



Good day, Park Islanders!

We have had our first of four board meetings for 2024. Everything went smoothly and it was a fruitful meeting. It was decided that a quarterly newsletter will go out after each board meeting and supplementary newsletters will be sent out as needed. The income and expenditure report as of December 2023 was reviewed at the meeting. PICID is operating well within its budget.

We registered 3 new Directors, namely Rob MacLean, Lara Röttcher and Colin Reeves, and added the famously industrious Lynne Weight to our Management Committee for 2024. We couldn't be happier about her joining us!

Although we are sad to say goodbye to Robin Carlisle, who has been with us since the beginning, we want to thank him for all his hard-work and input in getting PICID off the ground, and to wish him well with his work on MGDA ExCom. We know we will be working closely together going forward. The portfolios of each PICID Management Team member are listed below.

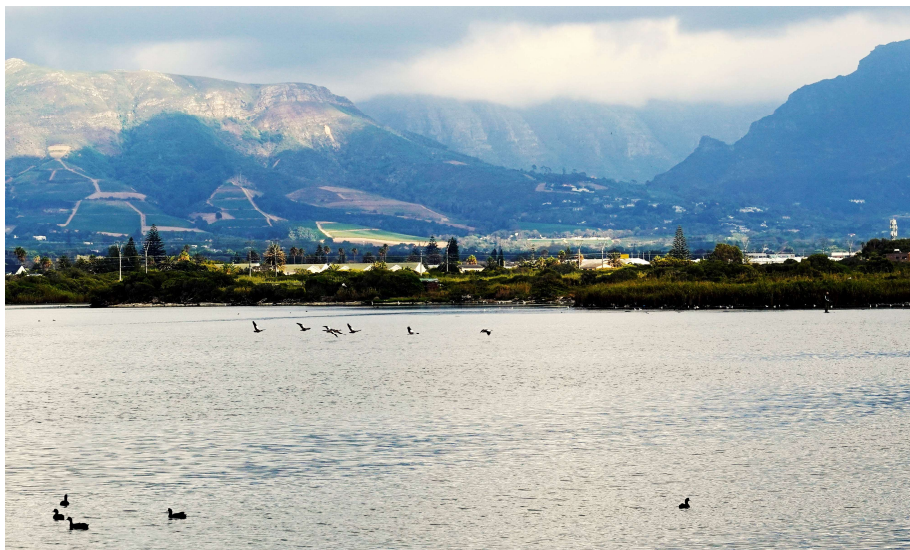


Photo credit: Cherry Giljam

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for the 4th March. Please note that any of our members can attend the Quarterly Board Meetings to raise concerns or discuss issues of interest. However, this attendance is by appointment only. Please send us an email if you are interested and be sure to outline the topic you wish to discuss.

Report on the Members' Meeting: Nov'23

The first ever Members' Meeting was held in November 2023 and we had 24 registered members in attendance resulting in a quorate meeting. (A pretty good turnout!) The minutes of the meeting will be made available shortly on our website. An overview of the annual budget and implementation plan for this year were presented and both were approved by the Members. These documents are likewise available on the website.

Furthermore, the following persons were appointed as Directors of the PICID NPC by the Members: Boudje Giljam, Gregory Meierhans, Patrick Tuckwell, Rob MacLean, Colin Reeves and Lara Röttcher. Harry Curtis and Company of Plumstead was appointed as our auditor, and Cheryl Philip as the Company Secretary. All the resolutions were passed by the requisite majority and there were some interesting discussions. Please note that you can drop us an email at any stage to ask a question.

In future, PICID will hold Annual General Meetings (AGMs) towards the end of the calendar year. The next AGM is provisionally scheduled for the 28th November 2024.

Introducing Your Directors and Committee for 2024

The PICID Management Committee Portfolios for 2024 are as follows:

1. Boudje Giljam: Chairperson ; Administration Portfolio
2. Lara Röttcher: Deputy-Chairperson ; Communications Portfolio
3. Patrick Tuckwell: Treasurer ; Contacts & Street Representatives Portfolio
4. Gregory Meierhans: Security Cameras Portfolio
5. Colin Reeves: Security Guarding Portfolio
6. Rob MacLean: Water Quality Portfolio
7. Lynne Weight: Environmental Portfolio (Open Spaces)
8. Euvrard Loubser: Environmental Portfolio (Open Spaces)

Please read on for updates on the separate portfolios.

An Update on the Waterways Portfolio

The high temperatures and long hours of sunlight at this time of the year has seen a proliferation in floating algae on the Marina canals, which, if one reads the comments on the various Marina sites, is unanimously found to be aesthetically displeasing and through which (in some places) water craft (e.g. pedalos, SUP boards, rowing dinghies, canoes and surf-skis) can make no headway. As such, a prime reason of most Marina residents for living here (aesthetically-pleasing water views and use of the canals for rowing, sailing and paddling) is denied. Furthermore, many comments on the various Marina sites are very angry ones and are not always aimed in the right direction.

In November, to much acclaim and fanfare, a brand new weed harvester (named 'The Cape Shoveller'), manufactured here in Cape Town, was launched by the Executive Mayor of the City. However, it is still not operational as it is first required to be commissioned by SAMSA before it is allowed to 'plough' up and down our waterways and Zandvlei, picking up the algae and excessive waterweed growth - i.e., doing the job it is meant to do. The question of... is it coincidental that this lengthy period of commissioning has occurred during the Christmas holiday season, or, does it just take this long to have such a machine found to be OK to do the work for which it was built? The jury is out on that question!

