



Householders' Options to Protect the Environment Inc.

PO Box 6118 – Clifford Gardens, Toowoomba QLD 4350

(22 Vacy Street, Toowoomba QLD 4350)

Ph 07 4639 2135; Email: office@hopeaustralia.org.au

Website: www.hopeaustralia.org.au

ABN 48 036 173 161

"Think Globally - Act Locally"

Minutes of Planning Meeting held on 14 January 2017

(Prepared by Sue Higgins 19/1; and updated by Frank Ondrus, 26/1)

Date: Saturday, 14th January 2017

Venue: HOPE office, 22 Vacy Street, Toowoomba

Time: 10.00 am

Meeting opened at 10.05 am

1. Introductions, attendees, apologies and morning tea provided
 - a. Attendees: Frank Ondrus and Sue Higgins
 - b. Apologies: Laurie Oxenford, Charmaine Turnbull, Steve Cupitt and Steve Gribble
 - c. Proxy vote: Charmaine Turnbull held by Frank Ondrus
2. Declaration(s) of Conflict – Nil
3. Confirmation of minutes from Ordinary Meeting of 12 November 2016
Moved Sue, seconded Frank.
4. Business arising – Nil
5. General business
 - a. Office Manager's Report – summary of past 3 months weekly Office Updates(see attachment)
 - b. No changes to the Community Forum program – Frank will issue a media release in the first week in February, as well as contacting the February speakers. Sue will continue advertising through Social Media.

DATE	START TIME	END TIME	THEME	SPEAKER(S)
18 Feb	1.00	4.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Introduction to Organic Gardening • Organic Pest Control - Non-toxic preparations for insect & disease control • Healthy soils, healthy plants ... it's that simple! 	Mike Wells, TAFE Horticulture Peter Macqueen, TAFE Horticulture Colin Purnell, Earthlife Pty Ltd
22 Apr	1.00	4.00	The Value of Heritage to Queensland (and the Darling Downs)	Qld Heritage Council, Stephanie Keays and/or Gail Lipke
17 June	1.00	4.00	Going Solar – On/Off Grid with battery storage	Terry Davis & Michael Reiken, Excel Solar
19 Aug	1.00	4.00	An Overview of Condamine Alliance (NRM / Landcare) - beginnings, current achievements and future --- what about something on community engagement	Various staff
21 Oct	1.00	4.00	An afternoon with Jerry Coleby-Williams	Jerry Coleby-Williams



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- c. Further suggestions for community forums and/or workshops topics
 - The Benefits of Bees by Sothern Beekeepers Assn (possibly in May at the Highfields Pioneer Village)
 - Recycled Art workshops by Reverse Garbage (Bris) – funding required
 - Creating Backyard Wildlife Habitats workshops by Steve Cupitt – maybe in the 2nd half of the year
- d. Steve Cubit's 4 Landcare projects have been withdrawn by Condamine Alliance – see Steve's email response (18/1)
- e. Grant applications – current and proposed
 - GCBF Round 91 – Energy Efficiency information sessions (submitted 13/01/17)
 - Federal Govt *Volunteer Grants program* – governance training for Management Committees & Admin Support Staff (submitted 29/11/16)
 - 2017 National Youth Week – "Volunteering for the Environment" with sub-theme of "Youth Engagement in Landcare" --- Open Day at Redwood Park with information displays, guided walks and/or short talks, free sausage sizzle; and 2 Nature Journaling workshops (funded) - funding successful
 - Qld Women's Week – Acknowledging the contribution of Darling Downs women in protecting our environment (submitted 5/1/17)
 - Review 'wish list' of office computers, furniture and equipment → *trim down and resubmit application*
- f. Environment Calendar – not yet available
- g. Dan's suggestion to survey membership → *Frank to circulate 'old' version of survey and seek suggested improvements.*
- h. Seek more Partnerships/Alliances
 - ➔ Frank has written to GM-Free Australia Alliance regarding a Partnerships/Alliances
 - ➔ Any other suggestions?
- i. It is proposed that HOPE social events be held on the third Saturday of odd months -
 - Launch of booklet in March should funding for Qld Women's Week be successful
 - Benefit of Bees presentation followed by BBQ at Highfields Pioneer Village for Benefits in May (tbc)
 - Picnic at Peacehaven Park, Highfields in July
 - Attend one or more Carnival of Flowers event in September and then meet at the Japanese Gardens for a BYO picnic
 - Picnic at Laurel Bank Park, Herries St in November
 - Suggestions from members' welcome

Next ordinary meeting – 11th February 2017

Meeting closed at 11.00 am.