

MINUTES
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2017
Permaculture Noosa Inc.

Date: 16 November 2017
Location: Cooroy State School Hall, Elm St, Cooroy
Chairman: Tim Peek
Number of paid-up members present: 30+

Welcome by Chairman

At 6.30 pm, Tim Peek welcomed everyone to the 2017 Annual General Meeting of Permaculture Noosa Inc.

Apologies: Joan McVilly and Heather Preston.

Minutes of previous AGM

Tim Peek moved that the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on 20 October 2016 be accepted; seconded Rhondda Jessop.

Carried

Business arising from previous Minutes

There was no business arising from the previous Minutes.

President's Report

President Tim Peek presented his report (attached).

Events Co-ordinator's Report

Val Wilson, stepping down from her role as Events Coordinator, presented her report (attached).

Treasurer's Report

Wendy Strathearn presented the financial reports for the period 1 August 2016 to 31 July 2017 (attached), and discussed some of the major expenses incurred during the year that contributed to expenditure exceeding income.

Wendy moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted; seconded Bill Berry.

Carried

Audit Report

Treasurer Wendy Strathearn tabled the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2017 prepared by Sunny Coast Accountants of Cooroy. Wendy moved that the Auditor's Report be received and referred to the next Management Committee; seconded Tim Peek.

Carried

Appointment of Auditor for 2017/18

The decision of appointing an auditor for next year was deferred. The requirements for audit for incorporated associations differ now from what they were 24 years ago when Permaculture Noosa was incorporated, and our Constitution does not align with current requirements of the Office of Fair Trading. This decision will allow the incoming Committee to consider whether our Constitution should be updated to bring it into line with modern day practice. The impact of this would be that whilst we would still need to have our financial records verified, we may not require the expense of an auditor.

Public Liability Insurance

Permaculture Noosa maintains public and products liability and voluntary workers cover (for members only) through our affiliation with Garden Clubs of Australia.

Election of Management Committee

President Tim Peek stood aside and Elisabeth Fekonia assumed the role of chairman and declared all positions vacant – president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and all ordinary committee member positions.

Nominations had been received prior to the meeting, for the following positions:

President	Vic Bateman (vice-president)
Treasurer:	Wendy Strathearn (continuing)
Secretary:	Lorraine Oats (acting-secretary)
Committee members:	Wayne Oldham
	Bill Berry
	Tim Peek (president)

Elisabeth called for further nominations from the floor for all positions. Rob Dayman offered to be a committee member. The chairman declared the nominated persons elected and introduced the members of the new committee. The position of vice-president remains vacant and is deemed to be a casual position, which means that the management committee has the power, at any time, to appoint any member to fill the casual vacancy.

Date of next AGM: Thursday 18 October 2018

Closure:

There being no further business, the chairman declared the AGM closed at 7.00pm.

PRESIDENT TIM PEEK'S REPORT – 2017 AGM

I'd like to start by thanking each of you for your support throughout the past year or so. When you trusted me with the role of President I had high ambitions to achieve several tasks above and beyond the important task of running the club and engaging a diverse range of guest presenters sharing their knowledge of subjects incorporating the principals of 'Earth care, people care, fair share'.

However, the harsh reality is that I have not been successful at attaining all of the ideals I held, such as finalising the new strategic plan that the previous committee initiated. I also wanted to start a club-sponsored PDC and Permablitz combination. There's been too much going on in the daily grind for the committee to extend themselves any further.

Many of you would be unaware of some of the issues that we as a committee have been struggling with. That is mainly due to our good fortune to be in the company of some of the most ethical, integral, diligent, hardworking and caring people one could ever be lucky to know and work with. It's their dedication, commitment and hard work (on top of their own personal daily grind) to our club and you as members that this past year has seen the club operate successfully in the face of the challenges.

Nonetheless, the truth remains that the club has in fact been experiencing a bit of a drought in a few areas. Yet, as in life, there are peaks and troughs and I can also happily report that the club was offered the management of the Cooroy Community Gardens – which has long been dear to us since the first gardens were established at the Lower Mill site near the library and the Butter Factory – and we signed the document in July.

This is your club and the membership fees alone are not enough to sustain it. Indeed, the membership fees are not nearly enough to cover operating costs and we could only function and promote our club through the personal generosity of those few members who do the hard yards with a declining bank account. We need to change things.

Recently the committee has decided to establish an entry fee to our club meetings in a bid to cover the costs of hiring the hall. It has pained us to make this decision and we are partially uncomfortable with that decision; however raising funds from somewhere is necessary and this is indeed a very pragmatic decision. Where else can you get a night out for free?

Since my term as president began, I've been banging on about the need to establish 'Troikas' – teams of three – for each committee position, to strengthen and improve our club; yet I've noticed that every time this strategy is mentioned the audiences' eyes glaze over and only re-awaken when the subject changes and the guest speaker takes over. Still to this day we have challenges in having one person to fill each position and some of us who are in our committee positions are only there because we believe that permaculture and our club is important to our community and society and we refuse to let it die. I'd like to thank each and every member of the committee and ask that you join me in giving them a round of applause in appreciation.