The old weed harvester, the 'Kingfisher', remains in the Marina waters as a back-up to the "Cape Shoveller", but between breakdowns, the public and other holidays taken by the operator, allied to the fact that with the many bush fires occurring around the Western Cape, CoCT personal (including

the Kingfisher operator) are called away from their normal jobs to fight these fires, thus the number of days and working hours done by the Kingfisher during these summer months, has been minimal (one of the reasons why there is the proliferation of floating algae on our waterways and Zandvlei).



Photo credit: Cherry Giljam

But it isn't all doom and gloom as the PICID has been informed that **additional council personnel have been trained to operate the 2 harvesters throughout the harvesting season**, i.e. the summer months. The algae and weed growth has meant that the water quality of the Marina canals and Zandvlei is very good. Water clarity is good, fish are spawning, fishers are recording good (catch-and-release) catches and the water fowl are in a good space (there are even Flamingos back in Zandvlei!).

Also on a positive note is that the 'Boss' of the Zandvlei Nature Reserve (all the Marina canals form part of said reserve, along with Zandvlei), Kyran Wright, who is a resident of the Marina, is passionate about our waterways and what is found on and in them and is constantly looking for ways to make and keep this area the 'best kept secret' of the Peninsula. Thank you, Kyran, for this passion and your dedication to the cause - we owe you big time!

On a sad note, Marina da Gama's foremost canoeist and surf-ski paddler and a multiple South African National Canoe Colours awardee, Graeme Solomon, suffered a stroke early in the New Year. Happily, medical treatment intervention is currently seeing him on the road to recovery in a South Peninsula Step-down facility. His positivity, grit and determination to get back to being a top-level paddler again is amazing and I'm sure that I speak for all Marina residents in wishing him (the Western Cape Canoe Association's most prolific winner of races for more than 20 years!), all the very best towards full recovery. "We're all backing you, Solly".

Feedback on Our Security Program

We are very happy to report that **our Security Camera network is now fully operation during load-shedding**. This is an outstanding achievement overcoming all the power-challenges we are faced with. Our camera network is in addition to the MDGA cameras installed at the entrance, which are also monitored by Deep Blue. The entrance cameras already have backup power supplied by one of our residents (Thank you!).

Furthermore, regarding the guarding program, the Management Team are satisfied that there is a good relationship with the Ithuba management and our concerns are taken seriously and actioned upon. Colin is in direct communication with the Operations Manager and the PICID finger is on our security pulse!

Since our CID started officially operating at the beginning of July 2023, fortunately, we have not had any serious security breaches or incidents. This certainly does not mean that we should reduce our vigilance. Please don't leave doors unlocked, or windows and gates unnecessarily open. These actions so often welcome unwanted guests into our properties, which can result in tragic consequences. It is incumbent on us all to notify the Ithuba control room (079 905 7633) and the PI Security WhatsApp group if suspicious activity or any emergency is taking place in our area.

Please bear in mind that the Marina is a Home Owners Association and our roads are public property. Anybody is entitled to come onto PI. All security can do is vet and challenge any suspicious people in an attempt to dissuade them from wandering our streets.

Regarding Our Open Spaces

Our Park Island gardening superstar, Cherry Giljam, has continued running with maintaining and improving our PICID Open Spaces. Together with our committee members, the first 2024 project was recently launched to plan a 'new look' for the entrance to Park Island (off Prince George drive). It is still in the planning stage of Phase One, with several ideas being considered to beautify the verges and garden spaces with selected FYNBOS! So keep an eye on this space and please support it fully!



Photo credit: Cherry Giljam

You'll have seen that work has already been done on cleaning up the outer beds on Prince George Drive and it is looking very promising. Planting season will commence when autumn comes around again, and that's when the work will, once again, really begin in earnest.

While we are in the midst of the summer maintenance season the priority is simply to keep what we have alive and prosperous with routine watering – which is **thanks to those Park Islander volunteers who regularly give their private time to this worthy cause**. If you see a gap, or are happy to participate in any way, just give us a call and we'll supply the plants or hosepipe or whatever it is (within reason) you'll need. I.E. these initiatives rely on the participation of all residents and to get involved you can

simply join your local gardening team who can do with your support to look after and beautify our open spaces.

Please remember to keep your dogs on leads & out of the flower beds at all times, and make sure all dog walkers pick up all their dog poo!

New Neighbours? Spread the News of Your CID

If you notice a new neighbour, please do spread the news of our CID and encourage them to send us their contact details to our email parkislandcid@gmail.com. And if you're too shy, then pass the news on to your street rep or the Patrick Tuckwell. It is important for us to keep our database as up-to-date as possible!

General

Our Website is currently being updated with the latest newsletters. You can always access previous correspondence and all the PICID documentation on the Website: <https://parkislandcid.co.za>.

If you have any photo's to share of our beautiful Marina and Park Island that we can use in our newsletters and on the website, please do share with us! Drop us an email and we will share the Google Drive Folder with you.

Guidelines for the 2 active WhatsApp groups, namely the PI General and the PI Security, will be published shortly to the groups themselves and to the Website. Members of the Management Team will be administering the groups and we trust we have your full support in keeping those groups on topic and free from any irrelevant or potentially harmful content. Always think twice before forwarding on messages or content, especially when content comes with a 'Forwarded Many Times' warning. We will be looking into the concept of WhatsApp Community too. This may assist the PICID with communications and managing group content. Watch this space.

And finally, please feel free to contact us with any suggestions or comments at our email address: parkislandcid@gmail.com.

Thank you for your continued support!

Kind regards

Lara Rottcher

on behalf of your PICID Committee