



Think Globally. Act Locally!

Householders' Options to Protect the Environment Inc.
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Minutes of 4th Ordinary Meeting of 2025-2026 – Saturday, 12 September 2026

(Last updated – 12 September 2026)

1. **Meeting start time:** 10.10am (after some teething problems with ZOOM)
2. **Introductions, attendees, apologies and morning tea provided**
 - a. Attendees:
 - i. Physical: Frank Ondrus & Perry Bowe (acting Secretary)
 - ii. ZOOM: Anna Kula-Kaczmariski, Andrew Nicholson, Karely Jaimes Ramos, Mehedi Hasan & Fatima Hamza
 - a. Apologies: Nalayini Shiyamasunthar, Miriam, Kerry Kruger & Allan Fong
 - b. Proxy votes: Nil
3. **Confirm minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 13 June 2026**
 - o Moved by Anna Kula-Kaczmariski, seconded by Perry Bowe. Agreed by all present.
4. **President's Report**
 - General comments – *Due to upcoming study, work and family commitments, Anna will be stepping down from the President's role at the November AGM to pursue her Master's studies.*
 - Strategic Plan - Focus Area Tracker update – September 2026 → *In the process of revamping how the 8 focus areas are being tracked. The updated register was shown. Anna expressed some concern that some topics were getting too many papers written, so recommendations regarding balance. Update document to be issued shortly.*
 - Social media and website statistics → *Anna talked about the website helpers improving website searchability. More errors are being encountered on the web page, and will be looked into. The podcast page is the most visited, although that has fallen off a little, so looking at improving advertising. See Jessica Keegan's review of social media platforms and monthly website statistics. We have been experiencing problems with WordPress plug-ins – and these 'errors' have been referred to Communications & Computer Support (CCS) for correction.*
→ Moved by Anna Kula-Kaczmariski, seconded by Andrew Nicholson. Agreed by all present.
5. **Office Manager's quarterly report** (as attachment)
 - o WordPress-based site is glitchy. Frank has been referring all the errors back to Colmac Computers.
 - o Summary of key statistics:
 - 5 Newsletters produced
 - 0 Media Releases issued
 - 18 Feature Articles/Reports circulated
 - Grant applications:
 - o Successful – no new applications
 - o Unsuccessful – 0
 - o Pending – re: Upgrade of website → *Still awaiting response from Harcourts Foundation*
 - Volunteer movement – 17 new; and 8 lapsed
 - o Key highlights (noted from quarterly report)
 - o Acknowledgement of Jerry Coleby-Williams patronage since 2007 → *We should acknowledge his 20 years' service at the 2028 AGM*
→ Moved by Frank Ondrus, seconded by Andrew Nicholson. Agreed by all present.

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6. Treasurer's Report:

Opening balance as at 29 May 2026

= \$6,311.36

- HOPE General Acct
 - 10/06 Paid VQ membership renewal of \$55
 - 12/06 Paid consultant A. Nicolson \$5,500 for the production of 10 podcast episodes
 - 24/07 Paid CCS \$2,721.20 for Lenovo laptop for our secretary -- with GST = \$247.30
 - 24/07 Paid JG Audit & Assurance \$462 for auditing 2025-26 accounts - with GST = \$42
 - 04/08 Received GST refund of \$125
 - 11/08 Paid QCC membership renewal 2026-2027 of \$33 with GST = \$3
- HOPE Gift Fund
 - 12/05 HOPE Gift Fund - Received \$600 donation from Jerry Coleby-Williams
 - 02/06 HOPE Gift Fund – Received \$2,500 donation from ASH Inc. re: Podcast project
 - 05/06 HOPE Gift Fund – Received \$2,500 donation from ASH Inc. re: Podcast project
 - 09/06 Transferred \$7,000 from HOPE Gift Fund to HOPE General Acct
 - 11/06 HOPE Gift Fund - Banked \$149 (proceeds from World Environment day events)
 - 02/07 Received \$50 from Charmaine Turnbull
 - 16/07 Received \$50 from Charmaine Turnbull
 - 20/07 Received \$1,000 from Allan Fong
 - 30/07 Donation of \$50 from C. Turnbull
 - 13/08 Donation of \$50 from C. Turnbull
 - 27.08 Donation of \$50 from C. Turnbull

