



## Householders' Options to Protect the Environment Inc.

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## Minutes – Ordinary Meeting – Saturday, 10 September 2016

*Prepared by Kerry Kruger 10 Sept 2016; and updated by Frank Ondrus 22 Sept 2016*

**Venue: HOPE office, 22 Vacy St, Toowoomba**

**Time: 10.00am**

1. Introductions, attendees, apologies and morning tea
  - a. Attendees: Frank Ondrus, Steve Cupitt, Dan Cannan, Sue Higgins, Wendy Briggs, Dr Anjan Kumar Dev Roy & Kerry Kruger
  - b. Apologies: Jan van der Wyk, Terry Ryan, Charmaine Turnbull, David Shipp, Peter Burling & Robin Case
  - c. Proxy votes: Proxies for Charmaine Turnbull and David Shipp held by Frank Ondrus
2. Declaration(s) of Conflict: - *Nil*
- 3a. Confirmation of minutes from Ordinary Meeting of 15 June 2016  
→ *Moved by Steve Cupitt, seconded by Kerry Kruger.*
- 3b. Business arising - *Nil*
- 4.. Special Reports
  - a) Dr Anjan Kumer Dev Roy, senior researcher for HOPE re: Comments on various government discussion papers. Anjan's main comment was that in the government policy documents they do not do a good job of linking sustainability and development. There is not sufficient detail in the policies to show how the government will encourage development and at the same time make it sustainable. It is the linking between economics, the market and sustainability that is sadly lacking.
  - b) Sue Higgins re: "*The Animal Condition*" film night, 5 October 2016 Cost \$22 – There will be a film night at the Strand cinema that gives an unbiased view of animal rights in Australia. At least 50 people need to buy tickets to make the event happen. Sue, as the host of the event, has pledged to make 5% of the takings available to HOPE.
  - c) Steve Cupitt re: Landcare projects submitted to Condamine Alliance. Steve has 3 projects that he hopes to have running soon. The first is a Landcare project for large urban blocks. Steve is seeking funding to help land owners to do water quality monitoring in the Killarney region. The second project is control of feral deer north-east of Toowoomba – using Judas animals to better track the use of their habitat and so control them more easily. The third project is to do with identifying endangered animals in the area. In the past Steve used a detailed matrix to help determine the likelihood of animals being on a property and he hopes to do this again with home owners of larger blocks. Steve is also enquiring about landcare projects in the SEQ Catchments area.
- 5a. Correspondence – incoming  
*Steady stream of daily e: mail correspondence – junk mail jettisoned; other correspondence vetted and on-forwarded to - specific office bearers; other key stakeholders; media; and the occasional global email to members & supporters.*
  - See Office Manager's Report (summary of weekly Office Updates) – *noting that some items will be further dealt with in General Business*

- Possible community forums / workshops for 2017
  - Brain Sams would do a workshop on organic gardening for a fee of \$300
  - Paula Peters would do a “nature journaling” workshop – a nature walk and discussion/presentation of that walk for a cost of \$20 per person (up to 15 people)
  - Australian Earth Laws Alliance may be available in February 2017 do a presentation on Consumption
  - Reverse Garbage would run four (4) Eco Arts workshops for children at an overall cost of \$1,400  
→ *grant funding would be required to undertake this project*
- See Frank’s list of suggested topics – including Organic Pest Control; The Benefits of Bees; and Citrus Tree Care.

#### 5b. Correspondence –outgoing

- See email & hard-copy folders
- See Office Manager’s Report (summary of weekly Office Updates) – *noting that some items will be further dealt with in General Business*
- Submissions to Qld State Government as per Anjan’s report above
- Landcare proposals to Condamine Alliance as per Steve’s report above

#### 5c. Business arising from correspondence

#### 6. Reports

- Combined President’s & Office Manager’s Report (see summary of weekly Office Updates)
  - Frank read through his 3-month summary report noting the busyness of the office; purchase of MS Office 2016 and a replacement modem; preparation and submission of 4 grants for office computers and equipment AND projects; hosting information displays at 3 community events; making submissions to Qld State Governments; and the need to recruit more active members/volunteers to fill vacancies on the Newsletter, Media and Publications teams. Business arising from Frank’s report will be covered in the Treasurer’s Report and General Business
- Treasurer’s Report
  - Audited financial accounts 2015-2016 (tabled)
  - Lodgement of BAS form for 2015-2016 (copy tabled)
  - Balance at end of June was \$4,874.46
  - Transaction List 2016-2017 (tabled) – including purchase of capital items MS Office 2016 software and new modem
  - Current balance is \$4,171.06
- Other reports
  - Southern Queensland Correctional Centre (Gatton) ‘library book’ appeal. HOPE, USQ and U3A have offered to support this appeal. So far, Frank has delivered 2 loads of books and magazines.

#### 7. Motions To pursue crowd-funding campaign to raise much needed operating funding through OzCrowd – → *Moved by Dan Cannan, seconded by Sue Higgins. Agreed by all.*

#### 8. General business

- Grant applications submitted
  - GCBF – Project funding to host 6 or 7 Energy Efficiency/Going Solar seminars
  - Cannon Australia – for a donation of a new camera and cam recorder → *unsuccessful*
  - Australian Ethical Investments – Project funding to stage 3 workshops on Creating Wildlife Habitats on Your Property
  - Toowoomba Regional Council – Project funding to stage 3 workshops on Creating Wildlife Habitats on Your Property
  - GCBF – Funding request to purchase new and replacement office computers and furniture, etc.
- Corporate sponsorship opportunities → *Try local car dealerships and other businesses*

- Research new grant opportunities → *ongoing*
- What about Crowd Funding? → *Yes, as per motion above. Frank to apply with OzCrowd*
- More promotion – nationally, then state-wide (Qld) and locally → *Refresh media release and distribute as per e: media-lists*
- Initiate fresh national Membership Drive → *Likewise, refresh media release and distributor as per e: media-lists*
- Upcoming AGM
  - As some people have indicated their intention to step down, we need to recruit some new people to support the committee and admin support. Discontinue role of It Advisor.
- Suggested community forums /workshops program for 2016-2017
  - Organic Pest Control – Peter Macqueen
  - Introduction to Organic Gardening – Mike Wells
  - Benefits of Bees
  - See suggestions re Information Sheets (J C-W e: folder)
  - Care and Maintenance of Citrus Trees
  - Healthier soil, healthier plants ... it's that simple! – Colin Purnell, Earthlife, [enquiries@earthlife.com.au](mailto:enquiries@earthlife.com.au)
  - Helping Our Backyard Habitats – by Steve Cupitt
  - Let's Talk About Consumption – by AELA (Australian Earth Laws Alliance)
- Potential major event - revisit *Pathways to Sustainability Expo* – This happened some years ago and it is probably timely to organise another such event. It would help if HOPE had an event manager to organise this. → *Seek grant funding and partners to undertake this project. Frank to pursue options.*
- Landcare projects in Condamine Alliance catchment (see Steve Cupitt's report above)
- Outreach activities - Meet & greet the community – for general discussion about their environmental concerns/issues → *Frank & Sue to update powerpoint presentations; and investigate speaking engagement opportunities.*
- Items to be referred to Executive Committee:
  - Transition Towns – try to re-boot interest in this concept
  - Outstanding tasks assigned to volunteers - plus “jobs backlog folder” and re-assign where possible / start actioning!
  - HOPE still needs a Media Officer – so if you know of any capable person to fill that role please contact Frank.
- Other business - *Nil*

9. Next ordinary meeting – 12 Nov 2016 – this will be the AGM and will begin at 10:00am.

10. Meeting closed at 11:30am.