

**Goolawah Co-operative
General Meeting
21 January 2017**

Minute taker : Louise Roberts

Chair : Craig Singleman

Commenced 9.05 am

Attendance

Ralph Erthel (D), Denise and Denis Cobourn (D), Tarrik Morssi, Alwyn Hunter, Bron Little, Greg Ryan, Gemma Dowell, Lexie Gonzalez, Todd Henshall, Isaac Ryan, James Galletty, Mark Doonan, Rose Mahr, Craig Singleman (D), Michael Clancy, Ralph Van Hulst, Justin & Cynthia Fitzpatrick, Nityama Martin, Sattwa, Stu Pougher (D), Tony Roberts, Louise Roberts (D), Peter O'Hara (D), Julica Jungehulsing, Larry Knight, Griff, Wayne & Jenny Skinner, Harvey Cresswell, Franklin Dykshorn, Roger Ball (D).

Apologies

Mohini Browngedge, Anne Wilson, Alicia Fox, Paul Martin, John & Zoe Hutchinson, Keith & Margaret Leech

Visitors

Aliya Aamot, Mark Korenic, Robina and Philip Laing, Gorden Hook, Emmett Blackwell, Kelly Jones, Glenn Nowotny, Jan Larsen, Ric Marie.

Proxies - 6

Confirmation of Minutes

For General meeting 2/7/16, proposed Stu, Seconded Julica, Vote: Unanimous

For Community meeting 3/12/16, amendment: Gemma & Todd's site 4 not 24

Proposed Ralph, Seconded Craig, Vote: Unanimous

Business Arising from Previous Meeting

1. Guest Policy Questionnaire

Denise Coburn explained the differences in the new draft and old policies and facilitated the questionnaire. All members present were given a copy to fill in. Results would be tabled after morning tea and discussed.

2. Road Access to ex Wauchop block.

The new road has been correctly aligned on Crown road reserve and issue resolved.

Some safety concern about lack of vision near the intersection

Agreed to put up a Give Way sign.

Secretary Report

1. NPWS - no response to query re key location for new gate at our end of Big Hill fire trail and also their response to a fire situation.

Action : Bron to follow up with NPWS.

2. NSW OEH (Office Environment and Heritage) letter received re. tree felling along Illa Langi Road. The Co-op will not be fined this time, however we must notify them if we cut down any more native trees.

3. Overdue member fees. Three members are more than 12 months overdue. It was agreed to follow policy and Ralph to send out pro forma follow-up letters.

4. Illa- Langi - nothing further to report

5. Latest mail-out - two members' mail returned to co-op. Unable to reach them.

6. NBN. Ralph has a contact if anyone is having trouble with an NBN application.

7. Charlie Living on Cindy's site:

A letter was sent to Cindy to contact the Co-op before today's meeting to explain. No formal correspondence received from her.

Stu spoke to Cindy re the Guest Policy, but her intentions are unclear.

Actions:

- Nityama offered to go through the guest process with Charlie (Cindy's guest)
- The Co-op should follow its rules and charge \$10 a day
- We must be mindful of using correct language: GUESTS ARE NOT MEMBERS
- It should be clarified with the Treasurer that Cindy's payments
- All actions to be finalised at next community meeting

8. Insurance. Given the sabotage around the Co-op Ralph has quotes to insure Camp Kitchen building and contents, and machinery shed building and contents.

Action: Ralph to get more quotes.

9. A new router is needed to update the Secretary's computer used for Goolawah's business - cost \$50. Proposed to approve by Tarrik, Seconded Craig, Vote Unanimous

DA Report

Council's verbal (in principle) acceptance of both our access roads as all-weather gravel with appropriate design standard, was put into a new S96 Application dated 16.12.2016 and submitted for approval (on the website).

Response from Council is still pending, and Ralph will follow up with Shane R next week to check on progress. Council had also insisted that we consider neighbour objections to our previous S96 and these were addressed in our last one.

Council have indicated they will take ownership of Illa Langi Road from Crown roads and provide maintenance of it, and have put up for discussion the cattle grid at intersection of Nevertire Road and Maria River Road (which is currently broken).

Discussion about the broken cattle grid, and Frank has offered to get quotes to fix it using steel.

Action: Frank to get quotes but hold off on work till a formal response from Council has been received.

Road Report

Grass along Illa Langi Rd needs cutting. Discussion re safety concerns using tractor.

Action: Special working bee Sat 27/1 at 7am start. Members to bring brush cutters and own safety equipment.

Request for street sign for Lovers Lane. Agreed not to purchase one but to paint a sign.

Membership & Guest Report

A few applications have been completed

Emmett Blackwell nominated for guest approval - process is complete and no issues.
Nominated by Tarrik, Seconded by Craig. Vote Unanimous

Deb Broughton nominated for guest approval - process complete and no issues.
Nominated by Nityama, Seconded by Griff. Vote Unanimous.

