

Down-To-Earth (Vic) Cooperative Society Limited

Confest Committee
Executive arm of DTE

Minutes

Date: **12/08/2021**

Time: **7:30pm**

Venue: **CERES, Learning Centre Rm,1-2 Lee St, Brunswick East VIC**

Online: <https://dte.coop/live.meeting>

	Acknowledgement of Country – Mark Rasmussen <i>We are gathered on aboriginal land (wherever you may be) and we pay respects to the elders past, present & emerging and we say thank you for the privilege of living in this wonderful country.</i>	
#	Item	Raised by:
1	<u>Meeting Started</u>	<i>Procedural</i>
	12/08/2021 7:35pm	
2	<u>Election Of Chair</u>	<i>Procedural</i>
	Confirmation of Chairperson: Mark Rasmussen Confirm Minute Keeper: Walter Padovani	
3	<u>Attendance</u>	<i>Procedural</i>
	Aaron Shipperlee, Andrew Wilkinson, Caryn Kettle , Chris Wilson, Darrell Reid, Darrylle Ryan, DavidCameron, David Cruise, Jack Wells, John Magor, Kathy Ernst, Kevin Taylor, Lance Nash, Mark Helson, Mark Rasmussen, Marte Kinder, Martin Schwarz , Peter Tippett, Rick Gill, Robin Macpherson, Rohan Levy, Skye Fitzpatrick , Steve Poynton, Suzie Helson, Trevor Pitt, Troy Reid, Walter Padovani, Deborah Moerkerken, Craig Newcomb, Lindy Hunt, Anna Aguilar, Elisa Brock	
4	<u>Confirmation of Previous Meeting Minutes</u>	<i>Procedural</i>
	Minutes from last Confest Committee Meeting 8/07/2021 Confirmed – Suzie Helson Accepted – John Mager No objections. Passed by consensus.	
5	<u>Task Check List</u>	<i>Procedural</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing actions to be taken from Item 13138: • Contact Confest facilitators (email list, Facebook group) – Robin made contact with some facilitators, That Robin is in contact with the facilitators for CC in regards to the CC Budget - Ongoing • Steve Pointon proposed that a motion be put to the next SGM that money be set aside for the next Confest, an action group assessing Covid risk at a Confest event & an action group looking at village policy. These tasks are still in progress. • Debbie Moerken requested that the term Australia Day for the January Long Weekend respectfully not be used by the DTE organisation. 	Work In Progress

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martin Schwarz raised the issue of if paid tickets to a proposed event was cancelled weather a refund mechanism should be set up with an option of donating the ticket money to the organisation. In addition the next festival be limited to approximately 1500 people. • Mark Rasmussen inquired about a Covid plan for the next Confest 	
6	<u>Correspondence / Payments</u>	<i>Procedural</i>
	Melody notified the Confest Committee via email that the Sydney Confest had been postponed to a new proposed date of the January 26th 2022 Long Weekend Rohan inquired if costs were incurred for the postponed Sydney Confest. Kathy informed meeting that it was her understanding that if the event got cancelled due to Covid the deposit of \$2000.00 that was paid to the Webb Creek Castle Mountain camp site was refundable. An additional \$155.00 was spent on admin tasks. Melody will be revising the budget for the postponed event	
7	<u>WH&S</u>	<i>Procedural</i>
	Marty & Lance had a meeting on the 11/08/2021. Report at a future date.	
8	<u>Agenda Items From Previous CC Meeting</u>	
	<u>Agenda Items</u>	<i>Procedural</i>
	<p>Meeting CC Agenda item ID: 13387 Date: 2021-08-03 20:19:32 Item by Walter Padovani Agenda: Bylands Gathering 29th Oct – 2nd Nov 2021 Budget application</p> <p>Agenda : As the property has not been used for a long time and there has been a lot of talk about having a Spring Confest, we decided to put a proposal to start by having a small gathering (around 150 people) to gauge the level of interest and to see if this could be the beginning of something that could grow into a larger gathering. This gathering would not be called Spring Confest but could be called Spring Confab, Confab or DTE SpringFest.</p> <p>Motion: Set aside an appropriation of \$7,260.00 to hold a gathering (as yet unnamed) for up to 150 people to be held at the Bylands site from Fri 29th Oct to Tue 2nd Nov 2021 (Melb Cup Weekend)</p> <p>Amended Motion: that the budget of \$7,260.00 to hold a gathering (as yet unnamed) for up to 150 people to be held at the Bylands site from Fri 29th Oct to Tue 2nd Nov 2021 (Melb Cup Weekend) (or other possible date if necessary) be approved.</p> <p>Lindy asked about what alternative dates we were thinking of, the alternative dates were the 26th January long weekend or the Labour Day weekend. Whichever date is chosen would coincide with a long weekend. Lindy also asked if having it on the January 26th long weekend</p>	<i>Objections None Passed by motion Motion by Walter Padovani Seconded by Andrew Wilkinson</i>

would conflict with the Sydney Festival as that festival was proposed for the same weekend. Melody and I both thought there was no issue due to the distance between the 2 sites. Lindy also asked about budgeted amount of \$1000 for food, we thought it was reasonable to provide food for the people who were participating in setting up and packing down for this gathering. It was clarified that the food budget was an estimate.

