



December 2012

www.goolawah.org

☼HAPPY NEW YEAR 2013☼
GM SAT 19 JAN 2013, 9:30am



Good News! If you are reading this then the Mayan Prophecy obviously didn't occur and the end of the world will once again be postponed (*a word goolies are all too familiar with!*). Hoping this was the case Ralph has been busy preparing the Goolawah 2013 Meeting/Event calendar .. This newsletter is full of contributions by members - pictures, articles, poems, recipes - so many items that we've nearly run out of space for the minutes and proposals, don't panic, didn't quite happen this time!

On a more serious note, there have been several fires in the local area during December – including an area very close to Goolawah at Limeburners NP near our southern boundaries. More photos and a detailed report in the newsletter.



GOOLAWAH GRAPENE

Phone Tree

The recent fire in Limeburner's highlighted the need to have a phone tree to more efficiently inform members of emergencies (fire, flood, marauding zombies, etc).

To activate the phone tree, anyone can call/text the person at the top of the tree. The top person then calls the two people below them, and so on. If a person doesn't answer their phone, leave a message and call the people below them on the tree so the line of communication isn't cut. We could also use it to spread the word about pizza nights.

If you want to be included, please reply by the 19 January GM either by post, email goolawah@riseup.org or Anne 0419 161 568.

Name: Contact me for (tick one):

- Emergencies only
- Emergency and social events

Phone #1:

Phone #2:

For Sale

Wind generator Air-X brand 3 blades with pole and stays \$450 ono.
Phone Larry 65661170

Communal Pumping System Supplying Water to Sites in the Bowl/Outback/Burrendong contributed by Peter Wells

The communal pump required replacement and various upgrades were done on the system. Instructions on starting the new pump are posted on the pump housing, ensure you CHECK OIL LEVEL IN PUMP BEFORE STARTING IT and use the correct oil (10W30 grade).

A \$20 contribution is requested from each member whose site is part of the communal water system. Thanks to everyone who has contributed so far. Contact Peter Wells (wellsp98@hotmail.com) for details on works completed, costs and payment options. A final up-date on works, costs and contributions will be emailed to contributors in the New Year.

A leak is suspected in the system. A lot of investigating and repairs have been done, including walking all the lines and sites but no visual signs of a leak were found from above ground. The next step is to locate and dig up pipes in order to install additional isolating valves so we can identify which specific area may have the leak.

Banking Details:

**Account Name: Goolawah Co-operative Ltd. NAB Kempsey Branch
BSB 082-798 Account Number 48-864-6867**

Hanlet Happenings

Cockatoo Ridge

Over the last few months Cockatoo Ridge has seen most of the vacant blocks slashed, the whiskey grass is gone and green grass has taken its place. Griff's sculpture is evolving and has made it into the Goolawah calendar for September. Larry's wwoofers have revamped his veggie garden and it looks great. Bron and Wayne have netted the orchard to stop the bower birds eating the fruit and have planted hundreds of plants to beautify the place. Cindy has finished her shed and now looks quite comfortable. Mayumi is planning to come here to live in January.

Red Hill /Outback/Bowl/Burrendong - seeking contributors!



Summer Gardening

The glut of garden goodies is upon us and along with that comes creative cooking to keep enjoying zucchinis day after day! Bron shares with us one of her yummy recipes that is easy & quick to prepare. More recipes always welcome!

How about a zucchini bread/slice tasting at the January GM? The winner will be determined by getting all three judges in the picture below to eat a whole piece without pulling a face (those smiles have been faked for the photo shot!)

Zucchini & ricotta frittata

Ingredients

- 4 eggs, lightly whisked
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed
- 2 green zucchini, coarsely grated
- 125g ricotta, coarsely crumbled
- Salt & freshly ground black pepper
- 2 tsp olive oil
- 250g cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1/2 cup loosely packed small fresh basil leaves

Directions

1. Preheat grill on medium-high. Whisk the egg and garlic together in a large bowl. Gently fold in the zucchini and ricotta, and season with salt and pepper.
2. Heat the oil in a 20cm-diameter (base measurement) non-stick frying pan over medium heat. Pour in the zucchini mixture and cook for 5-6 minutes or until frittata is set around the edge but still runny in the centre.
3. Cook under preheated grill, about 6cm from the heat source, for 2 minutes or until golden brown and just set. Remove from grill. Cut the frittata into 8 wedges and place on serving plates. Divide tomatoes among serving plates and sprinkle with basil. Serve immediately.



