

2022 Annual General Meeting Agenda

Date: Thursday, 13 October 2021 at 11am (AEDT)

Location: Zoom ID - [815 8499 3043](#)

Meeting Chair: Charlie Prell

Quorum Required: 11 members

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| 1. Welcome and Chair remarks | Chair |
| 2. Guest speaker - Claire O'Rourke (see appendix one) | Guest |
| <i>AGM official proceedings begin – Non members to depart</i> | |
| 3. Apologies | Chair |
| 4. General | Chair |
| a. Confirmation of Minutes of the 2021 AGM | |
| b. Business arising | |
| 5. Chair report (see appendix two) | Chair |
| 6. CEO report (see appendix three) | CEO |
| 7. Financial Report (see appendix four) | Finance, Risk and Audit
Sub-Committee |
| 8. Questions to the Directors | CEO |
| 9. Election of Office-bearers (see appendix five) | Chair |
| a. Announcement of nominations received | |
| b. Governor Members voted on the election of office bearers | |
| c. Election results announced | |
| 10. Closure of meeting | Chair |

Appendix One: Guest speaker bio

Claire O'Rourke

www.claireorourke.com

Claire O'Rourke is a campaigner, communicator and behavioural change expert working to transform Australia into a global leader in climate solutions.

Claire has 20 years' experience in journalism, communications and campaigning in Australia and around the world. Claire has held a number of leadership positions, including most recently at Amnesty International Australia and as National Director of community-led renewable energy advocacy organisation Solar Citizens.

Claire has a broad history of organising and campaigning in social movements and for organisations that deliver positive impact, including overseeing communications for Australia's successful Every Australian Counts campaign for the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

Claire has recently released a new book, entitled *Together We Can*.

About the book:



Australia is on the front lines. It's going to take a massive, all-hands-on-deck effort to turn this around, and it can be overwhelming thinking about where to start.

Claire tells stories of people all around Australia who are making a difference, and they come from every walk of life: food producers, sportspeople, financiers, psychologists, First Nations people, entrepreneurs, public servants, scientists, teachers, actors, farmers, students and retirees.

Together We Can is an invitation to anyone worried about what climate change means in uncertain times, and a challenge to take action that reconnects our communities, transforms our country and is hopeful and empowering.

Appendix Two: Chair's Report

The past year has been one of huge growth and increasing impact for Farmers for Climate Action. I'm very proud of all that our organisation has achieved this year and of the vision we've created for the future of our 7,000+ farmer network.

A key achievement of the past 12 months is our new strategic plan which will guide our work for the next three years 2022-2024. We have set ourselves some very ambitious goals and targets, both in financial terms but also in measures of success within our organisation. So far, we've met and exceeded these targets.

Our work this year has been against a backdrop of significant challenges for farmers. Floods and wet conditions in some areas, ongoing drought in others, supply chain disruptions, labour, biosecurity and processing challenges across the country. The energy crisis and cost of living increases are exerting pressures on farmers and farming communities. This has emphasised the need for the rapid shift to renewable energy.

Political change occurred federally this year with the election of a Labor Government for the first time since 2013. The substantive changes in our parliamentary make-up across the political landscape mean independents have an increasingly important role to play. Our commitment to being fiercely non-partisan means Farmers for Climate Action is well placed to engage across politics to amplify farmers' voices calling for strong climate policy.

One of our greatest strengths is our ability to work with farmers across the ag sector, working together to build our influence. We will continue to work this way to achieve our ambitious goals with our partners and supporters. We have always been constructive and willing to work with farmers in their own backyard, as well as with their representatives in industry and political organisations.

Our small but cohesive Board of Directors has worked with a strong focus on strengthened, robust governance and stewardship as we enter a new strategic phase. Our Board of Directors are focused on overseeing the organisation's rapid growth deliberately and judiciously, while keeping our vision and ambition in the front of our minds. We are committed to ensuring our corporate governance is best practice, and have streamlined our processes accordingly.

I want to acknowledge and applaud the dedication and performance of our CEO, Dr Fiona Davis, who stepped into the CEO role in mid-2021. She has built a formidable team within the FCA staff and the Board is blessed to have such a strong leader in charge of such a capable and diverse team. Their cohesion, enthusiasm, capabilities, and work ethic are the foundation for the ongoing success of our organisation and our wider farmer network right across Australia.

Farmers for Climate Action continues to be a driver of leadership, supporting farmers and our representatives to be climate leaders. I'm really looking forward to the coming year, to meeting and beating our targets, and to all we will achieve together. This is THE decade for strong climate leadership that will produce deep cuts to our emissions. Farmers for Climate Action will play its part in ensuring that we have the leadership in Australia we so desperately need.

Charlie Prell
Chair of the Board
Farmers for Climate Action

Appendix Three: CEO Report

Farmers across our Australia-wide network have made huge strides this year in their climate leadership, despite challenging conditions. I'm really proud of what our movement has been able to do. We're growing our reach and impact in public conversation, in the ag sector, and in the political landscape.

