



**Murramarang Community Garden**  
*Growing Food Together*

**MCG Pre-AGM Agenda**  
**9th August 2014**  
**@ MC Garden, 10am**

**Chair:** Ewan Sussman

**Apologies:** J Nelson

**Items of Business:**

1. Treasurers Final Report for handover
2. Garden Managers Final Report for handover
3. Recommended changes to PoM (See Annexure "A" for details).
  1. Ambiguity between PoM & Constitution.
  2. One plot per person discretionary.
  3. Changes relating to Communal Area.
  4. Changes relating to Clause 7.

AGM to commence

# ANNEXURE "A"

## Review of Plan of Management (Pom) As Recommended by Outgoing Committee for Consideration of Members.

It is a requirement of the existing PoM that any proposed amendment to the PoM be submitted to a GM to be held immediately before the AGM.

During the past year, the Management Committee resolved, on four separate occasions, to recommend to members that the PoM be amended as detailed under the headings below:

### 1. AMBIGUITY BETWEEN PoM & CONSTITUTION

#### a) **Clause 2.5.1**

At first glance, Clause 2.5.1 of the PoM is at odds with the constitution. This is because the PoM specifies a committee comprising the four Executive positions plus **up to** 5 elected Committee members.

What the PoM does not explain is that, under the Constitution, the **up to** provisions only click into place when the 4 executive positions are filled by only 2 people.

**Recommendation that Clause 2.5.1 of the PoM be amended as follows to remove the ambiguity between the two documents:**

#### **2.5.1 Management Committee**

The operations & activities of the MCG are managed by the Management Committee that is elected annually by the membership. In accordance with the Constitution, the Management Committee shall contain a maximum of 7 members comprising of:

President;  
Vice President;  
Secretary;  
Treasurer; and  
Elected committee members

In accordance with the Constitution, a committee member may hold any two positions on the Executive except the positions of President & Vice President. Other MCG Members may be appointed in accordance with the Constitution to assist the Committee as required."

#### b) **Clause 3.3**

This clause specifies that the AGM will be held "in September each year in accordance with the Constitution". In fact, the Constitution specifies a 6 month window of opportunity for the AGM extending from July to December each year.

As with last year, it is not always possible to schedule the AGM to be held in September & the PoM should therefore be amended to accurately reflect the requirements of the Constitution.

**The following wording of Clause 3.3 is recommended:**

#### **3.3 Membership**

An Annual General Meeting will be held each year in accordance with the Constitution.

A General Meeting for members will be held prior to the AGM each year to enable the Management Committee to report to members & to seek members' agreement to the Work Plan & Budget for the coming Financial Year (see 7 below) & to any amendments to this Plan of Management.

Under the Constitution other Special General Meetings may be called either by the Management Committee or by the Membership.

Any amendment to Clause 3.3 will require a complementary amendment to the last paragraph of Clause 7 and vice versa.

**The following wording is suggested for that paragraph:**

The Budget & Work Plan for the coming financial year will be presented at the General Meeting of members held prior to the AGM (see 3.3 above)

[NB The Committee have also suggested further possible amendments to Clause 7 in Section 4 below which may impact on the complementary amendment above]

## **2. ONE PLOT PER PERSON DISCRETIONARY**

This proposed amendment is best achieved by giving discretion to the Committee under the 10<sup>th</sup> dot point of clause 6.

**The suggested wording is:**

- "Except as approved by the Committee, only one plot per person or two plots per household is permissible."

## **3. CHANGES RELATING TO THE COMMUNAL AREA**

It is recommended that a new Clause relating to the Communal Area, & containing the following dot points, be added to the PoM.

- A plan of the Communal Area, showing rough location of gates, access track, beds, fruit trees etc is to be displayed on a whiteboard on the side of the shed.
- All members are encouraged to participate in working bees arranged for the Communal Area.
- The cost of anything required for the Communal Area is the responsibility of the MCG & everything purchased for/donated to the MCG becomes the property of the MCG.
- Produce from the Communal Area is taken on an honesty basis; however a donation is always appreciated. The committee will determine which crops will be used as a fundraiser/cash crops & payment for this produce will then be required.

## **4. CHANGES RELATING TO CLAUSE 7**

**There are two alternate amendments recommended in respect to Clause 7 as follows:**

- (a) Clause 7 be deleted in its entirety because we have always only operated on funds as we have them, or
- (b) Remove from Clause 7 those parts relating to "Work plan & Budget".