

Goolawah Special General Meeting 11 May 2024

Chair: Peter O'Hara

Minutes: Denise Cobourn, Julica Jungehülsing

Start: 9.10am

Attendance: (D= Directors)

Alan Blake, Denise Cobourn, Marty Cole, Anna DuChesne (D), Nick Reid, Mairead Shorten-Wells (via Signal), Ralph vanHulst, Lee Albert, Alicia Fox, Peter O'Hara, Julica Jungehülsing (D), Craig Singleman, Erica Costa Schuster, Rob Hewitt (9-10am), Dan Rose, Lexie Gonzalez

Apologies: Jac Larsen, Leah Skinner, Wayne Skinner, Bronwin Little, Wayne Ellis

Acknowledgement of Country - Yawayi Barri Dhungal

Confirmation of previous General Meeting minutes:

Proposal: To accept the Minutes of the General Meeting on 13. April 2024

Proposed: Julica **Seconded:** Anna
unanimous

1. Membership

Membership Review for Mim (Jasmin) Fluhrer (Lexie Gonzalez)

Mim has fulfilled all requirements of the membership process and this SGM was the opportunity for members to review her application. No concerns were raised. Two referees still need to get back to Lexie.

The vote for Mim's eligibility can therefore go ahead in the June GM.

Enquiries: two families (Zsophia +, and Luke +) have enquired about joining and Zsophia of them might attend the next GM

Eligible members Michelle and Logan have spent a week in Goolawah and joined social events. They are still interested in finding a suitable site. (The updated membership policy asks eligible members without site to stay in touch with the coop)

2. By-Laws Revision

The Ordinary Resolution proposed at the April GM was withdrawn as further discussion was required on some topics.

The meeting used the opportunity of this SGM to finalise the By-Laws review so that the full revision can be proposed and voted on at the June GM (if necessary as separate resolutions for individual by-laws).

By-Laws Revision is attached in a separate document.

Discussion points were:

1) Code of conduct: include all members, *their families* and guests

Old BL 2) Not necessary as covered by new Grievance Policy,
so new numbering from here:

2) Speed: include *members, their families* and guests

3) Driving: include families; “dangerous” can be a subjective term, still important to point out

- should we include not negatively impacting roads and nature (already mentioned in code of conduct/respect environment)
- members: please remind contractors and delivery drivers of speed limits.
- do we need new speed limit signs? Ralph proposed signs at the entry points at Nevertire and Illa Langi - before welcome signs.
- would motorbike noise and repetitive behaviour change if defined times are permitted/given? to be discussed by parents

4) Machinery noise: in each period (winter/summer) 30 minutes were added to allow for more work/watering

- discussion if a possible quiet day or afternoon could be a possibility in the future

5) Entering member's site: except for official or emergency purposes and family, guest was added

6) No change

7) Cloven-hoofed animals and introduced species - no change

Discussion: many members especially value the conservation aspects of our property, others see a chance for more animal husbandry in the future - for food and as well to make permaculture more successful (eg pig or goat manure); the lack of perimeter fences allows wildlife to move freely.

The SGM concluded that we are not ready to remove this by-law at this stage, but the Co-op will keep the discussion going about the possible use of - for example Secret Paddock - for certain farm animals in the future.

8) Legislation added

9) Herbicides and pesticides: the existing by-law may be too prohibitive as it doesn't specify that “herbicides” may use non-chemical ingredients like ground chilli spray or urine. Also, damage may be caused by the way the herbicide is used, for example with too high doses or wrong weather conditions.

Agreed suggestion to create a Fact Sheet (Craig, James) to educate us all about the reasonable use of herbicides and applications that are not environmentally damaging. Some weeds are so invasive (recent example turkey rhubarb) that measures must be taken.

10) Added: Ordinary Resolution with 21 days notice

11) Sand: volume specified

12) no discussion

13) Principal place of residence was queried since SEPP 15 no longer exists, but it is still required under our Consent Conditions.

14) Toilet discussion - Added:

Pit toilets, aerated water treatment and septic systems are not permitted on the Co-operative.

At this stage two members have aerated water treatment (AWTS) or septic systems that don't comply with our existing by-law.

Mairead: AWTS are expensive to install and maintain - if someone sells, this will come with a price tag. Mairead explains that the black water from an AWTS system is usable but owners end up with black sludge in a tank that has to be serviced by a truck and taken out, which can be a risk for the environment.

Craig explains how the density and soil type (clay) on Goolawah would make septic systems a nightmare.

Should the Board be in charge of approving/not approving systems other than dry composting?

Board members shall abide by rules and community decisions (delegation manual)

Question remains for further discussion: how will the Cooperative deal with the already installed AWTS and septic system?

Meeting closed: 12.30pm

Next GM: June 8th, 9am Camp Kitchen