

# Ballarat PERMACULTURE Guild INC

## Annual General Meeting Minutes

<b>Time / Date</b>	21 <sup>st</sup> November, 2023
<b>Venue</b>	Uniting building, 42a Dyte Parade, Ballarat East.
<b>Chair / Minutes</b>	James Hosking/Rhea Thorn
<b>Attendees</b>	Ellen Burns, Steve Burns, René de jong, Kirsty Gainger, Barry Gibson, Ann Goeman, James Hosking, Meg Luc-Romanis, Hoang Nguyen, Mick O'Meara, Gabrielle Salkowski, Judy Sullivan, Jennifer Tait Murnane, Stephen Taylor, Fiona Williamson.
<b>Apologies</b>	Michael Mckenna
<b>Guests</b>	None

### Chairperson's Welcome

The Chairperson welcomed all attendees and thanked them for their attendance. There are currently 107 financial members of the Guild, so a quorum is needed of 11 people or more in attendance. There are 16 members in attendance and a quorum was declared. The agenda was confirmed.

### Confirmation of minutes of previous general meetings

Minutes of the 2022 annual general meeting were confirmed.

"That the minutes of the 2022 AGM be accepted"

Moved:	James Hosking	Seconded:	Stephen Taylor	Vote:	passed
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### Report on Committee Activities

The Annual Report was presented to the meeting, members also made aware it is available on the Guild website. The James noted highlights or key information in the report on the activities of the Guild over the last 12 months.

"That the Annual Report of the Ballarat Permaculture Guild be accepted"

Moved:	Ellen Burns	Seconded:	Barry Gibson	Vote:	Passed
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## Annual Financial Statement

Treasurer Stephen Taylor summarised the annual financial statement, the Guild is currently in a strong financial position, with over \$7000 in profit due to the Permaculture Design Course running again in 2023.

That the Annual Financial Statement of the Ballarat Permaculture Guild be accepted					
Moved:	Stephen Taylor	Seconded:	René De Jong	Vote:	Passed

## Acknowledgement of Committee members & volunteers

James acknowledged the contribution of the committee members, he gave thanks to Hoang Nyugen who is retiring as an ordinary member.

## Election of Committee Members

Ellen Burns took over as Chair for nominations due to President James Hosking re-nominating for president of the Guild.

This being an 'odd' numbered year, the President & Secretary positions are declared vacant. As there is no current Vice President, this role remains vacant.

### **President**

#### Nominations

James Hosking, there being no other nominations James Hosking is elected unopposed.

### **Secretary**

#### Nominations

Katharine Thorn (Known as Rhea), there being no other nominations Katharine Thorn (Rhea) is elected unopposed.

### **Ordinary Committee Members – 12 vacancies**

#### Nominations

1. Barry Gibson
2. Steve Burns
3. René de jong

There being no nominations in excess of the number of vacant positions, all candidates are elected.

Fiona Williams to continue her term as vice president. Stephen Taylor to continue his term as treasurer. Ellen Burns is noted as a BPG committee member by virtue of being President of The Hidden Orchard.

## Review of Membership Fees

1-year Single Concession \$25

1-year Single Full fee \$30

2-year Single Concession \$45

2-year Single Full fee \$55

1-year Household Concession \$40

Full Fee 1-year \$45

Concession Household 2 year \$75

Full Fee Household \$85

That membership fees for 2024 remain unchanged from 2023.					
Moved:	James Hosking	Seconded:	Jenny Tait Murnane	Vote:	Passed

## General Business

Lifetime Member ship was awarded to Ann Goeman, René de jong spoke to acknowledge her significant contribution to BPG and her continuing dedication to living a permaculture lifestyle. Ann accepted lifetime membership and shared her history leading to her interest in permaculture.

Lifetime membership was awarded to Steve Burns, Mick O'Meara spoke to acknowledge Steves history with BPG from its very beginnings and the first Permaculture design course in Ballarat. Steve accepted his lifetime membership and reflected on the history of the Guild.

Barry noted the Guild is seeking Permabiltz coordinators and a reminder that the BPG library is available for members. Ellen noted that The Hidden Orchard is seeking more harvest leaders and encouraged members to speak with others who may be interested. Ann invited members to the last 'Permies at the Pub' for the year.

**Meeting closed: 7:20pm**