

Goolawah Co-operative - General Meeting Minutes - 9 April 2022

Commence: 9am

Minute Taker: Rose Mahar

Chairperson: Peter O'Hara

Acknowledgement of Country Yahway - Barri Dhungatti

Housekeeping: Reminder regarding meeting etiquette (Rule 49 Standing Orders at GMs).

COVID: check current restrictions before attending the GM, please don't attend if you are unwell.

Voting: Inactive members are not permitted to vote at a GM either in person or via proxy (Rule 41).

Attendance:

Jac Larsen, Rose Mahar, Peter O'Hara, Belinda Ball, Tarrik Morssi, Lee Albert, Peter Wells, Luke Keenan, Aliya Tribe, Nicola Grace, Bruce Hore, Trinh Nguyen, Chris Jones, Erika Schuster, Natalie Lawler, Marty Cole, Shantell Byron, Rob Hewitt, Steve Campbell, Justine Shaw, Adam Cvetkovski, Cindee Pascoe, Jim Ronchetti, Wayne Ellis, Leah Skinner, Frank Dykshoorn, Christina Mayer, Daniel Rose, Noemi Campisi, Mark Green

Directors:

Julica Jungehülsing, Wayne Skinner, Ralph van Hulst, Bronwyn Little

Apologies:

Roger Ball, Denise Cobourn, Al Blake, Steve Hall, Craig Singleman (D), Kevin Harper (D), Nick Reid (D), John Tennock

Visitors:

John Robson, Elizabeth Locke, Janet Hope, Mim Fluhrer, Jay Keenan, Anadean Douglas

Confirmation of previous General Meeting Minutes: (Chairperson)

PROPOSAL: To accept the previous minutes (signed by Chairperson)

PROPOSED: Rose

SECONDED: Wayne

APPROVED

Treasurer's Report

Read by Wayne Skinner.

PROPOSAL: To accept the Treasurer's report

PROPOSED: Wayne

SECONDED: Justine

APPROVED

Work Claims:

Two work claims were presented. One for Atmo and the other for John T..

PROPOSAL: To accept the work claims as posted.

PROPOSED: Wayne

SECONDED: Jim

APPROVED

Business arising:

Landcare Report (Craig):

1. National Parks Draft Management Plan. Submission completed and lodged. Contact me if you wish to see the details.

2. Koala Grants Program. Due to flooding of Nth Coast our LLS contact has been sent Nth to assist with the flood recovery. They will contact me when they are able to resume the program and land dries out more.

In the meantime, local Macleay Landcare Network has been in contact. Bernard came out and installed some nest boxes and may bring some more. Have been in contact with Andy from MLN and we have been added to their list of potential properties for Koala Grants and programs such as weed removal. Steve Campbell is working on a submission for another koala grant at state level. The local Landcare group plan to visit Goolawah on Tuesday 12th to locate the koala corridor. The grant would most likely provide funding for weed control, particularly Camphor Laurel removal, but all decisions relating to methods, work force etc are yet to be finalised. There will be no action until the approval of the community is secured.

3. A tree fell over the fence on our northern boundary. Our neighbour, Darren (goats), has repaired the shared fence line. The directors have agreed to pay \$565 towards materials and labour.

Animal Management Plans: (Julica)

Two animal management plans were brought to the meeting for discussion due to the potentially divisive details in each plan. Normally the more straightforward plans are discussed and approved by the directors. All other animal management plans received so far have been published on the website.

- a) Crow & Alyia have submitted their plan. Aside from poultry they plan to keep a pair of breeding rabbits to provide meat for the family. There was lot of discussion about the pros and cons of allowing this to proceed. There was genuine concern about the potential for the animals to escape and breed with the current increasing population of wild rabbits. The cages are movable and very secure. Aliya explained that the pair were to be housed separately and only allowed to breed once or twice a year depending on the family's meat needs. They were not intending to produce meat for sale. They agree to comply with the Government regulations relating to the keeping of rabbits. They will limit the number of rabbits to a total of 20 at any one time. After much discussion there was a vote to approve the proposal subject to the conditions outlined above.

APPROVED

- b) Tarrik: has revised his previous plan and has removed the goats from it. Aside from chickens he is seeking approval to stable a horse overnight on his block on an occasional basis. He explained that he would like to be able to ride the horse to the beach and back, but that taking it all the way to the agistment is too far to ride in one day. Therefore, the plan is to break the journey by allowing an overnight rest stop at Goolawah. There was a lot of discussion about the pros and cons of horses in relation to our current by-laws.

The discussion included :-

- the possible impact of horses on the environment – some negative, some positive;
- concern for the comfort and security of the horse;
- the fact that the by-laws can be changed or adjusted to accommodate the changing nature of the community;
- as long as people are responsible they should be given the opportunity to try new things.

A proposal to allow Tarrik to house a visiting horse overnight on his site was voted on, subject to the condition that the animal be securely tethered.

APPROVED

Community Playground Plan Proposal: to approve the new project plan for the Community Playground at Red Hill.

Discussion:-

- the requirement for “softfall” to minimise our liability in case of accident. While “softfall” will not prevent accidents from occurring it will reduce the likelihood of serious injury and show that the co-operative has made an effort to be proactive in making the play area safe;
- the \$1000 budgeted in a prior meeting was to install “softfall”, install public liability signs and repair broken equipment;
- the project team argued against the need for this as it made the area more difficult to maintain and would use up the entire budget;
- suggestions for type of materials, cost, depth etc were made; Wayne will investigate further and also check our insurance coverage.
- it was decided to vote on the playground proposal without the safety legalities and the erection of screening. These will become part of another project with a change of scope.

PROPOSED: Marty

SECONDED: Bruce

APPROVED

Secretary’s Report: AFSS completed by Wayne and sent to KSC. Bundagen newsletter available electronically.

DA Report: (Wayne)

There has been no response from KSC. The lawyers have been in touch with council managers and the appeal will now go to the land and environment court. The first step in the process is conciliation/discussion with council. At this stage the legal team are quietly confident. The cost of the legal process was queried and it was reiterated that if we win the appeal it will save the community a lot of money.

Road Report: (Craig)

Since meeting with APH (Deka) in early Jan. we have had our yearly rainfall average in just 3 months. Before last flood, APH had equipment loaded and ready to come out. Will contact them to see what next plan is. Obviously, roads, especially Illa Langhi, continue to deteriorate in this weather. Patience is required. As Kevin has returned I will be going back to assisting him with further work.

Machinery Report: (Ralph)

Everything is working at the moment.

Membership Report: (Julica)

1a. Community review of Elisabeth Locke's Membership Application was positive.

1b. Proposal: To vote for Elisabeth Locke eligible for membership of Goolawah Cooperative
Rationale: Elizabeth has completed all requirements of the membership process and is eligible for membership.

Proposed: Marty Cole

Seconded: Justine Shaw

APPROVED

2. Update of progress with current Membership applications:

Jonathan Matterson & Hazel Ortega, with Emily (Justine/Ish) - both have jobs in the area and are presently too busy to continue membership process;

Ginny Reid (Ish/Justine) – no new information;

Andy Ellen & Belinda Elliott (Marty/Ish) – not in a hurry;

Jay Keenan and Anadean Douglas (Trinh/Justine) – staying at G. and keen to continue with the membership process;

John Robson (Trinh/Ish) – has been a visitor for several weeks and attending today's meeting;

Janet Hope (Trinh/Marty) – has started the membership process and attending today's meeting.

3. Possible pause in membership

Suggestion: we have more than 6 current membership applications, and 1 share for sale, what do members think about a pause in membership intake?

Rationale: it is a lot of work for the team to get people through and we're raising hopes of applicants without being able to offer them shares.

After a lot of discussion around the merits of keeping the process open this suggestion was withdrawn.

4. Mim Fluhrer has completed the paperwork to become a guest of a member.

APPROVED

Fire and Flood Report: (Craig) The community continues to demonstrate resilience in the face of several flooding events. No major issues with rationing of food were brought to my attention. SES and helicopter responded to one medical emergency. SES visited near the end of the last flood to assist with food deliveries, if necessary. As no one had contacted me, I reported that it was not necessary as we are used to flooding and being prepared and will share food if necessary. Besides it looked like we were going to get out in the next day or two. Phone Tree continued to work well to inform members of situation and members sharing information on road conditions etc, including photographs!

Project updates:

1. Last Resort: (Steve)

There has been a lot of work done to clean up the site. There is still some more work to be done including waterproofing the "turret". Steve is looking into upcoming costs.

2. Accessible toilet: (Wayne)

The lock on the inside needs to be repaired and the fans checked. Men's shed are continuing to work on the rails etc.. Frank is welding up the frames for the bleachers which will have portable seating.

3. Camp Kitchen: (Bronwyn) Project completed.

4. Red Hill Boomerang Garden: there will be a working bee on Sunday 10/4 to weed and do some planting. More plants to go in soon.

5. Playground: See discussion in business arising.

General Business:

1. Playground Screening:

PROPOSAL: to initiate a project to screen the playground from impacted neighbours and to include safety provisions such as "softfall" and appropriate signage.

Playground project has suggested a screen be positioned between the Pump Track and neighbouring houses. To achieve this a new project will be initiated with a new project manager and funded by the community to \$1000. PM to provide a plan and budget to achieve this. (Wayne/Jac?)

Proposed: Wayne Skinner

Seconded: Marty

APPROVED

2. Rabbits on Redhill:

Rabbits are now seen as regular visitors on Red Hill. Most are wild rabbits but there is a white rabbit on the loose too (pet rabbits are expected to be desexed and kept in cages). Tarrik is doing his bit by shooting them with his bow and arrow. No other suggestions forthcoming.

3. Working bees: See Boomerang Garden and Last Resort items.

4. Approved Works Register Proposal for an approved works register:

Nick Reid is currently working on this and will speak about it at the next GM.

5. Construction of dam on Red Hill (Nick Reid's site) and alteration of the "slide" dam.

Discussion:-

- Some community members alleged that Nick built a dam without approval. This however was incorrect as the dam was approved by the directors on 17th November after a proper consultation period. The community was notified by text message when the excavator was on site;
- A spillway has been dug into the "slide" dam without community consultation resulting in a significant drop in the water level;
- There was also concern that the old slides have been removed. Some members expressed that they would like the slides to be reinstated and the water level issue be mitigated to return the dam to its former facility.

Meeting end time: 12:18

Next General Meeting will be held at the Camp Kitchen on 11 June 2