



Under the Arbour
Annual General Meeting (AGM)
20th November, 2022
1200 lunch : 1-3pm meeting

We enjoyed our first lovely shared long-lunch

-

Chair: Trish Cook

Minute Taker: Trish Cook/ checked by Sally.

Reference document: Darlington Community Garden (WA) Inc. Constitution.

Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country (Chair)

Present: Sally Herzfeld, Shane Bailey, Kylie Brinfield, Shelton Huettig, Sandeep Shankar, Alison Atkinson, Trish Cook. Myles Durham – left early. Rosie Logie.

Apologies – Louise Stelfox, Kate Herren, Susie Itzstein.

Constitution 49: Chair's Annual Report –Louise Stelfox

Wow! Another amazing year in our successful track record.

The very best thing for me has been seeing everyone mucking in, nudging comfort zones and having a go. Seeing people connecting and working together, welcoming newbies, making a place for people to connect and belong.

We've been through the Forming stage, then the Storming, and now I think we're Norming. A rhythm is starting to develop, to the weeks, months and year. Next year I think we'll really get into the swing of it, and it'll feel like it's getting easier.

Thank you for everything you've done to get us to where we are now. Our successes are due to you:

- Railway sleeper beds constructed
- Soils brought in
- veggies in the ground
- Weekly busy-bees
- Mosaics for children and adults
- Flowers blooming at The Hive, Post Office and bottle shop
- More CFC raising funds raised at the Bottle shop and DAF (how much do people drink!)
- A refined Garden design
- Review articles keeping the community up to speed on what we're doing and how to get involved
- the wagon painted
 - Events:

o Spring Nature Play

o Bonfire & Skate Park Jam

o DAF

- More plastic lids collected!
- Planting summer veggies
- Fundraising: Grant applications lodged, Raffle tickets sold & Shelton's tip runs
- Rosie and Betty balancing our accounts.
- Meeting by Zoom
- More members, more people following the Garden on our Facebook page

There are significant person hours in the above. THANK YOU all for making all of these possible.

Some highlights from this year are the conversations I've had and the funny posts I've seen on our FB page:

- Fiona Dent's FB post: *Anyone who has time for drama is not gardening enough*
- and Myles referring to us *as Comrades of the Soil*

Continued below.

(This half page has been left unintentionally blank due to section breaks Doh)!

There have also been some hard conversations. Thank you to those who've leant in to me and made me a better person. As our corners are knocked off we're also growing.

Our success is reflected in these words from Pia Pea: *I love what you're doing in the Garden. How good was the bonfire! And what a laugh, all those people who came to help move the jarrah table!*

Also, what Betty Pitcher shared with me after balancing our books with Rosie: *I got such a thrill when we balanced the books, it made my day!*

Some challenges for us are:

- Making time to do the foundational, and critical (!) behind the scenes stuff: e.g., web page updates, membership management, financial management, taking Minutes

How can you help? Let people know when you're struggling, call out for help. Move out of your comfort zone and learn a new skill.

- Identify new people in the community who may be interested in joining the Committee, and sign them up!

Where to next year:

There are some exciting initiatives ahead:

- Produce trolley, bringing it into the Garden
- Earthworks (finally!)
- Goanna Building garden bed
- Garden busy-bees (in other people's gardens, bringing the Garden army to people who are struggling with their own gardens)

Ideas

There are no shortage of ideas shared, however we need people to carry them. If you suggest something, be prepared to run with it. Remember, whoever open the untidy cupboard, is the best person to tidy it!

A final request

Please keep posting to our FB page – _this is a record of our lives in the Garden; it makes us accessible to many, brings people to connect and belong to the Garden family, and helps Susie write her amazing articles in the Review.

Thanks team for a fabulous year.

Enjoy the holiday season.

Louise Stelfox

Chair, 20/11/2022

Comments on Chair report:

Also –

- Water connection and Reticulation installed
- Bushdance in January
- Soil brought in

Constitution 49: 3b(i): Treasurer's Annual report

Rosie has completed a full year as Treasurer, and has unfortunately advised that she will need to step down – even though she loves us big time! We hope to see Rosie and family at the garden from time to time. Thank you Rosie for doing the Treasurer and the Grants role this last exciting and busy year.

End of financial year books have been kindly audited pro bono by Betty Pitcher. Thank you Betty and Rosie. Betty has audited the books from DCG previous years also so we are all balanced and up to date since the start of the bank account in 2019. Rosie explained the two columns on the spreadsheet. – next page. All the years up to 30th June 2021, and our last financial year up to 30th June 22. In the 2021-22 year DCG received \$22329 income and spent \$32160 with a deficit of \$9,800. However, we are not in deficit as we had surplus funds carried over. June 30th 2022 balance was: \$16000 (\$7000 in our bank account, and \$8,600 in the DaSRA account (from previous grant in their name. This will

Current balance today is \$27, 535.00 – includes \$10,150 from the Bendigo raffle thanks to amazing selling effort by super seller Shelton.

Our books are in great shape, but we do need a Treasurer!

ACTION: Betty has been thanked, however we would like Acting Sec. Shane to write formal letter of thanks to Betty Pitcher.

SUMMARY

Operations: Our annual operations costs are around \$1800. However, we haven't had a water account as yet. That will be a future cost.

Income:

- Memberships around \$500
- Containers for change around \$3000 (has been dropping off, and many competing groups, so please promote this. Maybe expand to shops, and events. (? Soire Noir did not have C4C).
- Fundraising around \$4500 Stalls, Shelton's tip runs, etc.

Grants:

- