

Goolawah Co-operative

Minutes of the General Meeting of 13th December 2025

Chairperson: Jac

Minute Taker: Dan

Acknowledgement of Country Yahway - Barri Dhunga, offered by Marc.

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

Voting: Inactive members were noted, no proxies were received.

Attendance:

Members: Nick Reid, Marc Rosenstein, D Launt, H. Creswell, Lee Albert, Erika C.Schultz, Craig Singleman, Ralph V. Hulst, Lexie Gonzales, Gerard Shea, Alan Blake, Elizabeth Locke, Peter O'Hara, Julica Jungehuelsing, Justine Shaw, Larry Knight, Rob Hewitt, Verity Gill, Mairead Sherden, Adam Cvetkovski, Callum Lawson, Mim Fluhrer, Andrew Barson (+Mika), Sam Wong, Trinh Nguyen, Ben Adams, James Galletly, Aliya Aamot, Alicia Fox.

Directors: Kevin Harper, Elizabeth Locke, Mark Doonan, Daniel Rose

Apologies: Anna De Chesne, Griff, Natalie Lawler, Steve Hall, Denise Cobourn, Wayne Skinner

Guests: Narelle Allison, Tanja Tree-fern

Tabled documents:

Treasurer's Report

Finance Committee Report

Wayne's Director's Report

Jay Fluhrer's completed Membership application and associated paperwork

Confirmation of previous General Meeting Minutes

Proposal: To accept the previous minutes, signed by Chairperson

Proposed: Nick

Seconded: Kev

Passed Unanimously, 2 Abstentions.

Treasurer's Report & Work Claims

Proposal: To accept the Treasurer's Report and Work Claims.

Proposed: Nick

Seconded: Dan

Vote: For-24, Against-2, Abs-2

There was some discussion about purchase re-imbursements and claim form procedures, and clarification sought about Crow's purchases and receipts on this work claim. Members would like better Claim Form completion and details in future.

Proposal: To close the now defunct NAB account

Proposed: John

Seconded: Dan

Passed Unanimously

Business arising

- Director's Meetings Minutes of 22nd of October and 26th of November 2025: Posted on Web

- Boomerang Garden revised sketch and planting list. (Lee)

A detailed sketch with revised planting details was presented to the meeting.

- Northgate sign update (Nick):

Initial discussions with Ralph have been undertaken, and some proposed signs to be presented at the Feb GM.

General Business

- Request to change the names on lot 59. (Nicola and Bruce)

Currently lot 59 has both Nicola and Bruce's names on them. Their request is to redistribute the shares so that lot 59 be just in Nicola's name. Our Rules require that changes to the share register by approve by the members. Both Bruce and Nicola have signalled their approval of this proposal.

Proposal: That the share register be changed to take Bruce Hore's name off share 59, leaving Nicola Grace Hore as the sole member name against that share.

Proposer: Nick

Seconded: Dan

Passed Unanimously, 2 Abstentions

Action: Nick to update Share Register, and issue new share certificate.

Notes: It was clarified that this represents a change to an existing membership, not the creation of a new membership. Should Bruce wish to re-join community, as a new member, a Joining Fee and a reduced membership application process would be required.

- Request to change the names on lots 73 and 74 (Crow and Aliya)

Currently both lots 73 and 74 have both Crow and Aliya's names on them. Their request is to redistribute the shares so that lot 73 be just in Crow's name, and 74 be just in Aliya's name. Our Rules require that changes to the share register by approved by the members. Both Aliya and Crow have signalled their approval of this proposal.

There was discussion about whether or not the creation of a 2nd membership, and thus a 2nd vote, required a Joining Fee. And discussion about whether the current \$10,000 Joining Fee should be discounted by some amount, and, if so, how that amount should be determined. The meeting's consensus was that a Joining Fee should apply, but that the discount question needed clearer a rationale, so the Board should look into exactly what Joining Fees and Levies have been paid on Lots 73 and 74, with a view to recommending a Joining Fee amount to a SGM to be held in January (tba).

Amended Proposal: That the share register be changed so that lot 73 be just in Crow Tribe's name, and 74 be just in Silje (Aliya) Aamot's name, pending the payment of Joining Fee as determined at a SGM.

Proposed from the chair (Jac)

Passed Unanimously

- Active Membership Proposal for discussion (James and Erika)

Discussion item only – no proposals on this matter at this stage.

Currently the only requirement for active membership is that members pay their levies on time. Some members do a lot of additional work for the community, others do little or none. Discussion was focused on how we might best raise the participation of all members, and whether participation at events like meetings and working bees might be added as additional requirements. While there was general agreement that that more members attending meetings and working bees is desirable, a few hurdles were identified - in particular, the difficulty of tracking everyone's activities, given that members contribute in such varied ways, and whether it is wise to force additional involvement on people whose mental health inclines them to isolation. There was further discussion about how these ideas best fit with the existing Work Levy scheme, and whether raising the work levy might usefully function to create a clearer 'Two Tier' system, whereby active members can choose to work and gain a meaningful wage from it, while members who choose inactivity could pay more for that choice. This was a useful first discussion – but no outcomes at this stage.