The Master Weed Wackers Manual

This manual is available on the following link:
<http://www.landcareportmac.com.au/>

(Right click on Weed Master Manual - Save Link As)

This 127 page manual has an index with comprehensive information and photos on weed control techniques.



A compilation of the most common weeds found on Port Macquarie Landcare sites. Material sourced from various internet sites. Edited by Peter Michael Bush, Regeneration Supervisor

Report from the Dot Committee

(Satire by Ralph)

The committee is pleased to report that good progress was made in the year now ending. Whilst Shayne Reinhold sen. has now retired due to old age, his son, is proving equally helpful in guiding us through this complex process. In fact, the *Schedule of Specifications With GPS Mapping* for all our fruit trees is well under way. Council's requirement about warning signs every 150 metres about local fauna is also almost done – the 428 echidna signs are arriving next week, with all others now erected.

The *Schedule Concerning Toilet Paper Storage On Rural Properties* (also with GPS positions) has been handed to one of our consulting firms – it had become too complicated.

The DA Committee's office building has now been extended by four more rooms and the super-fast satellite link (to council chambers) is up & running.

In other news, the DA committee's **Ladies' Hockey Team** now trains on Saturday mornings – we can't leave the offices un-attended during the week; the existing 5 telephone lines are fast becoming inadequate anyhow.

The sale of the committee's monthly magazine, **Goolawah DA - A Century's Icon**, is going ok with good advertising income.

The Golf team's **X-Mas DA-Market** is now in its 12th year and going from strength to strength – well done golfers!

This year's exhibition football match by the Organisation of Kempsey Development Applicants is on the 20th and will include an address by Buddhist Scholar Mahjong Rampa "**On the Virtue of Patience**".

Channel 10 has emailed, the popular TV series, **A Community's DA - Life Beyond Bureaucracy**, is still rating well and shooting for season eight begins in February.

Mr Reinhold jr.'s advice that we may be before the next full council meeting in March 2028 is heartening of course; however, we suggest to curb any youthful enthusiasm in this regard – the "old hands" know better ...

The committee's budget has topped \$100,000 for the first time this year and is now one of the biggest employers in the shire. So, thank you to all contributors, customers and supporters – committee members appreciate the opportunity for such fruitful and rewarding work.



Image from *The Discreet e Express Collection*



Created by Wayne

Thanks to Paul for this report about the fire at Limeburners National Park. Several of the members who helped out experienced their first fire front with a few moments notice and training on site – as well as their first visit to Limeburners. With dry conditions and clearer access, it's now an easy bushwalk or bike ride from Frog Hollow Road, heading south instead of north to Red Hill. By early January plenty of fresh green growth should be visible as we've had spots of moisture since the fire. Getting to know the land surrounding the residential areas of Goolawah is not just about experiencing natural beauty.

December 2nd 2012 Limeburners fire.

A big thank you to all of the Goolawah co-op members, RFS and Parks who helped put out the fire!

At about 4:30pm on December 2nd a dry thunderstorm passed over us, a few drops of rain being the only relief to the hot and dry conditions. I was out in the garden at 5:30 pm when Anne asked me, "Have you seen that?" pointing to the sky. I looked up to see a column of smoke maybe 50m wide, obviously a bush fire to the south of us. It had to be coming from the park or the quarry, either way there is only bush between our houses and that smoke...

When you see a column of smoke it is very difficult to judge exactly where it is coming from, often it is much further away than you think so we put on boots and went for a drive to investigate. We drove towards the park with an ever sinking feeling that it was close and in hard to access heath land right behind our homes and that is exactly where it was. We drove passed Brett's place (south of Frog Hollow Road) and down into the heath land in the park. Normally quite boggy land unsuitable for 2WD, the track was very dry and the heath was well alight. Once we were close enough to hear the tell-tail crackle of the fire I knew we needed fire trucks fast, we either knock this fire out quickly or chase it for a week like last time.

