



**1. PRESENT:**

Hazel Robertson, Pam Verrall, Del Jones, Marlen Van Wyk, Marilyn Poole, Caro Hodges, Anne Binos, James Binos, Dawn Cairns, Hans Stegeman, Colin Burden, Annemarie van Zijl, Philip Loxton, Gerard Back and Adele du Bois Botha.

**2. APOLOGIES:**

Karen Ward, Sandi Tomlinsn, Tony & Jenny Stipcich, Roger Verrall

**3. Minutes of the last AGM held on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept 2020**

Approved: Proposed: Marilyn Poole Secoded: Colin Burden

**4. Chairman's Report and Thanks**

Hazel Robertson introduced the Committee and their portfolios. The Chairman's Report covered the hard work done during Covid in White City during hard times of unemployment – both children and animals were fed. Also mentioned were the Educational Programmes and booklets used to teach children how to look after animals properly.

A training course for Volunteers was held for post-op treatment of animals and Friends of Care sunhats and T-shirts were given out. Counting of animals in White City was done and living conditions inspected for shelter and running chains.

Funding was obtained from Breede River Winelands Municipality - this used for solar panels at the Steri Centre for operation table lighting and an autoclave and surgical equipment.

Ilana van der Colff was sent on a Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitaion Course in Cape Town.

Hazel thanks the Committee and Volunteers for their hard work and mentioned our gratitude towards Pat Werdmuller Von Elgg for her ongoing generous funding.

Hazel also thanked Cornerstone Veterinary Practice for their pro bono work on Wednesdays' Steri Days.

Hazel thanked Gerhard and Philip of 51 for the venue and hospitality and presented them with a bottle of wine, mentioning their willing help regarding the collection tin and fund raising.

Hazel thanked all Friends of Care supporters.

This year the Committee is planning a Bingo evening in Oct / Nov, another Car Boot sale and an outside dinner & dance in Jan / Feb.

**5. Financial Report**

Pam Verrall had distributed the Financial Reports prior to the AGM and they were sent out with the AGM Notice – copies available for inspection. Pam mentioned that due to generous donations the finances are very healthy.

Income R420,659 including R137,120 from LOTTO. Due to Covid LOTTO would not extend the deadline for spending of the funds in the allotted time, so we bought vaccines and drugs and also used the funds to produce educational books and keep them in stock, we bought new carrying cages for transporting animals and had a trailer made which carries 14 animals. We were able to use the funds, in fact spent a little more than allocated.

Friends of Care received R40,000 funding from Langeberg Municipality used for Steri and Animal Welfare.

Expenses were R283,998 which left us with a surplus of R136,661 as against last year's R13,240.

Very generous donations from supporters enabled us to feed animals and build 3 emergency kennels at the Steri Unit and do maintenance.

Funds Out – R21,405 – emergency spending

Funds In – R24,320 – donations due to Covid appeal

We rescued a dog in White City – there is a pending court case – and R15,000 was donated for this appeal towards the rescue and Covid operations in White City.

Farm visits were made to educate children and we were so impressed by the smiles when they received a cabbage as a prize!

We have a healthy financial outlook for the next year.

Assets as at end March 2021 R7,000 – Savings

R22,000 – Current Account

R184,740 – Investment Account

Langeberg Municipality have promised R20,000 soon.

## 6. Animal Welfare Report

Del Jones' statistical figures sent out prior to the AGM – on AGM notice

Feb to July – no Steri Days – Vets closed.

From July to March 98 Steris done with the assistance of two CCS Vets. Helen Moore of Cornerstone Veterinary Practice has emigrated to Australia but Helen Tiffin continues to partner with Friends of Care. Smaller Steri Days now held on Sundays. Grateful thanks go to Cornerstone Veterinary Practice.

The Educational Books were used at the Breede Skills Centre with small children and the Reference Books for children from 8 – 14 years old. Colouring-In books were also used on farms and prizes given to enthusiastic participants. Re-inforcement is constantly needed – in White City at Clinics and on Farms. House to House inspections are done to see conditions, book steris and check welfare. This should happen annually as people move and we need to keep updating records – this requires money.

There were a few nasty complaints – 4 court cases pending. Courts are behind in completing.