- Accommodation and prospective and eligible members (James) – Not Spoken to.

- Working Bee proposal (James)

Lexie & Lee have joined James as Working Bee coordinators. The social value of Working Bees was mentioned, and that Saturday mornings don't suit everyone, so some Working Bees on weekdays might give a wider range of members the chance to contribute more. Please contact James, Lee or Lexie with your ideas for jobs and best times.

- Phone tree Management (Dan) – Dan asked if any members are unhappy with his running of Signal groups. No negative issues were raised, and the general consensus of the meeting was gratitude that active PT monitoring was taking place.

- Introduced Species Management Plan compliance re Lots 73 and 74.

- Crow's current ISMP is for chickens only, but he has now had a rooster for 16 months. His neighbours have experienced sleeping difficulties, and tried to raise their concerns with him, but he has not responded to requests. Aliya explained that the rooster has now been removed.

Reports

Secretary's Report (Nick)

- Accessed ATO and RAM and updated authorised contact names.
- Received and forwarded to MC 4 emails from people interested in learning more about Goolawah.
- Organised payment of Rates notice.
- Organised payment of our membership of the Co-operative Federation Ltd.
- Arranged with KSC's Lewis McKechnie the onsite sewage management system (OSMS) compliance inspections throughout the co-op. [He gave very positive feedback saying he'd found high levels of compliance, and would make direct contact with the 1 or 2 lots where he found minor leaks].
- Minutes of Oct and Nov DMs.
- Liaised with members over share sale matters.
- Minutes of the Oct GM.
- Agenda Dec GM
- General member correspondence.

Membership Report (Julica)

- Vote for membership eligibility for Helen Groomsbridge

Proposal: To approve Helen Groomsbridge, as eligible for membership.

Rationale: Moving to vote as all steps in the membership process have been successfully completed.

Proposed by Elizabeth

Seconded by Anna

Passed: For: 26, Against: 1, Abstain: 0

- Review Meeting for Jay Fluhrer-

Progress meeting successful.

Members voted in favour of Jay continuing with her application.

Proposed: Trinh

Seconded: Dan

Passed Unanimously, Abstain: 2

The community acknowledged that Emma (Jay's partner) is continuing with her application and encouraged her to complete it.

- There was extensive discussion of the new EOI proposal. Its intent is to help applicants self-vet and provide us with any obvious early red flags. Some people thought it was still too long and added yet more complexity to an already lengthy membership process, which might deter membership turnover. Others thought it was an important filter for co-operative life suitability and served to put off tyre-kickers.

ACTION: Justine offered to create and circulate a survey, giving members the opportunity to vote on individual EOI questions. This can then enable the forming of an EOI form that has majority agreement of co-op, and be voted on at a future GM.

- **Machinery Report** (Sam/Ralph) – Sam away. Tractors functional. – report issues.. Old one has no brakes, be warned!

- Fire and Flood Report (Craig) – Thanks to Marty who stood in while Craig was away. Be vigilant during this summer, speak out if you have concerns (to Craig or Board).

- **GECO/Land Care Report** (Tanja/Jac)

- There was a very successful visit to Goolwah by the ecologist team Sue and Hank, who explained that our rainforest has *Regional Significance* and that Goolawah includes at least 5 *Threatened Ecological Communities*. This equips us with very useful information for securing grant money for managing the various threats that the rainforest faces – notably lantana and fire risk. Sue & Hank will follow up their visit with a written report.

- Fox and pig spotted by cams in Forest

- Kangaroo count 100 Roos, 65 Wallabies

- GECO is not taking up the kangaroo encounter issue.

- Report interesting ecology things noted on your site/area. Location for report @ camp Kitchen

• **Social Committee Report** (Craig/Laz) – Co-op dinners have been successful.

- Next dinner on 20th, Sat December. Favourite Xmas Dish theme.

Adding Game, Laz: *Would I Lie to You*. 1 true 2 false past life events. Send to Social committee if you want to play or bring these on the night. Prizes.. Format may be tweaked.

- No Xmas day event planned, but Bonobo will be open all day for Bah Humbug!

- Market day, huge success. New co-ordinator Lexie :D.

- 18th Jan Gool band gig in Crescent head Country Club.

- New Years Eve TBA – (pizza night, maybe)

• **Project updates**

1. Red Hill Last Resort – Working on toilet . Artwork . Second Mosaic. + extras, no objections to mosaics.

- Garden around toilet planned

- Budget Item for Last Resort

- If there will be excess concrete from any pours members are doing, please let James Alicia know, so they can make stepping stones.

- the new toilet is now undercoated inside and out, ideas or offers to add murals to the toilet would be welcomed.

2. Red Hill Boomerang Garden – Sketch submitted to GM.

3. Red Hill Playground – General discussion about the best options for the playground area, as children get older and kids have different needs. ACTION: Adam offered to repair pump track.

Next General Meeting: 9am, 14th February 2026 at the Camp Kitchen.

Meeting Closed:12:59pm