

Goolawah Co-operative GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Saturday 14 June 2025 9:00am Camp Kitchen

CHAIRPERSON: Jac Larsen

Chairperson Signature

Minute Taker: Craig Singleman

Commenced: 9:10

Acknowledgement of Country

Housekeeping: Reminder of meeting etiquette Rule 50 Standing Orders at GMs

Voting Reminder: Inactive members cannot vote Rule 42 Voting

ATTENDANCE

Members: Adam, Leah, Erika, Sam O, Laz, Justine, Elisabeth, Wayne S, Jenny, Alicia, Lily, Natalie, Russell, Dan, Mark G.

Directors: Denise (9 – 10.15), Kevin, Lee, Craig (sub, Julica).

Apologies: John (Treas) & Anne, Wayne E, Bronwyn, Anna (D), Nick (Sec), Julica (D), Peter O, Gerard, Steve H, Griff.

Guests: Helen & Mia Groombridge, Narelle, Janice (?).

TABLED DOCUMENTS

GM minutes 12 April 2025 / Treasurer's Report & Work Claims

2025-2026 Budget & Levies Ordinary Resolution / Budget Summary

Co-op Budget detail 2025-2026

Work on Shared Community Land / Work Claims draft document

Clare Miller and Tor-Jermaine Branton – membership application / documentation

ORDINARY BUSINESS

Approval of General Meeting Minutes 12 April 2025

Amendments - Add:

- Proposer and seconder for the Work List and Claim Form resolution

Proposer: Denise Cobourn Seconder: Peter O'Hara

- Question 6: Do you agree with the DRAFT budgets for ADMIN and Infrastructure so far? – YES

April GM clarification – Denise

The Ordinary Resolution "To approve the revised Work List and Claim Form to include a separate process and Work Claim for the Bush Fire Management, Road and Machinery Maintenance Team" is withdrawn, as the Infrastructure Share must be paid financially, not through work hours.

Proposal: To accept the amended 12 April 2025 GM minutes (signed by Chairperson)

Proposer: Denise Seconder: Jac

Vote: 11 For, 3 Abstain, 0 Against: PASSED(Unanimously)

Board Meeting Minutes 7 May 2025 posted on the website. Registered letter sent 2/5/25 from the Board replying to Petra and Atmo Kusseler was returned as not collected from Crescent Head PO.

Treasurer's Report and Work Claims

Note from John that Work Claims, exceeding the \$300 Work Levy and therefore claiming on Membership Levy, must be clearly minuted as this may impact the Budget.

Proposal: To accept the Treasurer's Report and Work Claims as posted on the website. Including Work Claims that have exceeded the \$300 Work Levy.

Proposer: John Seconder: Wayne S

Vote: Passed Unanimously (0 Against/or Abs)

ATO Update - Denise

The co-op is now registered to use on-line business services for lodging Tax Returns / Returns Not Necessary. Returns Not Necessary have been lodged from 2012 to 2024. 2024-2025 will also be a Return Not Necessary.

Annual Financial Statement is now divided into Assessable Income (mainly bank interest) and Non-Assessable Income (everything else), Deductible and Non-Deductible Expenses to align with reporting requirements for NFP Taxable organisations.

BUSINESS ARISING

Work on Shared Community Land draft document – Good discussion had on clarifying procedures and documenting work claims made by Maintenance Teams. The Guidelines include approved procedures and rates, and a General Work Claim form and a Maintenance Team Work Claim form.

ACTION:

Denise to update the Guidelines with meeting recommendations, and propose the Guidelines and Work Claims be adopted for approval at the August AGM with 21 days' notice.

Security update – Dan gave an update on how the security system works at the Machinery Shed and what he has done. A security camera and lights (motion triggered) have been set up in Machinery Shed with batteries, solar system etc housed in shipping container. Pictures are sent via Larry's internet to Dan's phone and stored in a Cloud facility. Security issues have eased somewhat after recent events as two of the alleged perpetrators were apprehended.

CK Solar upgrade - Dan proposed two different sized battery systems, a) 100-amp hour @ \$3000 and a larger b) 330 amp hour @ \$4500 this includes all equipment, some donated by Kieth, Wayne S and Dan – many thanks. Discussion on Pros/Cons of each system. The funds to purchase the equipment would be drawn from surplus funds.

Proposed: To purchase the 330-amp hour system for \$4500 and Dan will install.

Proposer: Dan

Seconder: Most enthusiastically – Liz

Vote: Passed unanimously (0 Against/or abstain)

Note: Old CK system to be reused at Last Resort.

