



(AHSA) Archaeological and Heritage Services Africa (Pty) Ltd

**HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR PROSPECTING & MINING
ON THE FARM KATLANI 236 NEAR DOUGLAS, NORTHERN CAPE**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

**1. MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING HELD AT THE
FARMSTEAD, KATLANI 236 ON 24 JULY 2019.**

1.1. Background

The farm Katlani was recently acquired by the Mazelsfontein/Katlani Community Property Association under a land restitution claim. The community appointed an executive committee to run the farm on commercial lines. In this way the community has maintained the infrastructure pre-existing on the property and agricultural operations have continued to function normally with substantial private investment and government support. The community resident on the farm are workers (and their families) from the local community. The community is closely bound by a common purpose, to run a business for local beneficiation through employment.

**1.2. Meeting with Executive Committee and Workers of the
Mazelsfontein/Katlani Community Property Association**

The Meeting with members of the Executive Committee and workers was held at the farmstead. It was brief as most attendants were workers who suspended duty at various sites on the farm. The Farm Manager, Mr William Gous, introduced the Executive Committee led by Mr Willie Williams (the Chairman). Mr Johannes Nero the Vice Chairman said he was pleased I had come to carry out the heritage impact assessment as required in law. He said the economic viability of the farm was a vital concern as most CPAs were struggling to maintain properties after reclaiming the land.

I was then asked to present my agenda. I informed the meeting that the law required any development project (such as mining and prospecting) to mind the heritage resources on a property, especially graves and sacred places. I said that the onus was on the developer to put in place measures to protect such heritage resources. I also stressed that heritage law and policy embraced plurality, and that heritage of different cultural groups in the area must be respected.

I pointed out that the graffiti/ recent etchings on the petroglyph site were a criminal offence, and that it was the responsibility of the farm management to make sure there were no further such acts of vandalism.

The Executive Committee concurred and apologised for the damage already caused.

I advised the Committee that in order to lend additional protection to the engravings, the Committee must send a proposal SAHRA for the engravings to be declared a Grade II (Provincial) Site in terms of Section 7 of the National Heritage Resources Act.

The meeting ended with Mr Johannes Nero thanking me for raising awareness about the value of the sites.

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