For noting: Tim Davis site between Russell and Gerard is for sale. No amount disclosed.

Machinery Shed Report

No major reports
New runners are needed on the old slasher
Action: Frank to check.

Fire Squad Report

We are in a high fire danger season - members are reminded: NO FIRES

Resolutions

Resolution Number 1

Proposed Board, Seconded Belinda

“The decision to remove any native trees > 100mm on Goolawah Community land, apart from those on a member’s own home improvement area, is to be made by ordinary resolution at a General Meeting. Removal of Trees >150mm require DA approval. For information : [https://www.kempsey.nse.gov.au/development/pubs/clearing of trees and vegetation](https://www.kempsey.nse.gov.au/development/pubs/clearing%20of%20trees%20and%20vegetation)”.

Research has been attended by Wayne Skinner and provided to the meeting - it depends on land-zoning. For RU (rural landscape) covering our hamlets no DA is required, but if it is environmentally sensitive then approval is from NSW Office of Environment and Heritage.

Concern was raised at how many trees were taken down in the Outback. Older members reminded the meeting that the Outback was originally cleared of trees 15 years ago and that it has taken a long time for those sites to be sold and in the meantime trees have grown there.

Discussion continued about communication between neighbours and sharing of plans to cut trees down on members’ block.

There are heavy fines for breaking laws and Goolawah must be compliant.

Action

Resolution withdrawn and needs more workshopping.

Harvey to rewrite and bring to the next meeting. Harvey is happy to have input.

(Break for Morning Tea - 15 minutes)

Amended Resolution 2 - Adopt Guest Policy dated 10/01/17

Denise provided feedback from the questionnaire completed by members:

The majority of people believed

the free stay should be 2 months
A guest register should be put in place
Guest status should be reviewed as required
Amount \$20 per week (to be updated in the policy)

Areas that needed more discussion as numbers were too close:

1. How many guest levy exemptions per member?

After much discussion it was agreed to allow applications for 2 exemptions per membership.

Vote:

23 for 2 exemptions

7 for 1 Exemption

2 for zero exemptions

Policy to be updated to include 2 exemptions for each member

2. Exemption for family members to go through the guest application process

After very lengthy discussion, it was agreed that ALL GUESTS go through the process unless the member applies for *special circumstances* exemption, which will be decided by the Board.

Vote : 31 for

0 abstaining

0 against

Policy to be updated to include this clause.

3. Guest policy AS READ OUT including the amendments of two levy exemptions and exemptions from undertaking the guest process; 2 months free and \$20 p.w levy; a vote was held:

31 that the amended draft guest policy be approved.

0 abstain

0 against.

Treasurer's Report

Proposed Ralph, Seconded Craig, Approved Unanimously

Work and Expenses Claims

Discussion about work claims for Red Hill Last Resort and Community job list

Agreed to hold over to February Community Meeting

Submitted work claims approved, except for Gemma & Todd's held over

General Business

1. Community access trails

Agreed to purchase star pickets to mark out community trails with a budget of \$200. Website maps needs updating as inaccurate.

Nominated Bron, Seconded Ralph, Vote Unanimous

Bron to attend

2. Dam and use of water in Burrandong, The Bowl and the Outback.

Proposal by Chris Jones to pump water to his market gardens till 7.30 p.m. It was not accepted as it would change a by-law and the correct process must be undertaken. Therefore pumping water after 6 pm is not allowed.

Discussion about the many issues surrounding the tank and not enough water, or water pressure.

Given Chris has a commercial vegetable garden, it was suggested he purchase his own tank. This would alleviate the issue of coming home to an empty tank, and needing to fill the tank after 6pm. It was also suggested consideration be given to a solar pump.

Resolved that Roger, Chris, Kevin and Tony work together to sound proof the pump to mitigate noise intrusion.

Chris confirmed that the water he uses is first pumped to the community tank and then gravity fed to his site.

3. Bamboo plantings at Northgate.

It was agreed at the meeting these plants are too close to the road as this bamboo species is a large plant 4+ metres wide. The community access trail between 26 and 25 was relocated some time ago, and is now located between 27 and 28, so no issue regarding bamboo plantings between 26 and 25. Members need to seek approval at a community or general meeting if they wish to plant on community land.

ACTION The North Gate trees should be moved - Sattwa to organise

4. Privacy Policy

Goolawah needs a privacy policy under the law. A pro forma policy from the Dept of Fair Trading was obtained and used for Goolawah policy. It will be placed on the web site

Action For Ratification at next meeting

Gratitude Round

Everyone was thanked for their patience and contributions.

Meeting closed 1405.