



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: <http://www.hopeaustralia.org.au>
ABN 48 036 173 161

Think Globally. Act Locally!

Minutes of 1st Ordinary Meeting – Saturday, 11 November 2023

(Last updated – 14 Nov 2023)

Venue: HOPE office, 22 Vacy St, Toowoomba | Time: 10.30am

1. Meeting commenced at 10.30am

2. Introductions, attendees, apologies and morning tea provided

a. Attendees:

- i. Physical: Frank Ondrus, Charmaine Turnbull and Kerry Kruger
- ii. ZOOM: Anna Kula and Andrew Nicholson

b. Apologies: Miriam Sharp, Mayor Geoff McDonald (Toowoomba Regional Council)

c. Proxy votes: for Miriam Sharp held by Frank Ondrus

3. Treasurer's Report:

Opening balance as at 31 October 2023 = \$7,632.35

4. General business

o Carried forward grant applications

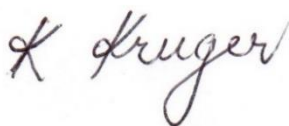
- o Qld GCBF: Nest boxes – for birds and other animals such possums
--- *90 nest boxes paid for; 85 distributed*
- o Australian Communities Foundation (ACF): Laptop (reactivated Sept 2023)
--- *awaiting approval*
- o Federal Volunteer Grant program: 2 laptops
--- *awaiting approval of Expression of Interest application*
- o Queensland Community Foundation (QCF): Website upgrade
--- *awaiting approval*
--- *if grant unsuccessful, Frank will pay for upgrade personally*

o Projects – current and proposed

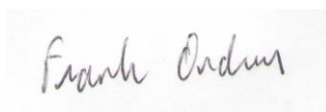
- o Current projects, etc.
 - o Special Report on Food Security (Fiona Berry – Institute for Sustainable Futures, University of Technology Sydney)
--- *will ask Fiona for a progress report*
 - o Special Report on Circular Economy (now being handled by Jigna Ghosh)
--- *will ask Jigna for a progress report*
 - o We have been commissioned by Biodynamic Agriculture Australia Ltd to develop promotional material consisting of a “booklet of profiles” and a series of podcasts
--- *Anna has completed the 'booklet of profiles' and we are awaiting formal acceptance by commissioning agency*
--- *Andrew has completed 5 podcasts*
 - o Website hosting transfer; and conversion of content to WordPress (being undertaken by Communications & Computers Support (CCS), Toowoomba)
--- *The manual transfer and conversion of our website data to WordPress is almost complete.*
Frank has offered to personally pay for this undertaking.

- Proposed webinars, etc. (several of which may be held in conjunction with the 2024 Sustainable Living Festival)
 - Promotion of Transition Towns concept and current activities here in Australia – partnership between HOPE and Transition (Towns) Australia
 - Promotion of Saul Griffith's "The Big Switch" and Electrify 2515 project - partnership between HOPE, Renew Toowoomba, UniSQ and Saul Griffith/Electrify 2515
 - Presentation by Dr Geoffrey Woolcock, UniSQ, on the work of [Australian National Development Index - ANDI](#)
 - Presentation by Roland Sapsford re the work of [Climate and Health Alliance \(caha.org.au\)](#)
 - Presentation by Morag Gamble re the work of [Permaculture Education Institute - courses, masterclasses & more](#)
 - Presentation by [Home - Sustainable Population Australia](#)
 - **Awaiting 'application' forms from Sustainable Living Festival before we can lock in guest speakers and topics; as well as relevant dates and times**
- Sundry project proposals
 - Provision of free drone fly-overs: Friends of the Escarpment Parks (FEP)Toowoomba – Redwood Park re Cats Claw Creeper infestation; and Coalbank Road Reserve (Coalbank)
 - No response from FEP Toowoomba
 - Renew Toowoomba has invited us to assist them in their [Community Partners \(rewiringaustralia.org\)](#) project.
 - awaiting more information from Renew Toowoomba
 - Partnership with Ros Darracott, Associate Professor (Social Work and Human Services), UniSQ re: Eco-Social initiatives (see list elsewhere)
 - awaiting further contact from Ros Darracott
 - Funding opportunity – Ergon Energy Community Fund Program: We could apply for funding to build another 150 nesting boxes. What do YOU THINK?
 - Yes, we'll go again with another nest box project. Frank will seek expressions of interest from Catholic schools and churches; and Land for Wildlife landholders.
 - Frank will renegotiate terms with the Toowoomba West Men's Shed (TWMS) before making a grant application. Grant application must be submitted by 24 Nov 2024.
- Other matters
 - Review value of current Alliances/Partnerships. What about working with Biodynamic Agriculture Australia Ltd, Transition Australia and Community Gardens Australia?
 - Questions posed include - Who should we align with? How are other NFPs dealing with memberships, etc?
 - Government environment meetings and/or groups – what are they doing that we could consider?
 - Undertake more networking – especially with younger people → e.g. UniSQ media students
 - Do more regular 'issue-based' ZOOM interviews through to podcasts, For example, interviewing our Patron – Jerry Coleby-Williams and his interests in gardening, etc.
 - Review Andrew's earlier work on addressing 'system level problems'
 - Review our alliances to undertake 'on the ground' projects that are outcome based such as climate change and physical health. Anna volunteered to reach out to allied charities for an update on current work being undertaken to review HOPE's membership in these groups.
 - Succession planning for HOPE Inc. (Australia)
 - Working with UniSQ eco-social work students and local groups such as community gardens
 - Backup options for secondary members to complete podcasts etc. (HOPE members to be trained on podcasts etc. – everyone to have a secondary member as a backup?). Charmaine?

5. Meeting schedule for 2024
 - 10 Feb Ordinary Meeting
 - 8 June Ordinary Meeting
 - 14 Sept Ordinary Meeting
 - 9 Nov Annual General Meeting; followed by 1st Ordinary Meeting of 2024-2025 Management Committee
 6. Next meeting – 10 February 2024: *Ordinary Meeting with Strategic Planning considerations*
 7. Meeting closed at 11.30am
-



Secretary – Kerry Kruger



President – Frank Ondrus

12 November 2023