Aaron had surveyed the site and had asked if we had put any thoughts into removing the old pie van and any other rubbish that was lying around the site. This was not factored into the budget proposal but if people want to participate in doing this work there is no reason why it can't be done.

Robin asked about the limit of 150 people and who would get the opportunity to attend the event. Was suggested that members have priority, then others. Looking for input from others on how we decide who gets to go.

Lance gave credit to people who have volunteered on the property and suggested that they have priority.

Steve commented that we all work together to get a covid plan happening. In regards to tickets get an expression of interest in the festival and how to limit the tickets numbers.

Aaron asked about water infrastructure, our plan is to transport some water tanks from Moulamein and buy some potable water for drinking and cooking. We are proposing to buy 2 IBC tanks which will be filled with bore water and located in close proximity to the toilets for hand washing. River water pumped into a header tank will be used for showers.

Robin asked Suzie Helson in regards to Bylands weather the Pantech was within 40 metres of the high water mark. We may need to inquire with the council.

Rohan asked is why the number was limited to 150 people, was explained that this gathering was primarily organised to measure the level of interest then maybe expanding the size in the future.

Lindy asked if water crew have been asked about transporting water tanks – no and further discussions required.

Lindy asked if CC appropriation was set aside for this budget request, it was granted.

Lindy wanted confirmation that the money would not be spent unless there was a guarantee that the festival was going ahead. Confirmed.

Robin had good suggestions for developing on site water infrastructure. Working group suggested.

Peter wanted confirmation that it was a budget request. Confirmed for a long weekend prior to the next Confest.

Steve wanted confirmation that the money has been appropriated. Kathy confirmed that money was appropriated for a Sydney which was cancelled and that money was available.

Troy suggested formalising a Bylands Confest subcommittee, so the Budget application is for the Bylands committee

Elisa confirmed the appropriation had been set aside.

Trevor Pitt advised that the Sydney appropriation can be repurposed.

Kathy wanted motion re-worded to confirm that it is a budget application and confirmation of which account the money will be transferred to.

Trevor made an amendment.

Confirmed the agenda item was submitted on the 3rd August 2021

Money disbursement to be decided at Bylands Committee meeting

*Objections
None
Passed by motion
Motion by Walter
Padovani
Seconded by
Andrew Wilkinson*

Date: 2021-08-12 21:39
 Item by: Robin Macpherson
 Agenda: Sustainability Survey for ConFestors

No motion required as at this stage, motion to be added as an agenda item at

Agenda details: In today's age while governments shifts responsibility we can take responsibility for our own footprint, Before we can ascertain whether our mitigation of future strategies are working, we need a base set of data which over time we can measure our results against to ascertain the effectiveness of our strategies.

Motion: "The CC sends to its ticket holders a survey to ascertain the carbon footprint of the event and the waste it and its participants create.

Robin spoke to the motion, emphasized options on how we collect the data, that I will be over a period of time so as to be able to analyze the trends with the aim of minimizing the carbon footprint that DTE events generate.

No budget is being requested for this motion.

John Magor asked what do we do with the data and was looking for long term tangible results.

David Cruise was concerned that there may be privacy issues collecting the data.

Robin proposed that when a Confester purchases a ticket, a button could be setup for which the ticket buyer has an option to receive correspondence.

Opened discussion on what strategies are being proposed in reducing carbon footprint at our festivals. An option in setting up a working group was raised and Robin requested that people who are interested in this proposal to get in touch with him via email.

Robin then requested that the motion at this stage be withdrawn and added as an agenda item for the next CC meeting.

Meeting: CCAgenda item: ID: 13417

Date: 2021-08-12 10:05:23

Item by Lance Nash

Agenda: Plan for using composting toilets.

No motion required as at this stage

Agenda details: Composting toilets are used in Major Events around Australia and, if properly managed, are much more environmentally sound than other methods of waste disposal. Investigation is required to establish costs and other factors including ways to mitigate the labour requirement associated with maintenance.

Motion: That the CC form a working group to examine and report on the feasibility of replacing the current pit latrines with composting toilets at the rate of 15% per festival.

Discussion progressed with various options and ideas that could be considered for future events with considering that there are no adverse effects to the local environment

It was brought to the meetings attention that existing toilets require maintenance or replacement.

Deborah Moerkerken suggested researching Hamish Scermer composting solutions to get ideas from. Robin was familiar with his solutions.

Existing toilets require maintenance work.

A working group was proposed in progressing both short and long term toilet solutions.

Actions to be taken

Procedural

A Bylands Confab Committee to be set up
 Members interested in Robins proposal contact him to discuss ideas to present at next meeting.

Next Meeting Date & Time Confirmation

Procedural

Thursday 9th September 2021 @ 7:30 pm.

	Meeting Ended	<i>Procedural</i>
	10:29 pm.	