Farmers continue to be on the front lines of a changing climate, and their voices are a trusted and sensible messenger to the wider Australian community about the need for emissions reductions and strong climate policy to protect Australian farming businesses and communities. We are committed to ensuring farmers and farming communities can benefit from the opportunities that come from strong climate policy,

Some of the achievements you can read in our annual report include:

1. **The Federal National Party's support for an economy-wide net zero emissions target**, signalling federal bipartisan support for the first time for such a target. Our work meeting with, and briefing, MPs, elevating farmer voices and influencing agriculture sector policy, including the National Farmers' Federation's climate policy which supported a 2050 economy-wide net zero goal, helped make this happen.
2. **Being able to show that the city and country uniting to vote for climate action** at the Federal Election. Our [polling](#) showed that across the three electorates of Gilmore, Page and Eden Monaro, more than 70% of voters said "effective climate change policies" were important to their vote.
3. **Growing the size and depth of our movement to include over 7,000 farmers across Australia**. This growth was supported by fellowship programs in multiple states, [webinars](#), [conference](#); our ["I'm a farmer for climate action" farm gate sign](#) program; and road shows to [NSW's Northern Rivers](#) region and [Victoria's Goulburn Valley](#) region to connect with farmers in these communities and support them to build local farmer groups.
4. **Successfully launching two major reports** "[How can Australia's agriculture sector realise opportunity in a low emissions future?](#)" by Ernst & Young, and "[Fork in the Road](#)" by Stephen Bartos.
5. **Delivering successful fellowship programs** in Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia, supporting 100 farmers to boost their skills and knowledge in climate science, creating change on-farm, and advocating for climate solutions beyond the farm gate.

Our staff has grown this year and every one of them is making a critical contribution to set and achieve our strategic goals. With staff working from farm and home offices, as well as from our office 'hubs', we've enjoyed meeting for two in-person retreats to plan and refine our work as a team. We've also benefited from the input of experienced political and ag industry advisors. Our Strategy Director Cam Klose left us to travel the world in March, and we remain grateful for the incredible contribution he made to our movement in the three years he was with us.

I would like to thank the Board, and particularly our Chair Charlie Prell, for their enthusiasm and critical strategic guidance. Their committed foundational governance continues to set our staff team and farmer movement up for great success.

Fiona Davis

CEO

Farmers for Climate Action

Appendix Four: Finance Report

The Finance, Risk, Audit & Remuneration Sub-committee, (FRAR) continued to monitor the organisation's financial management and review the risks for the organisation and staff. The committee generally meets monthly prior to board meetings and the minutes circulated to the board. These minutes include current financial reports, actions and any recommendations for the board to consider.

The membership of the FRAR Committee this year included: Mr Brett Hall (Chair), Mr Charlie Prell, Ms Anna Rose and Ms Anika Molesworth. The finances are also overseen by our CEO, financial advisor, bookkeeper and auditor - we thank them and our FRAR Committee for their hard work over the past 12 months.

The organisation has continued its record of sound financial management by again ending the year in the black. The board had set an ambitious rather than a conservative budget, so it was very pleasing to see the FCA team achieve this goal by gaining additional donations to fulfil our work programs. It should also be noted that due to Covid restrictions, FCA carried over funds from last financial year (\$438,000) for programs which were delivered early in the 21/22 financial year.

In line with the Board's strategy, we identified that it was important to increase our working capital to ensure a constant cash flow, as many of our donors contribute closer to the end of the financial year. Our reserves were also increased to reflect our salary obligations for employing additional staff to work across regional Australia.

Audited Financial Report

The 2022 AGM documents circulated to members included the audited 'Farmers for Climate Action Limited', Financial report for the period 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022.

Highlights of the report include:

1. Revenue: \$1,625,557
2. Expenditure: \$1,564,891
3. Net operating profit/(loss) after income tax: \$60,666
4. Net assets: \$1,599,100

Board Recommendation: That the Membership of Farmers for Climate Action accept the provided audited financial report and express confidence that FCA can meet all obligations as they fall due.

Appointment of Auditor

The FRAR Committee & Board were very pleased with the quality of the audit conducted by Mr Jeff Ryan of Thomas Davis & Co for Farmers for Climate Action for the 2021/2022 financial year and recommend their engagement for another year.

Board Recommendation: That the Membership of Farmers for Climate Action appoint Jeff Ryan of Thomas Davis & Co as auditor for the 2022/2023 period.

Appendix Five: Director nominations

Board Nominations for Farmers for Climate Action Ltd 2022

Please note: Nominations for the Farmers for Climate Action Board closed on Monday, 12 September 2022, with the Board to be formally elected on Thursday, 13 October 2022.

Nomination for re-election of Board Director, Angus Emmott was received.

Board of Directors as of 14 October 2021:

Chair:	Charlie Prell	Crookwell, NSW	elected to 15 Oct 2023
Deputy Chair:	Anika Molesworth	Griffith NSW	elected to 15 Oct 2023
FRAR Chair:	Brett Hall	Hobart, Tas	elected to 15 Oct 2023
Governance Chair:	Michael McDonald	Gerroa, NSW	elected to 14 Oct 2024
Board Director:	Anna Rose	Sydney, NSW	elected to 14 Oct 2024
Board Director:	Angus Emmott	Longreach, Qld	elected to 15 Oct 2022

Under clause 90 of the Farmers for Climate Action Constitution, the number of Directors comprising the Board will be at least 3 and no more than 10.