

## January General Meeting

Date: 19th January 2019, 9.10am

Chair: Craig Singleman, Peter O'Hara (last 30 minutes)

Minutes: Julica Jungehülsing

((Chairperson signature ..... ))

### Members attending

John Tennock, Nicola, Bruce and Axle Hore, Greg Ryan, Wayne Ellis, Alan Blake, Russell Childs, Michael Clancy, Verity Gill, Callum Lawson, Anthony Griffith, Mark Doonan, Ralph v Hulst, Alby Hunter, Roger Ball, Belinda Ball, Crow Tribe, Bronwyn Little, Tony Roberts, Louise Roberts, Jim Ronchetti, Peter O'Hara, Denise Cobourn, Julica Jungehülsing. Kevin Harper (D), Trinh Nguyen (D), Dan Rose (D), David Launt (D), Rebekah Gorline (D), Cindee Pascoe (D), Craig Singleman (D) (late arrivals: Petra Kuessler, Atmo Kuessler, Dave Van-Meghelen, Jason Forinton)

### Visitors

Sam Mehan, Arly McInerny, Guula Mehan (4), Gilayn Mehan (2), Shannon Ryan, Helen Lawson, Shannon Crees, Logan Christensen, Michelle Ngyuen, Julien Romaggi, Eloise Cossom. Jason Forinton

### Apologies

Anne Tennock, Sainttina de Moleay, Frank Dykshorn, Dennis Cobourn, Alicia Fox,

### Confirmation of December Meeting Minutes

*Proposed - Craig Singleman, Seconded Trinh Nguyen*

*Approved unanimously*

### Business arising

#### Emergency contact update

Rose has been updating spreadsheet with emergency contacts of resident members, communicating with Jim about progress, so far 27 contacts registered

*Action:* please fill out and give/send form to Rose if you haven't done so

#### Rules update

The revision of Co-op rules and by-laws was presented again at an open information session early Jan, no further input from members, final draft now up for voting.

#### Special Resolution 1

To adopt the full revision of the Goolawah Co-operative Rules

*Proposed - Denise Cobourn, Seconded - Peter O'Hara*

*for: 23      against: 2      abstained: 0*

#### Special Resolution 2

To adopt the revision of the Goolawah Co-operative By-laws

*Proposed - Denise Cobourn, Seconded - Peter O'Hara*

*for: 21      against: 1      abstained: 1*

Louise: Big Thank You for the work the team (Peter OH, Roger, Denise) has done over the last year.

### **Secretary's report**

1. Q: How long should records about the co-op's directors be kept? Hard copies are available, can be digitised - *referred to* directors meeting to decide/solve.

2. To help solve the dispute between neighbours outside the Co-op caused by Mark Dunn, Ralph E wrote a letter on behalf of the Co-op to support Denise & Chris Drew and Nick Hobbs and their families in their court case vs Dunn. The court case is now adjourned to mediation.

*Action:* The letter was approved by directors and will be sent to Nick Hobbs anyway to help with the mediation process.

3. Public liability Insurance: Do we need to be insured for a higher sum? Ralph assures us that existing insurance coverage is adequate, and protects directors too.

*Action:* Ralph E to check if there's a document that can be made available for members to read online (link), or create a simple summary of what our insurance covers

### **DA Roads Report**

Ralph E: our consultant Geraldine Haigh had a meeting with Council, not sure if engineers have had a look at the road it yet and he thinks we may be close to a deal. Peter clarified that Geraldine's letter to Council on our behalf proposed a staged sealing of Nevertire Road as an amendment to our last Section 96 (Dec 2016) modification of consent condition, and might need approval by a full Council meeting. And prior to each new stage of the planned road works a section 138 would be submitted.

*Action:* Ralph E to clarify with Geraldine that this is the correct understanding, and probable bureaucratic response from Council.

### **Membership Report**

Current applications looked after by the team:

Sam Odermatt and Erica Schuster, Steven Campbell (Lexie)

Arly, Sam & children (Nityama)

Michelle Nguyen, Logan Christensen (Cindee)

Matt, Siobhan & River (Cindee)

Shannon Crees (Griff)

Shannon Ryan (Trinh)

Caleb Reid (Trinh)

Jason & Felicity Forinton (Alicia)

Q: Should the membership intake process be slowed down because there's a lot of interest, many applications and not that many available shares?

Mixed opinions - leave to membership team to decide for now.

Q: Should the Coop send another letter to non-resident members to encourage them to sell, and after some discussion it was agreed to do so. Ralph E and Rebekah to action it.

Chris Jones's wife Via and Mark Green's partner Davina haven't made any steps towards joint/guest membership yet. Question if process for partners could be simplified.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

### Treasurer transition/future

John is not retiring yet, but preparing for a smooth hand-over for his successor (one applicant for the job so far).

He's worked on implementing processes to make all members financial, avoid late payments, make things easier and improve payment punctuality.

The new finance system works faster and better and will make the hand-over easier.

It produces one single document for receipt, invoice and statement. He's running a trial with a few members on new and old (MYOB) systems in parallel to check functionality.