HOPE General Account balance as at 27Aug 2026 = \$2,380.86

HOPE Gift Fund balance as at 27 Aug 2026 = \$1,753.30

Closing balance as at 27 Aug 2026 = \$4,134.16

➔ Moved by Frank Ondrus, seconded Anna Kula-Kaczmariski. Agreed by all present

7. Other reports from Admin Support Team members

- Andrew Nicholson – re: Update on IMAG2040 Podcast Project – including current viewing statistics
 - ➔ Andrew discussed the podcast. Commenced in 2021. Latest imaginative series discussed. Produced in June 2025 and launched in August 2025.
 - ➔ Now has a couple of dynamic volunteers involved. Sophie O'Brien has joined in the co-hosting role. Progress report provided and uploaded onsite.
 - ➔ 1187 connections with YouTube. 363 on Spotify. Looking to boost to 1000s. On RSS (e.g. Spotify), longer engagement. Viewers from all over the world, including Singapore, Indonesia, Ukraine, Canada, and the USA.
 - ➔ 2027 will see more episode production toward 100.
 - ➔ Andrew will share his report with the Management Committee and Admin Support Team
- Javeria Sultana – re: Report on FREE training program on podcasting
 - ➔ Report will be available shortly
- Jessica Keegan – re: Update on social media activities
 - ➔ Share Jessica's report with Management Committee
- Frank Ondrus – re: University student placements
 - Sarah-Jane Hope, UniSQ Eco-Social program researching the merits or otherwise of us adopting a Reconciliation Action Plan.
 - Linlu Li & Yimeng Wei, Master of Sustainability students, University of Sydney, working independently on how climate impacts sea-level rise on Australian coastlines.
 - UniSC has accepted our partnership request and will advertise our request for volunteer researchers
- Fidelia – refreshing Membership survey questionnaire and media release
 - ➔ Will work on this assignment once current university workload has eased. Include questions on Strategic Plan; preferred messaging methods; and any other matters of concern/interest
- Frank Ondrus & Perry Bowe – re: Progress report on research project briefs
 - Perry has 2 personal projects of interest
 - Preparing a fresh response to Pope John Paul II Jubilee 2000 proposal
 - Reviewing Australia's commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
 - 11 assigned to researchers and university students (as per screenshot)

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- ➔ Progress reports received from Karely, Fatima & Mehedi
- ➔ Progress reports received from both University of Sydney students
- ➔ Perry spoke of Sarah-Jane's progress with the RAP review
- 11 pending ➔ Perry to tackle once personal/family commitments ease off
- 16 awaiting drafting ➔ Frank to 'flesh out' a little more before submitting them to Perry
- Including discussion on major Geoengineering research project
 - ➔ Given the extensive scope of Perry's work on this subject, it would be prudent to hold a ZOOM meeting of the Management Committee and Admin Support Team to discuss a practical way forward on this complex issue.

8. General business

- Carried forward items from Ordinary Meeting of 13 June 2026
 - Activities completed:
 - Report on Australian Universities Environmental policies, commenced by Renuka, finalised by Fidelia (July 2026)
 - Activities pending:
 - Review of Strategic Plan and its 8 key focus areas
 - ➔ Anna still working on 'reframing' of Strategic Plan purpose and focus areas
 - ➔ Add "Waste Management and Minimisation" to list of focus areas. Subordinate issues include the Circular Economy; food waste; Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes; and the mining of landfills to recover valuable resources.
 - ➔ Anna is going to draft an email for circulation to the HOPE membership requesting ideas for improvement to the Strategic Plan.
 - Youth Engagement matters – Office has circulated "Engaging Youth in Environmental Volunteering" email and poster to Australian universities; and secondary schools & colleges throughout Queensland, Victoria and South Australia.
 - ➔ Jessica to resume compiling lists of secondary schools and colleges for the remaining States and Territories and there will be further discussion in the November meeting.
 - Ongoing activities:
 - Sponsorship (an ongoing activity) – The need to attract regular sponsorship to help offset our operating expenses; and to give us the opportunity to undertake more projects, etc.
 - ➔ Frank mentioned that drafts of the revised sponsorship letters and paperwork had been circulated to the Management Committee for discussion. Once changes approved, start reissuing sponsorship requests in 2027
 - ➔ Anna suggested that the University sponsorship letters had been exhausted, so this action should be closed.
 - Membership – Explore ongoing options to increase our membership throughout Australia
 - ➔ Fidelia to refresh media release, Frank will issue to national/state/territory media outlets.
 - Promotion of HOPE's publications
 - ➔ Investigate publishing HOPE material on Google Scholar Not feasible as none of our material is "peer-reviewed". This action was closed.
 - Drone flyovers: 3 properties for Clifton Landcare Assn still to be arranged ➔ Ben Sparshott still to arrange suitable date & time to undertake this exercise
- Grants/Projects – current & proposed:
 - Current grants:
 - 06/05/26 --Website upgrade – Submitted application to Harcourts Foundation
 - Development of booklet & podcasts of male "Environmental Champions of our Region"
 - 20/09/26 – Submitted online grant application to GCBF
 - Continuation of "Imagining 2040: Pathways to Flourishing Futures" podcast series
 - Still searching for additional funding sources
 - 10 more episodes produced in recent months

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- Other business:
 - Upcoming AGM in November:
Anna Kula-Kaczmariski, our President, is stepping down after 2 years in the role.
We thank Anna for her leadership and efforts in developing our Strategic Plan and other matters.
➔ *Nominations for the 2026-2027 Management Committee and Admin Support Team will be canvassed prior to the AGM.*
 - University student placements via “Work Integrated Learning (WIL) programs:
 - University of Sydney: Capstone Research Project – 2 students recruited
 - University of Sunshine Coast (UniSC) – application pending
 - University of Western Sydney – awaiting application form
 - Proposal to establish a Policy and Advocacy sub-committee to develop issue position statements:
➔ *Fidelia has volunteered to draft ‘Position Statements’ for the 8 focus areas of our Strategic Plan. Will endeavour to action in early 2027.*

9. Next ordinary meeting – 14 November 2026

10. Meeting closure: 11.30am



Perry Bowe (Acting Secretary)



Anna Kula-Kaczmariski (President)

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