

OBSERVATORY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

DRAFT Annual General Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday 24 October 2024

Venue: Observatory Improvement District offices, 13A St Michaels Street, Observatory

Present: 19 members, 1 CID branch staff member, 4 visitors, 2 OBSID staff members in attendance, 2 proxies received.

1. Registration (from 17:30 to 18:00):

All present signed the relevant attendance register. Documentation relevant to the meeting was available on the OBSID website from the 1th October 2024.

2. Welcome and apologies:

Justin Ashley welcomed all members, visitors and staff present at the Annual General Meeting. He stated that the meeting was quorate and could go ahead. He stated that 2 members had submitted proxies.

3. Membership – resignations and new:

Ten (10) new members were recorded.

Two members resigned

One member passed away

38 members lapsed due to non-attendance of meetings

Total membership is currently reported at 62 members.

4. Quorum to constitute a meeting:

It was noted that the meeting was quorate – 19 members in attendance, 2 proxies received, a total of 21 members represented out of a membership of 62 (6 required for a quorum).

5. Approval of previous AGM minutes:

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on October 26th 2023, were made available on the website prior to the meeting. No corrections were noted.

Sarah Driver-Jowitt proposed that the minutes be accepted, and those in attendance unanimously approved this motion.

6. Chairperson's report:

Justin Ashley referred the meeting to the detailed Chairperson's report in the Annual Review that was given to members and available on the OBSID website.

OBSID's largest programme remained public safety, with OBSID engaged daily in proactive measures to prevent crime and respond to support residents when they needed it. We are able to celebrated the lowest number of recorded incidents in the last 8 years. We will not rest on our laurels and continue to build on the current skills of the team.

The OBSID board is concerned for the stretch of river between Riverlands and the N2. A beautiful area, that many of community enjoy spending there recreational time there. This area of land is outside our boundary and we currently not offer services there. We are working with interested parties to find solutions that will see this area managed.

Our social development programme continues to provide service and support to our community. With a new social worker, with Thank you Vuyo for supporting our community. We welcome Ruby to the team, and has successfully integrated with our community.

The OBSID's we must salute cleaning teams working daily, to clean our streets, keeping Obs looking clean.

Justin thanked his fellow board members and applauded the efforts of the entire OBSID team.

7. Feedback on operations:

Matt Tyrrell presented a summary of the OBSID's work.

Before I start on the past, and move on to the future year – A quick update on the current year.

- WhatsApp Sector Groups – Thank you Sarah Driver-Jowitt
- Organic Waste diversion by 2027 no organic waste to landfill.
- OBISD office leases and Public Safety service provider renewal
- Village Green Thank you Cllr Yusuf Mohammad, and the City of Cape Town
- Observatory Traffic Project –

Matt presented the data for each of the teams

Public Safety incidents the long term trend continues on a downward projection, together with visible policing, proactive initiative's, good communication we are reducing the opportunity theft.

Urban Cleaning, the addition of afternoon team has created an increase capacity for a cleaner business district, in starting the evening trade with empty bins, Illegal dumping is reducing, and remains a challenge.

Social Development: As reported in the last AGM with the Treasury no long funding work displacement programs, we have a found a way to success continue on a scaled back version. With continue to support the community with access to fully trained Social worker creating the linkages and support the community needs.

8. Approval of the Annual report 2023/24

He referred the meeting to the comprehensive report contained in the Annual Review, focusing her presentation on the core programmes of public safety, urban management, and social development. He acknowledged the contributions of the entire OBSID team.

Imile De Villiers proposed that the Annual Report be approved, and those in attendance unanimously accepted

9. Noting of Audited Financial Statements 2023-24, including noting of surplus expenditure:

Matt Tyrrell presented the AFS for 2023-24, Noted the audit result as, Financially unqualified opinion with no findings (clean audit). The City's Executive Directorate, noted that OBSID achieved a 99.9% spend of the budget.

Turning to the surplus funds used in 2023/24 R485,959 surplus funds were used as approved by the Board.

On the following projects

- Greening
- Traffic Project
- Website revamp
- Cape Town Science Centre Partnership
- Fencing.

