

COOTHARABA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC Minutes of Meeting 26 July 2025

This Quarterly General Meeting No.92 was held at the Lake Cootharaba Sailing Club, in Boreen Point.

Attendance: as per sign in sheet - Rob Dessaix, Rosey Edgar, Karen Eddy, Robert Killeen, Matt Noffke, David Wood, Rain Ellis, Brenda & Lester Kirkwood, Doug & Wendy Straker, Warren Kuskof, Ada Medak, Mareene Hutchings, Kim Jones, Charlie Charlesworth, Margaret Moon, Brian Stockwell, Ted Ringrose, Sue Entner

Apologies: Mick Capelin, John Olds, Ken Eddy, Ashley Wood, Jan Green, Annemarie O'Brien

Item	Details	Motions		
		Moved	Second	Carried
1.	<p>Meeting commenced at 9.05 am</p> <p>Acknowledgement of Country. Given by R Edgar - We need to listen deeply. Culture has been here, on these lands, hundreds of thousands of years possibly. The word, from our past tribes, throughout all of Australia is to listen deeply. Listen to birds – what are they saying? Listening to your footsteps and think about what is underneath them. The land is ancient and what has it heard? Places like the Tood River area (in NT) would have people walking and listening to their lands. Hearing what it has to say in all the seasons. ‘Something is and will always be here’ before and after we go. This place has been appreciated and hasn’t stopped being so. Listen to country, Didirri – deep listening. Acknowledge those, who before us, have listened and the many tribes who continue to listen; past, present and emerging. The President thanked Rosey for the Welcome to Country and acknowledgement.</p>			
2.	<p>Introduction Welcome to all. Locations of toilets, emergency exits, water. Apologies for no audio-video this meeting, due to absence of equipment. Thank you to members present and to the LCSC for the venue. Rob D</p>			

3.	<p>Previous Minutes Meeting documents for members' perusal are in the room. No Business arising from it. This was available on the website for the last general meeting. All were asked to view.</p>	Warren	Ada M	Accepted
4.	<p>The future of the CCA is in your hands! Rob outlined the committee positions which have become open again. He said we do have some verbal nominations. The AGM date was extended and the Office of Fair Trading were contacted and agreed. We wanted to have time to get a committee who were happy to stay and not just fill in. Treasurer will stay and Sue Entner to help. Rain will be happy to do the secretarial role. President and Vice Pres are open, but we do have a verbal nomination from Jan G. A Website manager is needed as Paula V is to step down. Minutes secretary will be continued by Karen E.</p> <p>The management committee will continue to canvas and hope you will all help to spread the word of the positions needed. It is a voice for our community where discussions can occur on topics of interest and importance to our community. Then action can be directed where needed. The Management Committee (MC) will now get the formal date for AGM and are hoping with nominations filled at that meeting, the CCA will continue.</p> <p>When was the date? Rain asked. Traditionally it is held in May but must be within 6 months if a new date is needed and the O of FT has given an extension. Rob D is stepping down due to a number of reasons, mainly as it has been over 23 years, that he has held this role. John O, Secretary is also stepping down due to other commitments. Ada M asked if more Committee members are needed. Rob D outlined that more are welcome and happy to receive nominations from members who would like to do this. Brenda & Lester Kirkwood stated they are happy to be on the committee. Lester Kirkwood would like to be involved with the website managing. A form will be given to Lester for nomination. Rob D stated that with that offer we are able to get our paperwork for the AGM in place. A date will be set by the MC. Rob D asked the floor that they need to tell the committee what the current membership wants in running and what we may need to do or discuss. Further at this time, Rain asked if a feedback sheet could be made? Topics can be sent in. Lester may put it on the website.</p>			