I'd like to leave you with one thought that Bill Mollison left to guide us on our way forward:
There is one, and only one solution, and we have almost no time to try it. We must turn all our resources to repairing the natural world, and train all our young people to help. They want to; we need to give them this last chance to create forests, soils, clean waters, clean energies, secure communities, stable regions, and to know how to do it from hands-on experience.

REPORT BY RETIRING EVENTS COORDINATOR, VAL WILSON

Good evening, members and friends of Permaculture Noosa.

I stand before you a very humble person. Having spent the last two years in a tent, at the events sharing my talents to spark interest in all things permaculture, I will sum up why we put these events on our sharing list.

1. The community does want to grow, live, share and care for others.
2. A smile and a chicken under your arm can soften society living folk and allow them to turn back towards community.
3. A marquee is an event meeting-place and when I think outside the square ... adding 4 marquees gives you a very big meeting-place.

I mentioned earlier that I feel humble. The connections I have made at the Sunshine Coast events that Permaculture Noosa attended, have been unbelievable. People who shared stories with me and other volunteers were our special events. I don't need to give you figures of signed-up members as this is not our objective. A smile, a wave, a hug, a laugh, sharing ideas, and then continuing friendships is the key to growing a community.

We took permaculture to Riding for the Disabled open day and I felt a sense of sharing our knowledge a real need to do in the future. We joined Slow Foods and Country Noosa at the Noosa Show also for the first time and we now have a symbiotic connection with these local farmers and producers to educate new arrivals living in our area about food miles and importance of land management for all.

Summing up: I wish to thank Tim Peek, our president; also Sue Anderson, seed-savers coordinator; and other committee members for allowing me to practise my organising skills and artistic flare and also show how my parents' energetic genes can bring happiness at events.

I also wish to thank my husband for his calmness as props appeared on the dining room table. Also, the way Costa and Mother Earth scarecrows lived a while in the shed without paying rent.

I stand down and leave my energy for all things caring before the new committee.

Thank you
Val Wilson

**STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDING 31/7/2017
AND ASSETS & LIABILITIES STATEMENT AS AT 31 JULY 2017**



Income and Expenditure Statement

Permaculture Noosa Inc
For the year ended 31 July 2017

	2017	2016
Income		
21st Party	-	230.00
Book & DVD Sales	50.00	49.50
Donations	143.45	51.40
Fundraising & Raffles	719.45	1,683.45
Grafting Workshop	-	290.00
Interest Income	265.64	316.25
Memberships	2,175.00	1,804.00
Open Garden Receipts	516.95	474.50
Seed Saver Receipts	777.05	1,193.00
Supper	391.15	262.90
Total Income	5,038.69	6,355.00
Gross Surplus	5,038.69	6,355.00
Expenditure		
21st Party Expenses	-	4,452.83
Accounting & Audit Fees	600.00	575.00
Catering Costs	200.00	-
Donations & Gifts	239.00	1,010.00
Fees & Registrations	51.70	-
Hall Rental	843.25	313.50
Insurance	170.01	191.86
Memberships & Subscriptions	90.00	142.00
Newsletter Costs	-	48.60
Open Garden Expenses	17.25	57.58
Postage	154.00	121.00
Printing & Stationery	1,144.93	597.35
Raffle Expenses	24.84	31.70
Repairs & Minor Equipment	-	360.29
Seed Saver Expenses	38.29	282.81
Sundry Expenses	-	65.98
Website Expenses	2,680.00	263.76
Workshop Expenses	-	330.75
Total Expenditure	6,253.27	8,845.01
Net Current Year Surplus/ (Loss)	(1,214.58)	(2,490.01)



Assets and Liabilities Statement

Permaculture Noosa Inc
As at 31 July 2017

	NOTES	31 JUL 2017	31 JUL 2016
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash & Cash Equivalents			
Cash on Hand		10.70	50.00
Bendigo Bank Account 118708270		1,049.17	1,141.17
Sandhurst Trustees Ltd Account 130273105		10,628.83	12,063.19
Total Cash & Cash Equivalents		11,688.70	13,254.36
Total Current Assets		11,688.70	13,254.36
Non-Current Assets			
Plant and equipment at cost			
Plant & Equipment Opening Balance		17,822.94	16,104.02
Plus: Additions		351.08	1,718.92
Total Plant and equipment at cost		18,174.02	17,822.94
Total Non-Current Assets		18,174.02	17,822.94
Total Assets		29,862.72	31,077.30
Net Assets		29,862.72	31,077.30
Member's Funds			
Current Year Earnings		(1,214.58)	(2,490.01)
Retained Earnings		31,077.30	33,567.31
Total Member's Funds		29,862.72	31,077.30