Questions were asked and answered from the floor regarding the seemingly reduced expenditure on social development; Kari Cousins proposed that the AFS be approved, and those in attendance unanimously accepted.

10. Approval of the budget for 2025 – 2026:

Matt Tyrrell presented the two proposed budgets that have been available on the website.

Option One to business as planed – with an CID levy increase as proposed in the 5 year plan. 6.8%

Option Two to invest in CCTV in the business district to support the Public safety team, with the intent of changing and promoting a healthier perception of public safety in Observatory.

Matt acknowledged the reduction in crime, and the positive steps taken by the team, and that crime is changing, hence we need to stay ahead of the challenge. We want the community to feel safer as we walk and use the services on offer in Observatory. This proposal is a trial, we need to prove is CCTV effective, If the installing the CCTV cameras has no benefit to the community we will discontinue the services and reduction the operational expenses.

The proposal would be to invest R500,00 on equipment in the current financial year. Allow R600,000 of operational expenses in the current financial year – to get the system up and running. And report back on the impacts and learning of CCTV in the CID.

Debate and discuss

Renting equipment v purchasing - Purchasing does allow for trial, and you can recoup some of the amount if unsuccessful – Rental needs a commitment of at least 5 years for a supplier to recoup their investment. Which ultimately makes it unaffordable as trial.

How many cameras and why?

To have a camera network monitored by an operator, has considerable operational costs, One operator can successfully monitor about 20 to 30 cameras at a time. To pay an operator to watch five cameras would limit the ability to assess the impact of CCTV network by investing in 20 to 30 cameras would create feedback. Locations need to be sourced, and experts need to advise on locations.

Matt Tyrrell proposed that we vote for the budget with CCTV – if we did not accept this budget then we would move on to debate the Budget without CCTV.

The Motion to accept the proposed Budget for 2025/26 with increase expenditure to provide CCTV to OBSID, and to invest up to R500,000 capital expensed from the surplus fund in 2024/25, and support the installation and operation expense with up to R600,000 to get the CCTV project working in 2024/25 financial year.

20 members voted in favour – One member abstained Motion passed.

11. Approval of the implementation plan for 2024 – 2025:

Matt Tyrrell referred members to the proposed implementation plan on the website. He acknowledges that this is a mature business with a great strategy that he has inherited.

The current public safety team works well, with strong visible policing and support services offered. We continue to research and ensure the best return on investment and resource allocation.

Urban cleaning teams are a team to be proud of, diligently working seven days a week. We have increased its outreach with greening projects and a second team to provide afternoon cleaning.

social development continues with successes and offering social services. We are looking to partner and find a first contact service centre for the team to build upon.

No questions were received from the audience. Kari Cousins proposed that the implementation plan be approved, and those in attendance unanimously accepted this.

12. Appointment of Auditors:

Justin Ashley reminded the meeting that Cecil Kilpin and Co. had been OBSID Auditors for five years with Partner Sidney Schonegevel, Matt Tyrrell has requested a Partner rotation(best practice) and proposed partner Melanie Spencer as the Auditor for 2024/25.

This appointment was proposed by Sarah Driver-Jowitt and unanimously approved by those in attendance.

13. Confirmation of Company Secretary:

Justin Ashley thanked Ursula Genthe as OBSID Company Secretary and her professional service. And requested that this appointment be reconfirmed for a further year. The appointment was unanimously approved by those in attendance.

14. Election of Board Members:

Justin Ashley advised the meeting that four nominations had been received for five vacant director roles; therefore, an election was not required. The nominations were proposed by Kari Cousins and unanimously approved by those in attendance. Congratulations were extended to the four nominees –

David Barraclough
Sarah Driver-Jowitt
Imile De Villiers
Janine Tittley

15. General / Q&A:

Questions from the floor were asked and answered about Willow Road Circus, and future plans for the site. The Matter has been heard by the court, and the awaiting judgement, regarding the current occupation of the land. If the court grants an eviction order, the City will follow due process. Once the land is clear, the building will be demolished, and land integrated into the Hartley vale stadium.

16. Adjournment:

Justin Ashley thanked everyone present for their attendance and participation, and the meeting adjourned at 19h15.

Justin Ashley

Chairperson of the Board



23rd October 2025

DATE