We have a live one!

I made a 000 call to report the fire at 5:48pm. Then I called the captains of both Crescent Head and North Shore, National Parks as well as local fire fighters Gordon, Billy, Nick and we found Frankie as we drove back and got our personal protection equipment. Local knowledge is best at fires, nearby residents are the fastest to respond and have the most to loose so let them know! We drove home to get personal protection equipment and some drinking water. Anne started a text out to co-op members to raise the alarm and get help. I looked for what equipment I had for dry fire fighting as there are no dams where the fire is, I had next to nothing! Hoses and pumps sure but nothing for dry fire fighting so we headed off to meet up with Gordon and Billy who were now on the fire ground.

Liaising with Gordon it was clear that we could use 2 tracks as a fire break and burn back into the fire to stop its spread towards red hill. Burning from the 2 tracks would take care of the west and north flanks of the fire, as for the fire spreading to the big hill track then Crescent Head, Point Plomer and into the centre of the park we would have to tackle that as a second priority when trucks, crew and equipment turn up.

When you're waiting for fire trucks to turn up they seem to take forever; response time to our location is 30 to 40 minutes. Crescent Head Brigade were out of action so Kempsey fire control called Parks who have small striker units and North Shore Brigade were paged. I kept in contact with Lee and Lindsay the Captain of North Shore and Crescent Head brigades respectively, Mace from Parks, Kempsey fire control and whoever I could think of with the message get here quick, if we don't knock this out now we will be fighting it for the next week.

Waiting for fire trucks.

We checked access to the fire, size and rate of spread, flame height - up to 4 meters in tea tree and Gordon started a test burn on the northern track. Sometime after 6:30pm North Shore arrived on scene and in classic style we stood around discussing how best to fight the fire right next to the test burn that was gathering pace, our fight fire with fire method underway, we soon used a drip torch to burn along the northern trail that was our fire break. Next Gordon set the west trail alight also, Lee and crew in the North Shore Cat 7 (a bushfire tanker) came in from burnt ground and fought the fire from behind, Kingsley and

Frankie in the Cat 9 (a landcruiser fire vehicle that holds 500 litres of water known as a striker) looked after the communications traffic now coming thick and fast and patrolled the eastern flank of the fire. As more residents turned up to help I directed people to look for spot overs on the un-burned side of the track and to do what they can to beat fire out if it crosses the track. As events turned out Pete and Mairead were on the western flank of the fire and when it crossed the track they were able to stop the fire entering another big area of heath with no tracks that would have threatened houses in the 'Outback' of Goolawah housing co-op. The fire could easily have been twice as big if they were not there!

Dave L and Kevin came down also as did Mark and Lexie who looked out for spot overs. I made my way to the southern flank where Gordon and Nick were direct fire fighting with a drip torch, knap sack and a branch - you use whatever you have! I took the drip torch and kept lighting the scrub in front of the fire front they followed and extinguishing the fires edge so our burn line meets the fire front.

We were joined by Dave D, Anne and Billy, who passed his BF training course that very morning and was called into the thick of it! By this stage it was dark and we had about a 10 hectare fire burning very well. We took turns knocking down the flames with water from the knap sacks and finishing the fire off with boots and branches, we were very effective but it is hot and tiring work in rough heath land and the fire was spreading fast. More equipment and people and we would really get this fire out.

Striker saves the day

When Frankie, Kingsley, Michael C and Rob made it to the southern flank in the striker we had no other backup fire crews yet. With the striker we could drive along side the fire front knocking the fire down with water. I was on the nozzle with Rob and Michael behind me managing the hose over tall heath, more people followed stomping out anything that re-ignited. We just kept at it, hot, tired drenched in sweat, the striker went off for more water twice. By now Parks, Crescent Head and Hat Head had arrived but could not find the track into the fire so North Shore cat 7 went for water and to bring the relief crews in. We kept at it with the striker for what felt like kilometres along the southern and eastern flanks and just as we knocked out the last of the fire front 4 fire vehicles joined us. 3 hours after the initial 000 call our job was done! The relief crews immediately started putting out some flare ups that had re-ignited and mopped up the fires edge. You can not beat that feeling when back up finally arrives!