	<p>Charlie C - wants the meetings to be streamlined more. Dot points can be made and shown and keep timing to a minimum. MC will discuss.</p> <p>Rain asked if it can be remembered that these positions are not for life and that everyone should be reminded it is not forever and a trial period of 12 months could be made.</p> <p>Rob D reminded all that each AGM, the committee has to stand down. Then re-election. Kim J stated that some people she met on way down did not know the meeting was on. Communication is important. Discussion was briefly had on this. Suggestion from floor – Text messages. It was noted that already Social Club and other groups do notify members or talk about it. Signage is up in town. Karen E added if a sign could go further out for the wider area to see especially the Cootharaba residents and members. Also, we have moved away from paper letterbox drops and signage due to having modern methods of communication. Website, email and other local groups are still happy to send notices of meetings.</p> <p>One area that was brought up was to make sure information was put on group sites on Facebook or other forums. Website coordinator may look at this.</p> <p>- Rob D, finished this agenda item, by saying the O of FT was not worried about our extension of time. Council does appreciate our existence and the councillors, at local level, like to have us continue as a group representation of and to give, community opinions and ideas. Also our State Member is happy to continue receiving our communication. There has been notification of suggested meetings in November for public to attend and Brian Stockwell Cr did agree that it was in Nov.</p> <p>State Member meeting with Sandy B is Nov 8. Council is having a meeting too. Ada M clarified this Sandy B meeting date. LCSC has agreed for use of clubhouse already.</p> <p>Rob D asked our local councillor B Stockwell, who lives locally, if happy to get informed by our group and can we have him as a contact for Council. He agreed.</p> <p>Brian S said council meetings, of this type, would likely start at 5 probably. Rob D did mention that there has already and will be more notification from those holding the meetings via our local groups and other community advertising. He said by coming to the meeting those present, showed they are happy for us to liaise with the gov bodies, at various levels. Nobody disputed this comment. It is part of the CCA role to be a voice for our members and have their ideas go to those that make decisions on our behalf.</p>			
5.	<p>Business arising from the last minutes and / or carried over.</p> <p>Ada M spoke. A meeting was held with reps from groups in our community.</p>			

<p>The state member, Sandy B attended also. Kel Dillon, State Manager Gary Crozier, Area Manager, Sunshine Coast, from MSQ were in attendance also. They came to meeting with some answers to questions that had been given to them prior to attending. At that meeting we found out about what was actually happening with the river plan and policy. We gave them information about local concerns on Lake and River system uses such as anchoring restrictions, moorings, living aboard and associated issues and outlined that our community want to know what it happening. After which it was felt that there has been progress and one good outcome. This was that a tour was held for these people and MSQ representatives so they know the whole system and for example to know of all the existing campsites and fish habitat areas and geography of upper Noosa River. At this meeting discussion was held about what boat owners can do, living aboard, anchoring, moorings, facilities ashore and storage. They do have a staged plan. The first stage is the 28 day rule which commences in October, but firstly this rule is only the bottom section from Lake Cooroibah down to river mouth. Dave H did send a letter only a few weeks ago. There was a reply and they highlighted a 28 day rule will be implemented and that it will be like NSW. They assured us that the rule will be applied to the whole Noosa River System eventually, in the staged process. Charlie C asked for the 28 day rule to be explained for members. 28 days - per year, you can keep a boat in the water, not on a mooring. Comes in in October, from Noosa R mouth, up to Southern end of Lake Cooroibah. It will be extended to the whole of the River System in later stages of the Plan for our whole river system. This rule has been in place for many years (15) in other states. Discussion ensued on this topic.</p> <p>Margaret Moon concerned if a boat owner could just continually take out a vessel and put back in for a further 28 days. No was the answer. Doug S stated moorings must be registered. (Discussion ensued on how many moorings and where they are. There was discussion that 30 in total, in the Lake. 11 are in use. People are on waiting lists. But moorings may be offered to people living in other areas Eg Mooloolaba. It is not just those living here locally that can get a mooring)</p> <p>Next step is that another meeting will be coming. Our community is hoping to get a meeting after the rules go on the website and then see what MSQ is doing and if anything is changed. David Wood (a LCSC member also) commented on this topic and</p>			
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	<p>mentioned that it is taking a long time. Since the meeting our community has been told that MSQ Gary Crozier, Sunshine Coast Area Manager will be our contact.</p> <p>Ada M mentioned that some community members were upset that it was a closed meeting. CCA will respond to what the community wants as best they can, to represent the members. It came about to gain more information on this topic of Lake use, restrictions, the staged plan and MSQ rules around this. More will follow and CCA, as one group, will continue to follow up, after the October rule comes into place.</p>			
6.	<p>New Business</p> <p>A couple of sessions are being provided and run by Noosa Council.</p> <p>A Wellness Session is being held 6th Nov. This is a Seniors Connect program.</p> <p>Community Connected education session was to be held on 24th July. These have been advertised through Council communication. But more is likely to come from them.</p> <p>So far we are told Ordinary Meeting begins at 5pm and usually is 3 hours of engagement. Prior to that from 2 pm to 5 pm topics of interest from the community. Go along to Apollonian Hotel where it is held.</p> <p>Brenda K asked how we get any information out more effectively? Discussion ensued. Some find out by message or email and it was on Facebook and there is a sign on the post in town. Think of your neighbours – contact your neighbours, especially if housebound and let others know. Notice boards are around town. Down the front are Notices Boards opposite Sailing Club. We could use the little curb side library sites. Cootharaba area too needs some signage. Word of mouth is still a good way to use.</p>			
7.	<p>Treasurer report given at this point. Members can check on correspondence with Secretary. Mostly emails used these days.</p> <p>Balance \$1641.27 After memberships, paying of insurance has been done. Approx \$800 a year in fees.</p>	Margaret M	Charlie C	
8.	<p>Rob Killleen spoke on Agenda topic 9, concerning Water levels in Lake and in River System. River height monitoring stations are all around Qld and Country.</p> <p>We have about 5 here in our system. There is one monitoring River Height station near the boat ramp in Boreen Point. My interest is that I can see it and the data has been there and then not there. It is not working now.</p>			

