

Down-To-Earth (Vic) Cooperative Society Limited

## Annual General Meeting

### Minutes

Date: **30/11/2021**

Time: **7:30pm**

Venue: **Online via Zoom**

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

#	Item	Raised by:																																																									
1	<b><u>Acknowledge and pay respect to the traditional owners and ongoing custodians of the land</u></b>	<i>Procedural</i>																																																									
	We gather on the lands of many Aboriginal Nations. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging. Indigenous sovereignty has never been ceded in Australia and we should endeavour to be mindful of this in everything we do, given our focus is gathering to create better ways of living in our society, not just for festival attendees but for all.																																																										
2	<b><u>Meeting Started</u></b>	<i>Procedural</i>																																																									
	7:32pm																																																										
4	<b><u>Election of Chair</u></b>	<i>Procedural</i>																																																									
	Confirmation of Chairperson: Caryn Kettle Confirm Minute Keeper: Vanessa Ernst																																																										
5	<b><u>Attendance</u></b>	<i>Procedural</i>																																																									
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	<b>Note:</b> Host – refused to give their name when asked multiple times by the chair At 7:53pm the ‘Host’ is still not responding to chair or identifying themselves																																																										

<b>Confirmation of Previous Minutes</b>		
DTE AGM Minutes - 29 November 2020 Moved: John Magor Seconded: Deb Moerkeken P.B.C.		<i>P.B.C.</i>
DTE SGM Minutes - 29 July 2021 Moved: Kathy Ernst Seconded: Suzie Helson P.B.C.		<i>P.B.C.</i>
DTE SGM Minutes – 16 August 2021 Moved: Kathy Ernst Seconded: Deb Moerkerken		<i>P.B.C.</i>
<b>Director Report – see below</b>		
<a href="https://data.dte.org.au/files/AGM%202021%20Directors%20report%20by%20Kathy%20Ernst.pdf">https://data.dte.org.au/files/AGM%202021%20Directors%20report%20by%20Kathy%20Ernst.pdf</a>		
<b>Results of Election</b>		
Elected directors: Robin Macpherson, Tania Morsman, and Kathy Ernst <a href="https://data.dte.org.au/election_results/">https://data.dte.org.au/election_results/</a>		
<b>Motion 1: Appoint an Auditor</b>		
Agenda item: Appoint an Auditor  Agenda details: The Board has appointed Daniel Tai of Ax3 Partners as DTE s auditor starting with the 2020/2021 Financial Reports for the 2021 AGM. The CNL states that an auditor appointed by the Directors holds office until the next AGM. (CNL section 298). The members should reconfirm this appointment at this AGM.  Motion: That DTE appoints Daniel Tai of Ax3 Partners as DTE s auditor.  Proposed by: Kathy Ernst Supported by: John Magor, Tania Morsman, Suzie Helson, Don Royal  No objections	<i>P.B.C.</i>	
<b>Deferred Motions</b>		
Motion 2: (special resolution) Change to Rule 44(2)(a) and (b) Motion 3: (special resolution) Change to Rule 44(4) Motion 4: (special resolution) Change to Rule 44(5) Motion 5: (special resolution) Change to Rule 47(8) Motion 6: (special resolution) Change to Rule 47(16)(d)(iii, iv, v, viii and xi)		
<b>Meeting Ended</b>		<i>Procedural</i>
9:01pm		

## Report for 2021 AGM by Director Kathy Ernst

After the 2020 AGM, my year as Director started well. I was able to complete some action tasks which had been waiting for months and were left by retiring directors. I was able to rescind some of the Motions by Circular passed in 2020. Some of these motions contravened DTE rules and the CNL as well as obstructing the work of the cooperative.

I felt optimistic that I would be able to continue my attempts to clean up the neglect of years, put policies and procedures in place and plan for the future of DTE.

Unfortunately some directors consistently blocked my attempts to do this by filibustering, lack of cooperation and ignoring certain directors. Soon a new 'Board of Four' solidified and they were able to reject any constructive motions. As in 2020, they avoided discussion and scrutiny of their actions by passing Motions by Circular.

It has been very difficult to get motions discussed at Board meeting; for example, I have had a motion attempting to resolve members lack of access to the membership register on the agenda for 6 months and it has not been discussed. I hope we can get around to it after the AGM.

Board meetings have not always gone smoothly. Some of the more interesting ones include April Fools meeting/non-meeting, the meeting on 9 November urgently called to deal with 'some urgent matters that have arisen', rescinded minutes before the start and never rescheduled, and the meeting where some directors were late because they were busy passing Motions by Circular.

I continued my efforts to increase transparency and accountability by providing information to the Standing Committees and members.

I was successful in getting a new auditor appointed. This was more difficult and stressful than it should have been. But now we have a more accurate financial statement which complies with regulations. If I am re-elected I intend to work on fixing some of our financial management issues which have been highlighted by this audit including incorporating the asset register into Xero.

This year has ended badly with divisive, untruthful, defamatory attacks from some director candidates and supporters against other candidates. Let's hope that after this meeting we can put this behind us and have a productive year in 2022.