB approved and JG seconded.

5. Approval of Minutes and Matters Arising from Previous Meeting

5.1 APM Minutes dated 3rd August 2022.

The minutes dated 3rd August 2022 were approved with a minor correction.

6. Disclosure of Interest

JG 19.1, 26.1 & 26.2 JO

7. Confidential Matters

7.1 WD provided a summary of the recent meeting at SAHRA regarding future renewable energy projects.

8. Appointments

8.1 None

9. Administrative Matters

9.1 Outcome of Appeals

Feedback was provided on the following items:

Meeting held on the 14th of September 2022

9.1.1 S.34 PROPOSED ADDITIONS, ALTERATIONS AND PARTIAL DEMOLITION ON ERF 3480, 35 BOSMAN STREET, STELLENBOSCH

9.2 Destructive analysis Permits on archaeological material not housed in a repository.

Dr Wendy Black (Iziko Museum) presented the matter.

Mr Phillip Hine (APM Manager (SAHRA)), Dr Ragna Redelstorff (SAHRA), were present and took part in the discussion.

Discussion

- WB reported that Iziko was being requested to provide letters approving the destructive analysis on archaeological material not currently housed in their collections. Although (in some cases) repository agreements are in place, Iziko's Archaeology Unit has had no sight of the material and is not able to assess whether or not the collection would be compromised if destructive

analysis was to proceed, and therefore cannot issue the approval for any destructive analysis, locally or for export.

- Often, archaeological material has not been deposited with the repository after the permit has expired, or destructive analysis has been initiated with no information being sent to the repository.
- SAHRA will not issue an export permit for destructive analysis without a letter of approval from the designated repository i.e. museum curator or collections manager of the archaeological collections.
- In these circumstances, this results in researchers not being able to conduct destructive analyses on archaeological material not housed at the repository
- It was noted that the excavation permits issued by HWC were too general with details regarding analyses not stipulated.
- LW noted that many large excavations took years to analyse and write up, and it was not realistic to insist that the material is deposited in a repository within three years of issuing the permit.
- It was mentioned that researchers seem to hold on to material in the hopes of future publication, but this unfairly restricts access for other researchers wanting to study those collections.
- It was agreed that this is mainly an operational issue and would be discussed at a joint meeting between Iziko, SAHRA and HWC.
- Simon Hall undertook to discuss this matter with researchers at UCT and provide input to the committee.
- PM asked for a copy of the SAHRA permit.

9.3 **Community engagement strategies**

Dr Wendy Black presented the matter. She noted that archaeologists were approaching Iziko Museums for names of communities to consult with respect to permit applications. She questioned current community engagement strategies and noted that each application should be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. PM noted that HWC had Public Consultation Guidelines (June 2019) which spelled out the procedures. Although additional public engagement was always possible, it was not feasible to make onerous requirements. When public consultation guidelines can't be followed, an application should be evaluated on its own merit.

10. **Standing Items**

10.1 **Clanwilliam Dam – Rock Art panels: Feed back**

Discussion.

- The representatives from the Dept of Water Affairs and Sanitation and the Clanwilliam Museum were not present at the meeting for further discussion on the future of the rock art panels.
- SB noted that it was difficult to get all the stakeholders present at the APM meeting, which was held monthly, and a separate meeting needs to be scheduled for this matter.
- The DWS representative had resigned, and a new contact had to be established.
- It was resolved that the CEO's Office would write to the DWS to have representative present for this item.

10.2 **Accidental Finds of Skeletal Remains:**

Erf 1897, Blue Downs (1:50 000 3318DC Bellville)

SB reported on the discovery.

Discussion

- A second set of humans remains had been uncovered during monitoring by Dr G Avery.
- They were uncovered in proximity to the remains found previously.
- HWC had not been able to visit the site as they needed the assistance of SAPS.

- The partial remains are with the Victim Identification Centre, SAPS Forensic Science Laboratory.
- It is proposed that they be sent to FACT, at UCT for further analysis as it is not clear if they are pre-colonial or not.

10.3 St Helena Bay

SB reported on recovery of human remains in St Helena Bay.

