

Cooroy Butter Factory

U3A Noosa

GOVERNANCE AND ORGANISATION

We propose that the organisation of the Cooroy Butter Factory, after consultation with all parties, be installed as a sub-branch of U3A Noosa (with separate bank account).

We also propose that the current stakeholders and interested persons of the Butter Factory become part of U3A Noosa as a sub-branch, electing their own executive and retaining all funds. Day to day operation of the sub-branch would be the responsibility of the officers of the sub-branch. In order to insure probity in matters of finance or operation, Noosa Council or its successor shall have the right to nominate an officer or officers to attend meetings and access records.

ALTERNATIVE OR FUTURE STRUCTURE

After a suitable period of time with majority agreement, an application could be made for the establishment of a charitable trust to take over the running and management of the building on behalf of the Cooroy community as a whole. Other pertinent points:

- The powers and responsibilities of the trust would maintain the structure both internally and externally.
- Leaseholders to conform to the wishes of the Cooroy stakeholders and interest groups.
- The trust would act as arbiter in any dispute as to the care and conduct of the building by current occupants.
- The trust to have Deed of Gift status to enable it to receive gifts, donations and bequests, free and clear of tax for the benefit of the local community.
- The trust would assist in the process of raising funds for the continued and enhanced operation of the site for the benefit of the local community.

FRONT OF HOUSE

If our proposal were to be adopted, we would recruit volunteers from the Cooroy area to fulfil the roles during office hours when the building is open. U3A Noosa would undertake to recruit and train volunteers. We anticipate reception volunteers would hold a First Aid Certificate and basic training in Workplace Health & Safety procedures. Volunteer reception staff would collect and check class fees and membership dues as well as manage revenue resulting from the sale of goods and products.

SECURITY AND BUILDING LOCK UP

Depending on the hours of opening negotiated, we foresee the need for security or some other arrangement to oversee the locking and unlocking of the building. We consider that a two key system is the safest for all concerned, with two individuals rostered on a daily basis. A clear line of responsibility for emergencies and other events outside working hours needs to be established.

COMMUNICATION

The U3A publishes a bi-weekly Bulletin to members containing the latest information on classes and activities. We propose that we would extend this facility to include all events at the Cooroy Butter Factory.

- We would additionally include all Cooroy Butter Factory activities on our current website www.u3anoosa.org.au and our Facebook site.
- We would work towards building both a website and Facebook page dedicated to the Cooroy Butter Factory.
- We would propose, install and maintain a noticeboard for all Cooroy Butter Factory events and a community noticeboard for other events in the Cooroy area.
- We produce a limited-run quarterly magazine which we propose to expand to cover activities and proposed activities at the Cooroy site.
- We additionally have a press and publicity officer and a photographic group who provide resources for the local media who would be happy to provide this service to Cooroy.

Caveat

We would like to propose that the successful managing organisation obtain a grant to ensure Council and/or voluntary organisational funds are not compromised.

Stephen Casely

President University of the Third Age et al.