The worst case was Savannah, owned by a policeman. Savannah is a large Mastiff and only weighed 19 kgs – she was skin and bone. People donated money for her treatment and rehabilitation at the vets and she was kept in our Emergency Kennel until re-homed. It's a good story – now in a marvelous home weighing about 55 kgs!

Some wildlife accidents were attended to – a grysbok, a Barn owl and a Bat Eared Fox – all died of stress but at least they were brought in and not left to suffer.

There was a fantastic response to the Blanket Appeal in winter – Del stressed that she doesn't just hand them out but uses items as rewards for good animal treatment. If owners buy food, Del matches what they buy, if they build a shelter, blankets are provided and if a running chain is built, a collar and leash given.

Owners need to realise there is a financial responsibility to having an animal.

Self-feeder were put up in White City for dogs and cat feeders placed on tables.

People in White City were filling them and children took home food for their pets too.

7. **Del introduced a new initiative based on Funda Nenja** – “learning with dogs” which has been running successfully in Howick – see [www.fundanenja.co.za](http://www.fundanenja.co.za) – we would need a core group of dedicated volunteers – Animal Welfare Workers, Psychologist and Vets to teach empathy with dogs which results in therapy and emotional behavior. Families would be interviewed and a school set up which holistically covers everything such as training trainers, better bonds with animals and becoming compassionate adults. WATCH THIS SPACE!

Questions:

1. Hans Stegeman asked if volunteers would be from the local community and Del replied that in house to house visits there had to be a “Good Cop / Bad Cop” scenario – Del issuing warnings and Ilana nurturing. Statistics are sent to the Municipality re welfare drives and the line between right and wrong emphasized to households visited. Funda Nenja would bring in the community. Hans Stegeman says he has good contacts – Afrikaans speaking. Del replied most children are fluent in English. We have a good example in Freddie, 17 years old, who assists with dipping etc. Continuity is important for the future.
2. Hans Stegeman asked if we could educate the children at local schools e.g. Buffelskloof and Del said we had sent e-mails to all schools regarding educational training and this initiative will get back on track when Covid regulations allow.

8. **Acceptance of above reports – Proposed** : 1. Marilyn Poole 2. Keith Poole.

9. **Appointment of Auditor** – Meeting voted Barnards to continue as our auditors – Proposed : 1. Frances Doering 2. Colin Burden

10. **Election of Committee Members** – Hazel, Pam, Del, Anne, Marlen & Caro agreed to stand again - unanimously accepted by all those present – Adele du Bois Botha was introduced and proposed as a new Committee member – on financial support and fund raising portfolios – Proposal Accepted : – 1. Caro Hodges 2. Philip Loxton

**COMMITTEE:**

<b>Chairperson:</b>	<b>HAZEL ROBERTSON</b>
<b>Vice Chair, Secretary, Website:</b>	<b>ANNE BINOS</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>PAM VERRALL</b>
<b>AWA &amp; Committee:</b>	<b>DEL JONES</b>
<b>Committee, Book Sales:</b>	<b>MARLEN VAN WYK</b>
<b>Committee, Fund Raising:</b>	<b>CARO HODGES</b>
<b>Committee: Fund Raising, Finance Support:</b>	<b>ADELE du BOIS BOTHA</b>

Marilyn Poole proposed a vote of thanks to the Committee

**11. Other Business –**

- a. Hans Stegeman asked where we get dog food supplies. Del replied – Cornerstone supply at a discounted price – R730 for a 40 kg bag which we sell at R10 for 800gr.
- b. Hans asked about Montego and Dell said it's R1,100 for 25 kgs, small bags go mouldy and cause skin irritations. Hans said he can get discount at Kaap Agri - R350 for 30 kgs.
- c. Annemarie van Zijl asked about 2 Rabies cases in the Overberg area and Del confirmed – inoculations should be done every 2 years and we do inoculate animals in McGregor at no charge and it costs us R15 per shot. The State should be doing it. Marilyn said she paid R900 for a 5 –in-1 shot and R112 for a vaccination.
- d. Del - Zolani Pigs – cases of Swine Flu – Vet Dept visited Robertson, Bonnievale, Ashton Small Farmers but not in McGregor because our pig and cow owners are not considered as Small Farmers, just individuals supplementing their income. Blood samples were taken 3 weeks ago. Del will be monitoring.

The meeting ended at 16h50