Outlook: from July 2019 John will have the new system running and be ready to hand over the job to a new treasurer a year later, in July 2020.

It would be ideal from his point of view if a future treasurer could be voted at the next AGM in Oct 2019 to work together for a period and then pass the job over.

During a meeting with directors this week this transition plan was outlined, and more small meetings to define details will follow.

John has worked hard to get Goolawah's finance matters in an orderly state and has a strong wish to see this work continued after he resigns.

Available funds - Is there spare money for new projects? No, all available funds are budget allocated as at monthly account closure end of Dec, but John will prepare an update for the next monthly meeting with additional incomes likely to change the situation.

### Work claims

A late work claim from Ben Adams (not on website) was handed in, incl. several working bee claims (overall \$185). Reminder: please use writeable pdf forms available on website.

Vote: to approve all work claims as published on website (plus Ben's) and the Treasurer's report for Dec 2018

*proposed - Craig, seconded - Dan*  
unanimously approved

### **Camp Kitchen Report**

Trinh: Toilet was broken - Craig, Alan, Ralph vH took it apart and cleaned it during January work bee, Mark Doonan, Callum & men shed fixed it and put it back together.

Design of toilet comes with holes, which allows saw dust entering wrong spots, design will be improved, but we won't invest too much in existing toilet since a new loo is planned for the future. Regular rotation of the existing toilet required. Trinh volunteered to help if someone with tool skill helps her.

Donation box will be removed, only brought to meetings and events. Visitors are encouraged to donate for use of gas, tea, etc. they can hand donation in person to Trinh.

There's no bin anymore = miraculously the maggots disappeared as well.

Take any rubbish with you.

### **Machinery report**

Roger: There was a problem with the trailer pump, prospective member Sam Odermatt gave advice and helped fix it for now. Possibly different type of fuel to be used in the future.

More people should come forward to get induction and training for tractor use. Members are encouraged to approach Roger or Ralph to learn about new tractor, plus read and sign the form that they're aware of risks and tasks whilst using heavy equipment.

Please do not start driving the new tractor with handbrake on.

## **Fire Squad**

Michael: More work on new striker has been done.

Discussion about possible storage place for fire equipment on Red Hill: A small machinery shed is required for 2nd striker, tractor and other fire fighting gear. 2 options for the location on Red Hill are discussed: between Last Resort and playground or closer to the dam.

The cost is estimated around \$15.000 - 20.000, depending on location.

Red Hill dwellers will be invited to join a meeting to discuss location via phone message.

## **Last Resort update**

James: lot of earth work has been done, some by Mick Conomos, around the building for better drainage. Other work in recent weeks: Sub surface drainage around the building during work bee. Next step will be rendering the walls. John: \$5000 are still available from the building-budget.

## **Social Committee Report**

Social events for 2019 are being planned. Friday night drinks continue at Bonobo Bar (\$50 subscription per year includes beer tasting). Committee is suggesting a monthly community dinner/pot luck/pizza night, possibly on the 3rd Saturday of the month. Members interested in organising card or trivia nights should get in touch with Laz or Craig, all ideas and feedback are welcome, even if you don't want to run the shows yourself.

## **Chairman and Facilitator training,**

Louise offers to share her skills and train people in chairing or facilitating Goolawah meetings.

## **General Business**

### Dam proposal below camp kitchen.

Kevin has drawn up a proposal for a new dam below Camp kitchen. 2 alternatives are outlined, with a dam builder company (Angus Bucket man), who creates active, environmentally sensitive water holes. Option A is a smaller dam (about \$14.000). Option B is much bigger, set between the trees and would cost around \$28.000 plus tree removal cost.

Reasons for this dam: water source, fire fighting, looks nice, improves environment, possible connections for Burrendong residents to water supply, lot of soil/dirt could be used to create big mounds, as tank base for Burrendong, swales and roads.

### PTO chipper

Alby is looking around for a new or second hand PTO chipper for about \$3000, to be further discussed in next meeting

### Threatening animals

Michael: our by-law (#8 no introduced animals) should be understood to include the banning of key threatening species, which includes European Honey Bee hives (according to the definition of the NSW Biodiversity and Conservation Act 2016, "Competition from feral honey bees, *Apis mellifera* L." is registered as 'Key threatening process', [legislation.nsw.gov.au/#/view/act/2016/63](http://legislation.nsw.gov.au/#/view/act/2016/63))

Amongst the problems of European bees: they take valuable resources away from natives, swarming in a mainly uncontrolled/uncontrollable process, bees cannot be con-

tained, they encroach and destroy native food sources, endanger chicks nesting in tree hollows.

Proposal: since listed on the biodiversity act we should enforce it, and slowly move away from having hives for European Honey Bees on Goolawah

*Action:* Bee keepers amongst members will discuss the issue and will get back to the co-op with further ideas about addressing the problem (phasing out their hives?).

#### Irrigation in the outback

The outback dam near Mark and Lexie needs work, it can only be fixed when dry or near dry. Discussion to be continued about either try to fix it or abandon it and think about a new dam in the area.

**Gratitude round, meeting closed: 12.10pm**