

# Murramarang Community Garden

## MINUTES

### MCG COMMITTEE

Saturday 4 February 2017  
9 AM at 16 Sanderling Pl.

**Chair:** Ewen Sussman

**1. Present:** Jocelyn Sussman, Harley Delves, Neil Brown, Judith Carroll, Sybille Davidson, Marg Hamon, Doug Howarth

**2. Apologies:** there were no apologies

**3. Business arising from Minutes of previous meeting:** it was noted that all matters had been addressed.

#### **4. Reports:**

##### *Treasurers Report*

Doug Howarth reported that as of 3 Feb. 2017 our MCG bank balance was \$10,092,79. Approx. \$700 is still owing for our new brush cutter and smaller amounts for recent sundry purchases, such as sprinkler heads and sleepers.

24 membership and plot fees have been paid as of 4 Feb. 2017 and Doug and Judith will audit our membership list and write to individual plot owners, whose membership fees are still outstanding, to determine their intentions for 2017/18.

There will be a deadline of the end of February for membership/plot renewals.

#### **5. General Business**

##### 1. *Garlic* –

A substantial amount of the 2016 garlic crop was sold at markets and to restaurants in our local area (including Milton) for a profit of \$1,482,50. We have approx. 18kg left to sell. Harley reported in detail on these sales (report attached) and his plans for planting in the coming season. He recommends planting more late garlic that we did last year. The varieties that have been trialled have shown that White Crookneck, Monaro Purple and Red Italian hard neck are most suitable for our location and soil.

##### 2. *Budget priorities 2017/18* –

- *A new irrigation system* for the large communal area is essential and Harley has already commenced work on the installation of water pipes and taps (as per attached plan). The purchase of irrigation pipes, taps, posts and 10 -12-metre hoses will be substantial. ANU has once again offered their help in the preparation of the trenching required for laying pipes – Scott will rip a trench in the coming weeks and Harley has commenced the installation of posts, set in

concrete, for taps. There will be a large cleared area around each tap to allow for hoses to be wound back and for a container containing sprinklers.

The Committee thanked Harley for the substation work that he has undertaken already in preparation for the new irrigation system and also for his huge contribution, along with Jocelyn, to the success of the garlic crop.

**The committee also thanked Steve Berkhout and his team for their continued support of MCG.**

- *Soil purchase and mulch* – it was agreed that a purchase of “veggie mix” soil was due. Judith to obtain a quote from Soilco. A motion was moved by Ewen and seconded by Doug that:  
“Members who wish to top up their plot can do so **after** conferring with Garden Managers”.  
Gardeners and are encouraged to provide additional suitable soil enrichment themselves e.g. blood and bone.  
Discussion about the best mulching options included mulch from the tip, sawdust from Baxter’s, dried and shredded bana grass, corn stalks, pumpkin runners and lucerne. It was decided that mulch from the tip would only be collected once large pieces of vegetation had composted and that using our lawn mower/mulcher to shred dried garden cuttings/waste was the best and cheapest mulch option.
- *Shade trees* – suitability of several trees suitable for shading of parking area discussed along with plans to level and gravel parking area, enough for approx. 10 cars. The placement of trees will obviously be contingent on the area of the paved car park. Local species, sourced from Milton/Ulladulla Landcare Nursery, such as Botryoides eucalyptus, Casuarina Littoralis, Banksia Intergrifolia, and red gums (favoured by Steve from ANU) were all considered suitable for the site. Substantial tree guards will protect plants.
- *Vegetable planting schedule* - beans, corn, zucchini, cucumbers, salad greens and spring onion will be planted now (good hot weather plants) and preparation will continue for the construction of new beds to accommodate planting of autumn/winter crops (including garlic crop).
- *Membership numbers* – to be established by Doug and Judith in the coming week – currently a little over half of our 2016 members have renewed so more reminders will be sent.

**Meeting closed at 10.45am.**