The next day

Mace from parks came out to inspect the fire scene and look for flare ups and reported that there were none. He said to pass on to residents that we have done an outstanding job getting on top of a raging fire in this type of country, last time lightning started a fire in the park was Australia day 2011. That fire was not put out early, it took out 2000 hectares of bush, we spent a week with a fire threatening to take out Goolawah co-op if the wind changed.

Frankie walked the fire front in the afternoon to see where it all was as in the dark we were very disorientated. He found out just how far the fire had spread, the southern flank came within 20m of gum trees! If the fire had made the trees it would have been a whole different story, we would have had a much bigger fire to contend with. Flame height would have been 3 times as big with no tracks to use to fight the fire from, all too close!

Next time

Learning from this fire it was the early detection and extra hands and eyes on the fire ground from the start that kept the fire small, 20m to the trees was the difference of 10 to 15 minutes! The tractor could have been used to slash in front of the fire to create a break to burn from, next time bring the tractor and slasher. Anyone who can help but does not want to be stamping out flames sit in your car at key intersections and direct people where to go, organise drinking water and snacks if needed by fire fighters. The fire beaters would have been useful on the north and east flanks, maclow tools and knapsacks were the best thing to fight fire with on the southern and eastern flanks, in the heath, before fire trucks turned up, a very good investment for any member!

This is the second fire in Limeburners Wilderness area from a dry electrical storm in as many years. Fantastic effort by all, a great example of residents, parks and fires working together to stop what could have been a big fire. Thanks for protecting the park and our homes!



Be fire wise at Goolawah.

It is not if but *when* fire happens here. In case of bush / grass fire here are some tips:

- ⊗ If you see smoke go for a drive and try to locate it, don't get too close, within 500m is good enough. If you can find the fire call 000 and report its location. Next if it is close call local fire fighters, Paul, Gordon, Nick and Billy. If you really want to get trucks and fire fighters here fast also call the captains of North Shore and Crescent Head fire brigades, Kempsey and Hastings fire control centres as well as Mace and James from Parks, tell everybody what is happening and where, are houses under threat?
- ⊗ Let Goolawah residents know what is happening and where. Anne is starting up a phone tree get your name on it. If the smoke is coming in your direction from the fire and ash is falling on you then enact your fire plan, prepare to defend your place as the fire is coming your way. If you can help fight the fire before there are enough fire fighters on the ground do so as it was the difference between getting it out quick or chasing it for a week this time.
- ⊗ To help fight fire you need to protect yourself by wearing long cotton clothes, shorts and a t shirt under overalls is standard. Gloves, a helmet, goggles, good boots and a water bottle and you're ready. At home move flammable materials away from buildings, get hoses and sprinklers going and mow grass as low as you can if you have time. Don't run away - stay and defend your place. If you are prepared you will be amazed at how easy it is to put out flames as they creep along the grass and you can save your place!



Valuing The Right To Water by Russell Childs

Human rights require that states will ensure everyone has access to water without discrimination
Human rights to an adequate standard of living, that includes safe drinking water and sanitation

Water, the essence of life. Safe drinking water and sanitation are keys to sustain life and health
Guiding U.N. principles - access to safe affordable drinking water for all - regardless of wealth

One of its agenda's is to promote respect for human rights; in a charter of the United Nations
Access to safe drinking water and sanitation are human rights law; referring to state obligations

States retain the primary responsibility for ensuring private actors respect human rights; no less
To identify, promote and exchange views on best practice related to safe drinking water access

The water supply of everyone, covering personal and domestic use, must be sufficient and clean
Comprising of water for drinking, washing clothes, food preparation, personal and home hygiene

States should at a minimum, ensure equal access to all, sufficient and safe water to stop disease
The right to water is access to sanitised water, in order to sustain life and health; respect please

No person or group to be denied access to safe drinking water because they can't afford to pay
The right to health equals access to safe affordable drinking water for everybody; without delay

States have obligations to protect and promote human rights; because states have ratified them;
must refrain from polluting waterways and illegally disconnecting water sanitation system

Respect, protect and fulfil, are the three most important types of state, human rights obligations
Water should be equitably and sustainably allocated - as aptly specified by the United Nations