Discussion

- SB noted that human remains have been recovered from a trench next to the Main Road in St Helena Bay.
- Many of the remains have been disturbed, but some of the remains are still in situ.
- The remains have been secured pending the appointment of an archaeologist, with an emergency S36 permit, to investigate.

SB

10.4 Sedgefield

SB reported on the discovery of fragmented human remains.

Discussion

- SB reported on the discovery of fragmented human remains recovered at a housing development.
- The remains are currently with FACT.

11. Site Inspection

12. Proposed Site Inspection(s)

None

13. Site Inspection Report

13.1 Clanwilliam Dam Rock Art Panels

Noted the site inspection report by SB.

Comment

The committee noted that regular inspection of the panels is necessary while they are still in temporary storage.

13.2 Sayers Lane, construction site

SB reported and JG reported on the reburial ceremony.

Comment

- SB conducted a site visit on Erf 4995 and observed that construction was proceeding, although not in line with the plans submitted to HWC.
- JG noted that this could be because the developer had to break ground before the time period had expired for building permission.

14. Report back on Council

EB reported back on the Council meeting in August.

- The issue of the new national guidelines for renewable energy projects was discussed.
- The term of office of committee members had been extended from the end of October to the end of March 2023.
LW noted that she had informed the CEO and Committee that she had resigned from APM with effect 31 October.

15. Policy and Procedures

MATTERS DISCUSSED

16. SECTION 35 PERMIT APPLICATION

16.1 None

18. SECTION 36 PERMIT APPLICATION

18.1 None

19. SECTION 35 PERMIT REPORT

19.1 Permit report: Stabilisation and Protection of The Yzeffontein 1 MSA Archaeological Site.MA
HM/WEST COAST/ SWARTLAND/ YSTERFONTEIN/ PTN 9 OF FARM 560
Case No: 21042606SB0426E

Mr JG recused himself and left the meeting.

Permit report prepared by ACO Associates

Ms SB introduced the item.

Mr David Halkett (ACO Associates) was present and took part in the discussion.

DISCUSSION:

Amongst other things, the following was discussed:

- The Committee noted the outcome of the project and the degree of community involvement in the project.

COMMENT

The Committee resolved to approve the permit report by ACO Associates dated September 2022.

SB

20. SECTION 38 WORKPLAN APPLICATIONS

20.1 None

21. SECTION 38 WORKPLAN REPORT

21.1 None

22. Section

22.1 None

23. SECTION 34 – ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS/DEMOLITIONS

23.1 None

24. SECTION 38(1) NID

24.1 None

25. REQUEST FOR EXCEPTION, OPINION/ADVICE

25.1 None

26. SECTION 38 (8) COMMENT TO OTHER AUTHORITIES

26.1 Proposed agricultural and tourist development on PTN 2 of Annex Goedemoed 127, Robertson. HM / CAPE WINELANDS/ LANGE BERG/ ROBERTSON / PORTION 2 OF ANNEX GOEDEMOED 127 Case No: 19101709SB1101E

HIA prepared by ASHA Consulting dated 17 August 2022

Ms SB introduced the item.

JO recused himself and left the room.

DISCUSSION:

Amongst other things, the following was discussed:

- The proposal is for the agricultural and tourism development on PTN 2 of Annex Goedemoed 127, Robertson.
- The archaeological resources are of low significance.
- SH commented on the enigmatic stone cairn and the possible implications for archaeology. Further oral history might uncover more about the cairns.
- Fossils are unlikely in the colluvial gravels and the more significant bedrock will not be intersected however RG recommended the Chance Fossils Protocol.

Comment to IACom

The committee resolved to endorse the HIA by ASHA consulting dated August 2022 and the recommendation on page 28. It is recommended that the proposed vineyard and accommodation units be authorised, but subjected to the following recommendations which should be included as a condition for authorisation:

1. Tented units are acceptable;
2. If formal units are desired, then flat-roofed accommodation units are preferred;
3. Bright paint colouring should be avoided with earthy tones being favoured;
4. Exterior lighting should be minimised and focused downwards where needed;
5. Pathway to make use of natural materials (e.g. stone or brown-coloured exposed aggregate); and
6. If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development, then work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution.

