

DOG CONTROL ON BEACHES AND BEACH FRONT AREA

Purpose

To provide committee with current status on beaches regarding dogs on the beaches and obtain a mandate on a way forward regarding dogs on the beach front.

Background

1. Dogs are currently permitted in the following areas on condition that they are on a leash:
 - 1.1 St George's Strand Village (outside bathing area).
 - 1.2 Blue Water Bay (outside bathing area).
 - 1.3 Swartkops River Mouth.
 - 1.4 Brighton Beach (from pier to Swartkops River Mouth).
 - 1.5 Kings Beach (from slipway to Harbour Wall).
 - 1.6 Bird Rock (from Hobie Beach, 2nd Avenue to Something Good).
 - 1.7 Pollok Beach (from Pipe towards Cape Recife (Flat Rock)).
 - 1.8 Maitlands River Mouth (outside bathing area and not on sand dunes because oyster catcher breeding area).
 - 1.9 Blue Horizon Bay (outside bathing area).
 - 1.10 Sardinia Bay (Below sand dunes only)

2. Dogs are not allowed in the following areas even on a leash:
 - 2.1 Cape Recife (Nature Reserve).
 - 2.2 Swartkops River flood plain (Nature Reserve).

3. Blue Flag Beaches
It should be noted that the following beaches are Blue Flag beaches and dogs (even on leashes) are not allowed on these beaches:
 - 3.1 Wells Estate (bathing area and area behind beach).
 - 3.2 Humewood (bathing area and area behind beach as well as Happy Valley).
 - 3.3 Hobie Beach (bathing area and area behind beach including walkway and cycle track).
 - 3.4 Kings Beach (bathing area and area behind beach including walkway and cycle track).
 - 3.5 Pollok Beach (pilot Blue Flag Beach) (bathing area and area behind beach including walkway and cycle track).

Comments

The item served at the meeting of the 22 Jun 2009 and committee resolved to recommend a total ban of dogs on all beaches. This has caused a lot of letters to the editor and the public who own dogs are not happy, it is also not in the spirit of the item and recommendations which were submitted to Committee. The item was referred back at Mayoral.

The Directorate is experiencing an increase in complaints regarding dogs and related issues. In summary the complaints relate to:

1. Attacks on members of the public as well as staff.
2. Public health and dog faeces matter.
3. Showers – washing of dogs.
4. Soil contamination.
5. Grey Area of Responsibility – Waste Management refuses removal of dog faeces.
6. Legislation framework – one old by-law

It should be noted that Blue Flag water quality is being very carefully monitored.

In order to control dogs and dog related matters that the following proposals as contained in **Annexure A**, be accepted as policy and be implemented by all law enforcement staff of NMBM:

Comments : Public Health

Comments : Legal Section

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the proposals as contained in Annexure A regarding the control of dogs in the coastal zone be accepted.
2. That the proposals regarding the control of dogs in the coastal zone be advertised in the media.

3. That the proposals regarding dogs in the coastal zone be enforced.

26. ARTS, CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LIBRARIES : ARTS AND CULTURE FILM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT (19/14/1) (Agenda p. 20) (Min. No. 5/2010)

RESOLVED:

That the Economic Development and Recreational Services Directorate continue with its Community Development Programmes in support of the Film Industry in the Metro.

27. BEACHES AND RESORTS : DOG CONTROL AND BEACHES AND BEACHFRONT AREA (19/11/4/2/P) (Agenda p. 26) (Min. No. 8/2010)

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the proposals as reflected in Annexure "C" of the Executive Director : Economic Development and Recreational Services' Report No. 1/1020 to the Committee regarding the control of dogs in the coastal zone, be accepted.
- (b) That the proposals regarding the control of dogs in the coastal zone be advertised in the media.

28. ADDITIONAL ITEM : THE STANDARDISATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL PLACE NAMES IN NELSON MANDELA BAY MUNICIPALITY (16/1/5/1) (16/1/5/2) (16/1/5/3) (16/1/5/R) (Min. No. 12/2010)

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Recreation and Cultural Services Standing Committee be authorised to standardise all geographical place names that are within the jurisdiction of Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality, on behalf of the Council, in line with the provisions of the South African Geographical Names Council Act, Act 118 of 1998 and of other relevant Acts and Regulations, that these names include, but not limited to, names of cities, towns, human settlements, rivers, mountains, streets, buildings, etc.
- (b) That the Committee provide the Council with regular progress reports on its work in this regard.
- (c) That the Committee be authorised to co-opt any other Councillor of the Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Council, and also be assisted by the Eastern Cape Provincial Geographical Names Committee, the District Geographical Names Committee and any other person, as it deems necessary in this process.

BEACH	AREA WHERE DOGS ALLOWED ON LEASH AND OWNER TO HAVE MEANS TO REMOVE DOG FAECES	AREA WHERE NO DOGS ALLOWED	MOTIVATION
St Georges Strand area	Outside bathing area	Bathing area	Area set aside for human recreation.
Wells Estate area	Back of dune areas and cycle way	Bathing area, Blue flag area	Area set aside for human recreation.
Bluewater Bay Car park area	Outside bathing area	Bathing area	Area set aside for human recreation.
Swartkops River Mouth Beach area	Whole area		
Brighton Beach area	From Swartkops River mouth to Pier	Bathing area and cycle way and back of dune	Area set aside for human recreation. Back of dune is a nature reserve
Kings Beach Area	Grassed areas	Bathing area, Blue flag area and cycle way and walkways	Area set aside for human recreation.
Humewood Beach area	NO DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH ONLY HAPPY VALLEY AREA	Bathing area, Blue flag area and cycle way and walkways	Area set aside for human recreation.
Hobie Beach area	NO DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH ONLY GRASSED AREA BEHIND BEACH	Bathing area, Blue flag area and cycle way and walkways	Area set aside for human recreation.
Pollok beach area	Grassed areas	Bathing area, Blue flag area(Pilot phase) and cycle way and walkways	Area set aside for human recreation.
Pipe to Flatrock area	Beach and grassed areas	Cycle way and Walkways	Area set aside for human recreation.
Cape Recief	NO DOGS ALLOWED	Whole area as it is a nature reserve	Nature reserve
Willows area	Public walk ways	Resort area	Area set aside for human recreation.
Beachview area	Public walk ways	Resort area	Area set aside for human recreation.
Maitland's area	Outside bathing area excluding sand dunes	Above high water mark and sand dunes and old resort area	Area set aside for human recreation and oyster-catcher breeding area
Sardina bay area	Outside bathing area excluding sand dunes	Bathing area and sand dunes	Nature reserve
Kini bay area	Public walk ways and grassed areas		
Blue Horizon bay	Outside bathing area	Bathing area	Area set aside for human recreation.
Van Stadens area	Outside bathing area	Resort area	Area set aside for human recreation.

ANNEXURE A

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Willows area	Public walk ways	Resort area controlled by lessee	Area set aside for human recreation.
Beachview area	Public walk ways	Resort area controlled by lessee	Area set aside for human recreation.
Maitland's area	Outside bathing area excluding sand dunes	Above high water mark and sand dunes and old resort area	Area set aside for human recreation and oyster-catcher breeding area
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ANNEXURE A