Obligations require states ensure everyone access to a sufficient supply of safe drinking water
Safe drinking water and sanitation as a right to health; as considered by a Special Rapporteur

Minutes Goolawah Co-op AGM 20/10/12, 9:00 Machinery Shed

Present: Leah Skinner, Kirsty Steer, Craig Singleman, Rebekah Gorline, Ralph Erthel, Greg Ryan, Alwyn Hunter, Roger Ball, Belinda Ball, Glen Ball, Larry Knight, Robin Hewitt, Russell Childs, Peter Farley, Mairead Shorten, Bronwyn Little, Rodney Forshaw, Dennis Cobourn, Denise Cobourn, Paul Martin, Anthony Griffiths, Dave Launt, Wayne Ellis. **Visitors:** Rob Wauchope, Luke Dockeral.

Apologies: Rose Mahar, Sattwa Horne **Proxies:** n/a

Facilitator: Craig Singleman **Minutes:** Anne Wilson

Moved by facilitator to pass minutes of previous meeting, seconded by secretary: passed unanimously.

Treasurer's report: Leah Skinner.

- See annual auditor's report and treasurer's report annexed. Regarding query on machinery sold and value of plant and equipment, presented plant and equipment depreciation itinerary (annexed) and May 2011 bank statement provided showing deposit from Jason Forinton.

- Moved by facilitator to approve the annual report as prepared by Chris Garrett, seconded by secretary: passed unanimously

Secretary's report: Anne Wilson.

- Letter from Council saying thank you for our roads thank you letter – good work

Mairead.

- Carmel and James' sites no longer for sale.
- Presentation about Goolawah at Kempsey Rotary meeting went well
- Need to elect a Principal Executive Officer this year according to new Fair Trading rules.
- Outstanding ID checks – Ben Adams, Isaac Ryan, James and Carmel, Martin Cole, John Seed, Mayumi (ID), Cynthia Munro, John Steer, Robert Conlan, Grant Woolcock, Margaret Leech, Harvey Creswell, Chris Jones, Sue Louden, Brian Saul, Vivienne Armitage, Wendy Penney (ID), Tim Davis (ID)

DA report: David Launt.

- Council wrote report and was ready to present to councillors, then asked for public submissions, and there were some positive and some negative. Shane will send copies of submissions to Kirsty next week. They are in the process of re-writing report to councillors accommodating responses to negative submissions. Kirsty met many of the people now on council during election campaigns, and one is being particularly active in pushing for our DA to go ahead. Kirsty will let everyone know when it does go to a council meeting

Road report: Ralph Erthel.

- Levies are being slow to come in. Wants to leave further work until after Christmas when more money is in – no objections.

Tractor report: Larry Knight.

- Tractor is working. Jason did extensive work on PTO.
- Clutch on old slasher is still slipping a bit when overloaded, so if that happens, just lift it up and do a few passes. Roger to lower skid height.
- Reminder to respect the old girl – check engine oil and transmission fluid before and after and if it's low do something about it. Checklist to go on machinery shed wall.
- Reminder of tractor training tomorrow 21/10.

Membership committee: Mairead, Paul, Ralph.

- Advertising has lead to an increase in the number of enquiries. Paul wants to do another round of ads in Grassroots and Earthgarden. Byron Echo didn't get many bites.
- Discussion regarding whether to discourage potential new members from paying deposits on shares before completing the membership process.
- Mairead: Glen has completed process for application for Resident non-member. Mairead proposed to accept Glen as a resident non-member. Seconded: Ralph Erthel. Passed unanimously.
- Discussion regarding renters and whether \$20/week visitor's levy can be paid in work. Paul proposed that visitors staying more than 30 days are able to pay their visitor levy through 2 hours/week community work or \$20/week. Seconded: Al Hunter. Passed unanimously.

Directors step down – thank you for your work over the year.

Election of new Directors

Nominee Nominated by Seconded by Accepted

Larry Knight no

Peter Farley no

Denise Cobourn no

Belinda Ball no

Craig Singleman Kirsty Steer Leah Skinner yes

Dave Launt Leah Skinner Kirsty Steer yes

Ralph Erthel Craig Singleman Anne Wilson yes

Leah Skinner Ralph Erthel Kirsty Steer yes

Bronwyn Little Leah Skinner Larry Knight yes

Kirsty Steer Leah Skinner Larry Knight yes

Paul Martin Ralph Erthel Craig Singleman yes

Only seven nominations accepted so no need for vote.