	<p>I have contacted the Council and my understanding is, that it is owned by Noosa Council. The Met/Bom said they know and have taken the data offline and asked Noosa Council to attend to it and the Council is to get it back working.</p> <p>Rob K has tried different ways to get it looked at. Phoned and used Snap Send Solve. He is happy to keep following this up.</p> <p>Should I keep doing this or can group help?</p> <p>Rob K feels it hasn't been working for months. Some of us do look and can have a visual inspection of Lake, but a problem is if you don't live at the Lake edge or you can never know how the rain is falling, further up in the system. Catchment areas do affect the river and lake water levels. Boreen Pt is the only one that is blank on State Data sites Rob K stated.</p> <p>- Brian S advised that the system is having difficulties and the Council is looking for solutions. Doug asked where it was. (Explained. Pipe runs under the ground and feeds into the Lake. The monitor is on a pole near the toilets).</p> <p>- MC can look at following up.</p> <p>Action: Sec: Added to List of Concerns for November Council Meeting.</p>			
9.	<p>Rob D - Any other emergency matters that we should flag? Warren K – he stated we are heading into fire season. Check property and know your neighbours and what they are doing. Pomona Family Fun Day events are held and you can get information often at those. Lake McDonald event is happening. Look locally for advertising. Local papers and websites. Emergency Services feel it is going smoothly at the moment. No issues. Some fire burns by Parks and Wildlife recently.</p> <p>-Margaret M asked do we have a formal evacuation plan? Or need one?</p> <p>Our own disaster management committee looks after that he stated. It has been worked on. There is a working disaster management group in town. She mentioned an evacuation plan from a Meditation Centre at Pomona, was good and Warren asked Margaret to send information from that Mediation Centre to him for perusal and see if any ideas may be useful for our community.</p> <p>- Lester asked about phones in town. A reminder was given of the Telstra public phone, bottom of steps, near foreshore main beach in Boreen Point. Not useful in event of flood.</p> <p>-Warren said about 5 G capability on your phone is needed to really be phone ready. There are disaster management plans in place.</p>			

	<p>This group are looking at factors around isolation and keep in mind your own communication is important, if isolated by flood or fire.</p> <p>-Warren asked Margaret M for the Evacuation Plan of the Mediation Centre so that it could be looked at to find any ideas that may be relevant to our community here.</p>			
10.	<p>Charlie C commented on the meeting on 4th July, with Councillor Amelia Lorentson about the grey water problem of caravans and campers. It is felt that it starts in the park. She said they are going to try and get the rules of the campground highlighted and implemented. It is on the rules. But it is not in a prominent place among the rules still. Education of this is important. It is hoped the Campground staff bring this to visitor attention.</p>			
11.	<p>Brian Stockwell Cr added that the Noosa Destination Management Plan will be out next month. Noosa Destination Plan is advertised on Council Website and e newsletters. People are being asked to go on the panel, to give their ideas. There are likely to be community hot spots and the council are looking at getting youth and younger people involved in this Plan. Contact Council for more information or look up their website. Eg Tourism and enterprises, accommodation ideas and sustainability and use of resources. Lots of topics are included. Residents and Visitors have responsibility to help in our shire and to look after it.</p>			
12.	<p>Our President Rob Dessaix finally added that “We look like we have potential committee nominations to continue our role.” Notice will come to members about the AGM and when it is to be held.</p> <p>Thank you all for attending. Closing meeting 10.10 am Next meeting to be announced by MC - November approx. Morning Tea provided.</p>			

Dated:

SIGNED as a true record

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Rob Dessaix, CCA President Rain Ellis, Secretary