REPORTS

Secretary's Report – Nick provided report to Denise

Routine business:

- forwarding enquiries from Prospective Members
- Annual Fire Safety Statement Certification paid
- distributing Share Certificates
- fielding general enquiries from both members and the public

Guests of members:

- email sent to Callum & Helen, Stephen & Janet, Chris & Via requesting they complete and return the outstanding Guest Agreement within 28 days.

Insurance policies update:

The policy sourced by Coverforce Brokers was more expensive and did not include Public Liability insurance. Public Liability insurance with LCIS was inadequate as it did not cover the co-ops level of risk. We now have in place 2 new insurance policies sourced by Aviso Brokers.

1. Management Liability with BizCover \$1,320 (provides cover for loss arising from any negligence on the part of Board members, secretary, or treasurer).

2. Farm Pack with CGU \$5,455 includes;

- 10M Public Liability (provides cover for injury/damage to any public person caused by any member doing work for the co-op e.g. slashing, mowing, grading etc.)

- Theft/Damage (provides cover for Camp Kitchen, Machinery Shed and Last Resort).

We are waiting on a quote to cover the tractors and strikers.

Total policy cost \$8000 approx., a saving of \$4000.

Insurance premiums are predicted to rise 2025-2026, so insurance budget left at \$14000.

Membership Report – Anna provided report to Liz

MC Meeting Minutes 9 June posted on website

- **Membership documentation review** – the MC is currently revising documentation for community consultation and will announce a date for a SGM in July to discuss proposed updates. The four most recent Prospective Member questionnaires posted on the website will also be discussed at the SGM.
- **Membership Applications update**
 - Clare Miller and Tor-Jermaine Branton joint membership applications/documentation reviewed – all in order and ready to proceed with vote at next GM.
ACTION: Proposal to approve Clare and Tor as eligible for membership at the August AGM.
 - Helen & Mia Groombridge – attended June GM, staying for 2 weeks starting Thursday 12 June
 - Nathan & Winona Cosford - attended 2 social events
 - Saray Barba & Alvaro Gomez - attended social events and working bees and one GM
 - Laura Manerowski - Progress Meeting to be held upon return from Europe
 - Terese Hope – questionnaire posted on website 15 May
 - Tim Stewart, Partick Indo & Kylie Reavley - applications withdrawn
 - Amy Riddle - no further progress
- **7 Expressions of Interest** awaiting further action from interested parties.
- **Urgent Call for members to join committee** - committee has hands full with active applications and documentation review, contact any committee member if you'd like to help out (Anna, Elizabeth, Lexie, Ishbel, Marty)

Budget Report – Wayne

Ordinary Resolution - To accept the Goolawah Co-operative Ltd Annual 2025-26 Administration and Infrastructure Budgets, and the Membership, Work and Sinking Fund Levies associated with these budgets as presented at the April GM and posted on the Co-operative website.

This proposal also approves the levies for the 2025-2026 financial year as below:

Membership Levy - \$800 Work Levy - \$300 *Sinking Fund Levy - \$1600

*The Sinking Fund Levy is reduced by \$1500 for members who subscribed to the Infrastructure Share Subscription.

Proposer - Wayne Skinner

Second - Anne Tennock

AMENDMENT

To accept the Goolawah Co-operative Ltd Annual 2025-26 Administration and Infrastructure Budgets with the two amendments approved at the 14 June GM, including the Membership, Work and Sinking Fund Levies associated with these budgets.

Amendment 1: To add a new project to the Infrastructure Budget costing \$4500 for the purchase and installation of a 300-amp hour system at the Camp Kitchen with the funds to be drawn from surplus (refer to CK Solar Upgrade for proposer and seconder).

Amendment 2: To add a new item to the Administration Budget for Social Committee Costs at \$1500, reducing Capital reserves from \$5000 to \$3500.

Proposer: Craig

Secunder: Adam

Unanimous

Amendments accepted

Proposed: Wayne Skinner

Seconder: Denise Cobourn

Vote: Passed Unanimously

Other comments: Sinking Fund items Dam Repairs and Water Infrastructure. Need to clarify what dams and tanks/pipes etc are considered a community responsibility. Further discussion required.

DA Nevertire Road Report – Wayne

A post flood damage survey was conducted by KSC. They reported to us that maintenance work, including additional road base, will be done on Illa Langi and Nevertire Rd!! Lets hope this happens asap, as well as repairs to MRR.

GECO/Landcare Report - Lee

Michael C has been in touch with Hank & Sue Bower, and we are hoping to see them here at Goolawah sometime in June/July to do an assessment of the rainforest area. This may help in sourcing funding to help with conservation.