Nominations for Treasurer: Leah Skinner. Passed unanimously.

Nominations for Secretary: Anne Wilson. Passed unanimously

Nominations for Principal Executive Officer: Anne Wilson. Passed unanimously.

Nominations for DA coordinator: Kirsty Steer and Dave Launt. Passed unanimously

Nominations for Membership Committee: Mairead Shorten, Paul Martin, Bronwyn Little. Passed unanimously

Nominations for Roads Co-ordinator: Ralph Erthel. Passed unanimously

Nominations for Tractor Co-ordinator: Larry Knight. Passed unanimously

Nominations for Newsletter Co-ordinator: Rebekah Gorline. Passed unanimously

-- break for a swim because of oppressive heat (hottest October day in Port Mac on record!)--

GENERAL BUSINESS

Work claims:

- Rebekah Gorline: newsletter co-ordinator 1 year's levy
- Ralph Erthel – newsletter printing - 1 year's levy
- Leah Skinner – treasurer – 1 year's levy
- Anne Wilson – secretary – 1 year's levy
- Roger Ball – tractor repair, slashing, working bee – 12 community hours and 9 hours levy reduction
- Anne Wilson and Paul Martin: pot holing, working bee, membership committee – 15 hours levy reduction.

Moved by facilitator to accept work claims, seconded by secretary. Passed unanimously.

Fire truck: Greg: Bundagen have an obsolete petrol 4wd bedford fire truck and petrol Landrover striker. Paul: sounds like a good idea for burn-offs and house fires but petrol vehicles not suitable for bushfires. Greg to investigate obtaining them. Bundagen also have a cage mulcher that slashes and stacks in the shed not being used as it isn't suitable for their needs. Greg to investigate price.

Playground donation: Hamlins have donated \$1000 from the sale of their share to the Red Hill Playground. Discussion on what to spend it on. Leah submitted design and costing for a rotating swing.

Pump on big dam in Bowl, Burrendong and Outback: Pump died. Users asked to donate \$20 each. Bought pump and installed for \$295. Some payments outstanding, but overall good community work!

Next working bee: Sat 17th November 8am. Meet at Camp kitchen.

Spotters' report: Russell is a spotter for National Parks. Let Russell know what animals you have seen and he will include them in his report.

Access to property by neighbours: Rod Wauchope wants access to his property to the south of Red Hill. At the moment they go over Red Hill, through Brett Campbell's because it is dry, but they want to use Red Hill road. They are willing to contribute to road costs. They will write a proposal for a future meeting.

Fertiliser: Moved by Paul to allocated \$50 for fertiliser for trees on Red Hill community area. Seconded by Anne Wilson. Passed unanimously.

Slashing letter: Confirmation of which members need to be formally requested to slash their sites. Mairead and Leah to action.

Levy reduction approved tasks:

Brush cutting on side of Illa Langi

Pot holing roads - see Paul and Anne

Clearing fenceline along Forest Way

Kill lantana and camphor - see Paul

Tractor maintenance - see Larry

Slashing on agreed community areas - see Larry

All weather notice board for west gate entrance

Membership committee business

Website updates - Sue Louden

Camp kitchen water supply - Peter Wells

Cutting down trees on dam wall in the bowl
Organising children's activities during GMs
---Meeting closed at 1pm.---

Treasury Report for the Annual General Meeting on the 20th October 2012

Working Account: \$27,628.83

Term Deposit: \$18,043.90

Another year has gone by successfully with nothing major to report on the treasury front. The accountant is once again happy with the books and lets me know of small things I can do next year to make his job easier.

The breakdown of Levies Collected are:

Work Levies for 11/12 - **\$3120** and 21 people who worked their hours off.

Road Levies for 10/11 - **\$34,360**

Road Levies so far for 12/13 - **\$11,160**

Annual Levies 11/12 - **\$27,644**

Annual Levies so far for 12/13 - **\$6581**

This is a total of \$82,955 collected over this period.

