**Murramarang Community Garden**

***Growing Food Together***

**MINUTES**

**MCG Management Committee**

**Saturday December 10, 2022**

**2.30pm–at the garden**

**Chair:** Klas Johansson

1. Klas welcomed attendees to the meeting, noting that the purpose of this meeting was to endorse the MCG Plan 2023.
2. **Apologies:** Ewen Sussman, John Tapsell
3. **Present:** Klas Johansson, Neil Brown, Robyn Johansson, Judith Carroll, Sybille Davidson, Don Davidson, Richard Lake, Cathy Delves, Harley Delves, John Hudson, Rob Evans.
4. **Business arising from previous meeting:**

It was moved that the Minutes of the last General Meeting, held on Saturday 10 April 2021, be accepted.

**Moved:** Klas

**Seconded:** John

**All in Favour:** Carried

**5. Presidents Report:** Klas Johansson

Klas noted that the garden was looking remarkably good, given the amount of rain we’ve had that had precluded mowing and other maintenance. He relayed the latest ANU report on blue green algae infestation of dam water - recent testing indicates the level of blue-green algae has decreased and is now at a very low level and not considered of particular concern according to Water NSW’s guidelines. He also commended Harley on the nurturing and harvesting of the garlic crop.

Klas noted that the **2023 Plan** would form the basis of the agenda for the rest of the meeting.

**6. Treasures Report** – Robyn Johansson – Attached

**Moved: that the Report be accepted:** Judith

**Seconded**: John

**All in Favour:** Carried

1. **Any Other Business**

The **MCG Plan 2023** has been circulated to all members of the MCG Management Committee and will form the basis of the discussion at this meeting. Klas noted that **The Way Ahead 2021-22** formed the basis of decisions for that period and the intent of the new plan is to similarly inform the work that we undertake in the coming year. Formulating a plan ensures that we can budget in a more targeted way and can buy materials in bulk rather than in dribs and drabs as we have done in the past. It also guides the writers (Klas and Robyn) of grant applications.

Klas moved through items noted on the **MCG Plan for 2023** as follows:

1. **Water tanks:** Ground works for the 2 water tanks should commence soon. Klas will order road base to use as a firm foundation for the tanks – these can then be connected to the gutters of the container shed.

**Moved:** Klas

**Seconded**: Don

**All in Favour:** Carried

1. Road base will also be used as a replacement for the degraded wood chip, removed by Klas from the paths between plots in communal areas.

**Moved:** Klas

**Seconded**: John

**All in Favour:** Carried

1. The duckboards that have been used in wet weather to enable wheelbarrowing of soil to fill the 3 large, corrugated garden beds in the SW corner of the site can be removed and the timber re-purposed.

**Moved:** Don

**Seconded**: Neil

**All in Favour:** Carried

1. Raising of communal crops is to be strategically undertaken as crops finish. Klas will order sleepers now. It is proposed that we start with a few plots now, prioritising garlic beds (Harley noted that garlic grown in raised beds is of a superior quality to that in “one sleeper” beds). Klas emphasised that raising communal plots should be undertaken at the same time as re-doing the paths.

**Moved:** John

**Seconded**: Harley

**All in Favour:** Carried

1. Increased mowing capacity is a priority because of the size of the site and the rapid growth if kikuyu grass. A second heavy-duty ride-on mower would be ideal – unfortunately a recent application for a grant for this purpose was unsuccessful and other grant opportunities will therefore be pursued.

Neil suggested that we could also consider using the large central area of the site more strategically i.e., use intractable green waste layered with hessian sacks and other material (like the pumpkin bed Sybille has established adjacent to the citrus in the outer area) to fill several hollows that are regularly covered in water.

**Moved:** Neil

**Seconded**: Don

**All in Favour:** Carried

1. Discussion about a formal assignment of specific tasks to individual members was discussed. A discussion paper has been prepared by Don for consideration and will be circulated for consideration.

**Moved:** Klas

**Seconded**: Don

**All in Favour:** Carried

**The meeting closed at 3.30**