Lee has been in touch with Mohini who has 2nd hand trail cameras available. Unfortunately, she has just gone overseas for 6 weeks but Lee will try and contact her to follow up. Otherwise GECO will look at purchasing new cameras.

GECO requested an increase in the budget for consultants' fees, cameras, accessories and some new regeneration equipment (that can also be used at working bees).

James spoke at last GECO meeting of a workshop he attended where woody weeds were inoculated with mushroom spores for long term weed control. The added benefit is that crops of mushrooms can be harvested at the same time.

Road Maintenance Report – Craig.

With Clint being away and it being too wet, very little road maintenance has been possible. Steve H had a go at using Clint's grader on the old red tractor and was able to drag in gravel and build up the crown to improve corrugations.

Heavy rains (approx. 645mm) caused some rutting on Goldmine Hill and gravel was washed off the road at Nth Gate. Clint will look at it on his return visit and a few more plans in motion TBA.

Fire and Flood Report – Craig.

Post flood debrief: Goolawah Members continue to demonstrate great preparedness and resilience after being flooded in for a record equalling 11 days. More experience at organising "flood cupboard" rations, bigger solar systems with bigger fridges and freezers meant that food shortages were not at a critical limit. Members helped each other out where necessary.

Thanks to Marc R for organising an SES food drop from Creso Foodworks of some fresh produce and dairy/bread etc. Some members were able to get out the next day in 4WD and the day after in 2WD. Only critical incident involved Dave L who explored the flood waters a little more closely than recommended. Please drop in and see Dave for a full recount of his adventure!

As usual, local pastoralists had issues with cattle drowning on the low paddocks. Their emergency high ground (next to us and neighbour J Langford) proved inadequate for 350 head and due to the paddock's saturated condition, the feed was decimated within half a day. They decided to move the cattle to the Yancoal block (to our south). Some damage to the ground and trampling occurred whilst moving them around our eastern fire break and onto Illa Langi/Frog Hollow. As Yancoal has no barbed wire, cattle were continually escaping until they were finally moved on, down Illa Langi. Rumour has it that CCP are selling up their Maria River Road assets and hopefully this will not continue to be a problem in the future?

No fires to report of!

Machinery Report - Mark absent. All ok.

Social Committee Report - Larry

Thanks to all members who attended the Long Weekend Music Celebration, recognising the work of SES and First Responders after the recent floods. The band and members were dressed in "Hi Viz" to show their support and \$135 was raised in donations for the SES. Many thanks to the cooks for the wonderful Pumpkin & Vegetable Soups and Men's Shed for the copious amounts of Garlic Bread.

Goolawah's 25 years old celebrations (G25) continue with monthly dinners on the 3rd Saturday, with Winter Solstice bonfire, Market Day, Goolie Archibald etc all upcoming. Please keep updated from the Events Calendar on the Web, Phone Tree Notices and Notice (chalk) Board. Feel free to add your own events and contact the social committee for support.

PROJECT UPDATES

Red Hill Last Resort – Alicia

The LR had a deep clean at the last Working Bee and the 1st tile mosaic (which looks great) was completed – the team have been inspired to continue. Add Ons, renovations and donations continue to flow in. See Alicia & James for guidance.

Camp Kitchen shower – Wayne

Shower is operational and shower stall walls complete. The roof is a work in progress as donations of timber and tin come in.

Camp Kitchen art screen – Kevin

The first screen is completed and Kevin is working on the next overlay.

Playground – Marty (absent)

It is looking good and well maintained, thanks to working bees. See Marty if you have ideas or contributions.

Red Hill Planting – Lee

Plastic is down and killing grass in preparation for spring planting. Donating or sourcing suitable plants is next step. See Lee and the team if you can help.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Recreational use of motorbikes on community land

A robust discussion was had on the impacts of land use, including noise, risk to wildlife and child safety.

Adam C noted that if Maple's motorbike use (or sometimes her visiting friends) is of concern, please contact him asap. It seems continued communication and respect will resolve this matter before by-laws need amending.

Signage around interacting with kangaroos – Russell is in the process of editing and developing a sign that has been used at the SW Rocks CC on "How to live with Kangaroos". He has posted on Signal Chat and PT. If you have suggestions or want to help, contact Russell.

North Gate sign replacement – discussion postponed to next meeting

MONTHLY WORKING BEES - Next Working Bees Saturday 5 July / 2 August, start 9am

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - Saturday 9 August 2025 9am @ Camp Kitchen

Director **nominations open 28 June**

MEETING CLOSED 12:15