The breakdown of Levies Owing are:

Work Levies up to July 2012 - **\$5275**

Road Levies for 10/11 - **\$4540**

Road Levies Due by 30/6/13 - **\$27,840**

Annual Levies for 10/11 - **\$375**

Annual Levies for 11/12 - **\$8606**

Annual Levies Due by 30/6/13 - **\$28,419**

This is a total of \$18,796 currently owing.

Other amounts owed to the co-op are DA Fees of \$1680 and slashing fees of \$220.

We have also had 2 share deposits and joining fees paid and a donation of \$1000.

Thanks to everyone who pays their levies in and please let me know if you have any queries regarding levies owing or due dates etc.

Cheers Leah

Goolawah Co-op Community/Directors Meeting

1/12/12, 9:30, Camp kitchen

Present: Rebekah Gorline, Denise Cobourn, Ralph Erthel, Paul Martin, Mairead Shorten, Anne Wilson, Bronwyn Little, Kirsty Steer (11am).

Apologies: Craig Singleman (deputised Rebekah Gorline)

Proxies: Craig Singleman deputised Rebekah Gorline.

Facilitator: Anne Wilson **Minutes:** Anne Wilson

Motion to pass minutes of previous meeting: passed unanimously

Treasurer's report: Leah Skinner not present. \$30,428.90 in working account, \$18,043.90 in term deposit.

Secretary's report: Anne Wilson. Fair trading is asking for comments re draft co-operatives regulations

http://www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au/Cooperatives_and_associations.html

Road report: Ralph Erthel. Nothing to report. Road are fine – will leave final grade and roll on cockatoo ridge until other works need doing. GME quoted \$15,000 to rehabilitate goldmine hill site and make dam.

Tractor report: Larry Knight not present. Diff lock not working.

DA report: David Launt and Kirsty Steer not present. General discontent that Rob Doolan was not phoned after last meeting. Moved by Paul Martin to set a levy for costs arising from the DA, including but not limited to legal costs, specialists reports, consultant fees and compliance costs. Amount to be set by the General Meeting of the 19th January. Seconded by Ralph Erthel. Passed unanimously. Proposed to expand the DA committee to include Ralph Erthel, Denise Cobourn, Bronwyn Little and Mairead Shorten and meet weekly. Passed unanimously.

Membership committee: Kate Martin has completed all steps in membership application process. Anne moved to approve Kate as eligible for membership, seconded by Mairead, passed unanimously. Anne moved to ratify Kate as a member, seconded by Mairead, passed unanimously. Anne moved to approve share transfer, seconded by Mairead, passed unanimously.

A few prospective members have contact the co-op recently. Sue Weymouth's site is now for sale, so now 4 good sites for sale. There will be a young family of prospective members camping at the kitchen for the next few days.

DA report 2: Kirsty arrived approx 11am, read out submissions sent to council during public exhibition process from various neighbours and government bodies. Council sent a letter has requested a flood evacuation plan to be completed by an experienced, practising floodplain engineer. Likely to be expensive. Kirsty has been looking for such a person. Paul has contacted a friend in SES, Kirsty will contact two others on Monday. DA committee meetings to take place Wednesdays 5pm, camp kitchen.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Cattle grid on Nevertire Rd: Now completely broken and needs replacing. Paul got quote for \$700 to replace with a metal insert. Jason will volunteer time to do the welding. Paul moved to approve \$500 at this meeting and remaining costs to be addressed at next GM. Seconded by Kirsty, passed unanimously.

Shade sails for playground: Bronwyn got quotes: Concept shade sails 5m x 5m installed \$1000 8m x 6m x 6m \$1320 installed (not including metal posts). Shade Shelter 5m2 \$1650 8m2 \$2600.

Old shade sail discovered in container. Bronwyn to see if it fits in the playground area.

Dam in Burrendong: Pete Wells: community pump needs to be topped up with oil. Please remember to top up the pump with oil to avoid damage. Please remember that Pete has a separate system and is not maintaining the old one anymore.

Shared dam on Red Hill: Anne passed around initial plans for a shared dam and supply system for Red Hill for comment.

Next working bee: Bi-monthly working bee dates to be included in next year's calendar.

