**Murramarang Community Garden**

**MINUTES**

**MCG Management Committee Meeting**

**Sunday February 4, 2024**

**10.am–at the garden**

**Chair:** Klas Johansson

1.Klas welcomed attendees to the meeting.

2**. Apologies:** Jasmin Adluck, John Tapsell.

3.**Present:** Klas Johansson, Robyn Johansson, Judith Carroll, Neil Brown, Sybille Davidson, Don Davidson, Cathy Delves, Harley Delves, Cate Wikner, Richard Lake, Rob Evans, John Hudson.

4. It was moved that the Minutes of the last General Meeting, held on Sunday 23 October 2023 be accepted.

**Moved:** Klas

**Seconded:** Judith

**All in favour:** Carried

5**.Presidents Report:** Klas Johansson

(Attached)

It was moved that Klas’ report be accepted

**Moved**: Don

**Seconded:** Neil

**Carried**

6.**Treasurers Report – Robyn**

Robyn presented the Financial Report (attached).

It was moved that the report be accepted.

**Moved:** Judith

**Seconded:** Cate

**Carried**

7. **Other Business**

* Judith reintroduced a proposal that we trial a *Sunday Working Bee* to be held once a month to enable those who can’t attend on Saturday to fulfil their obligations as members to attend a working bee at least once a month. After discussion it was agreed that this option be offered from next month onward.
* Robyn reported that she has approached *Bunnings Ulladulla* about joining the roster of community groups holding a weekend fundraising BBQ. A date was allocated last November; however we did not have the necessary 9 volunteers to make it feasible.

It’s possible to raise between $500- $700 (after costs) per session. We have agreed to try again and to go ahead with a trial BBQ as soon as this can be arranged. Marg Neil, Richard and Judith have experience with other community groups who regularly participate and they will investigate cost and quantities of food/drink, etc.

* Don previously noted that the fences on the northern perimeter are “caving in”, caused by cattle rubbing against them. He, Beric and Klas have successfully installed an electric fence and were assisted by others in pruning nearby vegetation. The meeting thanked Don for implementing this necessary work.
* Klas reported that security cameras have been installed on the site
* Klas and Judith are following up the purchase of another 250 kg of *Ocean to Earth* fish compost. It can be collected in our trailer and decanted into the plastic buckets that Klas has sourced. He moved that we purchase the Ocean to Earth fertilizer asap.
* Klas noted that the trailer will require re-wiring before it can be used again. He has purchased new LED lights and Rob will assist in installing them on the trailer.
* Rob suggested that we use a leaf-blower to assist in clearing out the sheds...debris from mowers and other equipment build up over time. It was agreed that Rob will purchase a Stihl blower “skin” from Ken Mathews to use with our Stihl battery packs.
* Harley reported his disappointment at the slow emergence of the garlic that he recently planted. He was also concerned at the poor quality of the “veggie mix” soil used for filling new beds and topping-up old ones. Others commented they thought the soil quality was pretty good although the ph of the soil should be routinely tested. Cate noted that *Steppingstone Farm* at Moruya *always* adds lime etc. to beds before planting.
* Cate has taken over the nurturing of the ailing asparagus bed in the communal area of the garden...she was wholeheartedly thanked for taking on this selfless task!
* Don reminded everyone to be watchful for snakes...there have been several baby black snakes sighted near the compost area.
* Sybille asked that we are mindful that the worms need regular feeding...she suggested any cut up green leafy material and banana skins make good food.
* Klas and Rob commented on the problem posed by hoses lying on the ground when mowing is taking place...the fixed reels designed and manufactured by Harley work very well (as long as hoses are carefully wrapped onto the reel after use). However, the hoses on the longer poles adjacent to communal beds are difficult to keep in place and often fall off. Judith and Don agreed to investigate the purchase of good quality retractable 20 metre hose reels (Gardena is a good quality brand that was recommended). The meeting agreed that after investigation by Judith and Don, he would purchase 3 retractable hoses.
* Robyn and Klas are currently working on a grant application for the provision of new, light weight furniture for the tea shed area as well as material, such as cement, to allow the floor to be evened out.
* Cate asked if sprinklers were now allowed for use on individual plots. The answer is yes, if the sprinkler is turned down sufficiently for ONLY the bed to be watered (not the surrounding grass) and that it is not left on for long periods unattended.
* The solar system we use to provide power on the site (charging batteries, in particular) is to be checked by a local solar installer.
* Cathy asked when “Davenport Cottage” (a residential home for intellectually disabled adults located in Ulladulla) will resume their weekly visits. Judith explained that there have been staffing shortages at *Independence Ulladulla* with many of the usual carers leaving the organisation. She will follow-up with them as well as other Ulladulla groups who have shown interest in gardening visits for their clients. It was agreed that we value visits by these groups to MCG; visits that have occurred for almost 10 years.

**The meeting closed at 12.05**