2.

With the additional recommendations: The Chance Fossil Finds Protocol to be attached to the EMPr.

26.2 Phase 1 Archaeological Survey of Approved Mining Areas at The Namakwa Sands Mine, Brand-se-Baai, Vredendal. NM
HM/ WEST COAST/ MATZIKAMA/ VREDENDAL/ NAMAKWA SAND MINE
Case No: 131024TS47

Survey report prepared by ASHA Consulting. JO recused himself and was not present.

Ms SB introduced the item.

Mr JJ Le Roux (Tronox Mineral Sands) was present and took part in the discussion.

DISCUSSION:

Amongst other things, the following was discussed:

- The survey is a pre-disturbance survey as part of the EMPr
- The Committee noted that the report reflects the experience of the archaeologist in the mining area and the report feeds into the Workplan, which was also discussed .
- It was noted that various mitigation strategies were proposed for the various types of archaeological sites.

FINAL COMMENT

The committee resolved to endorse the finding in the survey report by ASHA Consultant dated September 2022 and the Recommendations on pg. 48 and 49:
 Graauw Duinen area:

- Full excavation of GD2022/005 and GD2022/010 must be effected;
- At GD2022/012, GD2022/016 and GD2022/020 the deposit must be shovel tested and if significant materials are found then a formal excavation must be carried out as necessary to capture a representative sample;
- At GD2022/014, GD2022/015 and GD2022/018 mitigation is to entail:
 - A few square meters should be excavated to obtain a representative sample of the material on each site;
 - A shovel test should then be carried out to determine whether any further significant materials lie deeper down. These should be sampled as necessary to capture a representative sample;
- Where possible the test excavations should continue to the surface of the dorbank to check for buried MSA deposits (it is recognised that, depending on depth, it may not be feasible or safe to dig all holes to the dorbank);
- Radiocarbon dating should be carried out for GD2022/005 and GD2022/010 as well as for any significant buried sites that might be found;
- All excavation and collection to be conducted under a Workplan approved by HWC; and
- If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of mining then work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution.

West Mine and adjacent dorbank area:

- Mitigation at GD2022/001, GD2022/002, GD2022/003 and GD2022/004 should be carried out with at least about half of each scatter being collected;
- The adjacent dorbank exposures should be surveyed with appropriate areas identified for

sampling. This sampling should then be conducted;

- As many handaxes, cleavers, other formal tools, and cores as possible should be collected from the surface, each with a GPS co-ordinate; and
- The termite structure at waypoint 049 should be collected.

General recommendations

- All excavation and collection to be conducted under a Workplan approved by HWC;
- If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of mining then work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution; and
- Mine staff should always be vigilant about spotting and rescuing fossils found during mining. Any significant finds made should be protected in situ until they can be reported to and, if necessary, inspected by a palaeontologist. Advice should be provided by the palaeontologist if professional inspection is not deemed necessary and the fossil field guide⁷ recommendations can then be followed.

COMMENT WORK PLAN APPLICATION

The committee resolved to endorse the work plan by ASHA Consulting for excavations as itemized in the report.

SB

27. REPORT BACK FROM OTHER MEETINGS WHEN RELEVANT

27.1 None

28. OTHER MATTERS

28.1 Bains Kloof CMP DRAFT HM / CAPE WINELANDS / DRAKENSTEIN / WELLINGTON / BAINS KLOOF PASS Case No: 19050303SB0619E

Draft CMP

Ms SB introduced the item.

DISCUSSION:

Amongst other things, the following was discussed:

- The Committee considered the comments which the APM of August 2021 had made on the draft CMP.

COMMENT

The committee noted the draft CMP and agreed that the matter would be discussed after the site inspection on the 14th of October 2022. LW, SH, EB to attend.

SB

29. ADOPTION OF DECISIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

The Committee adopted the resolutions and decisions EB moved to adopt the decisions and resolutions and WB seconded.

30. CLOSURE

The meeting adjourned at: 11:50

31. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

2nd November 2022

CHAIRPERSON _____

DATE _____

SECRETARY _____

DATE _____

APPROVED