Levy reduction approved tasks:

Brush cutting on side of Illa Langi going towards goldmine hill.
Pot holing roads - see Paul and Anne
Clearing fenceline along Forest Way
Kill lantana and camphor - see Paul
Tractor maintenance - see Larry
Slashing on agreed community areas - see Larry
Organising children's activities during General Meetings
All weather notice board for west gate entrance
Membership committee business
Website updates - Sue Louden
Camp kitchen water supply - Peter Wells

Meeting closed at 12:30pm.

Shares for Sale

❖ Marion Arent – Red Hill – 02 6661 3511
❖ David Somerville – 0400337629 or Tracey Somerville 0400670506

Check website for regular updates to shares for sale/sold

**AGENDA FOR GENERAL MEETING
SATURDAY 19 JANUARY 2013, 9:30AM
MACHINERY SHED**

- ❖ Lodge Proxies & Apologies
- ❖ Approve AGM minutes as in this newsletter
- ❖ Reports
- ❖ Proposals
- ❖ General Business

Special Resolution 1:

To add IMPOSITION OF DA LEVY to the rule book.

“17E The members of a general meeting may be entitled to determine a DA Levy not exceeding \$500 (per share held) in any financial year.”

Proposed and Seconded: Community/Directors meeting

Ordinary Resolution 1: That a DA Levy of \$500 (per share held) be imposed for the 2013/2014 financial year. Proposed & Seconded by Community/Directors Meeting

Rationale

At the 2011 AGM, members were surveyed on their priorities for Goolawah going forward. The top priority identified was to get our Development Application approved so members could live here in approved dwellings.

Despite being told many times by Council that our DA application is ready to be heard at the next Council meeting, Council have continued to drip feed last minute requests, creating repeated and frustrating delays in the finalising of our DA. In the last 12 months Council have required:

- Additional work on our fire management plan (resolved)
- Further information on existing structures (resolved)
- Queried development on SEPP 14 area (resolved)
- A second public exhibition of our application to give members of the public an opportunity to make submissions (prior public exhibition in 2003) (completed)
- Development of a flood evacuation plan (latest request)

The December community/director's meeting raised for funds for:

- Legal/court action if required
- Flood evacuation plan - council want specialised flood consultants to complete the plan which will not be cheap; quotes are currently being sought and research being done how best to argue for alternative options with Council
- If the above measures are not taken, we will still need significant funds for meeting the conditions of the DA once it is granted, e.g. we have committed to build a shelter/refuge as part of our Fire Plan, and Section 94 road contributions.

Having the funds available will help hasten the DA process, rather than having to take each new item of spending to a GM, which can mean a delay of months.

(Note: A Road levy is not expected for the next financial year 2013/2014 as the Road levy from this financial year 2012/2013 should be sufficient to complete current road building programme)

Ordinary Resolution 2: To contribute \$200 for the upgrade of the cattle grid at Nevertire Road. Proposed & Seconded by Community Meeting (see Dec. minutes)

\$500 is the maximum approval for funds at a Community Meetings. Total cost for materials (steel) estimated to be \$700.

END OF PROPOSALS

**GOOLAWAH CO-OPERATIVE PROXY FORM
GENERAL MEETING 19 JANUARY 2013**

I, _____ of _____

Appoint _____ of _____

Or in that person's absence _____ of _____

Or {in that person's absence} the chairperson of the meeting, or a person nominated by the chairperson, as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the Goolawah Co-operative Ltd AGM held on 20th October 2012 and any adjournment of any such meeting.

I direct my proxy to vote in respect to each resolution to be considered as indicated with a **circle** below and to vote or abstain in any procedural resolution as my proxy thinks fit.

Special Resolution 1: FOR AGAINST ABSTAIN

Ordinary Resolution 1: FOR AGAINST ABSTAIN

Ordinary Resolution 2: FOR AGAINST ABSTAIN

If no direction is given above, I authorise my proxy to vote or abstain as my proxy thinks vote in respect of each resolution (including any procedural resolution) to be considered by the meeting and any adjournment of the meeting.

Date: _____ 2013

Name: *please print* _____

Sign: _____

Proxy lodged at GM sign _____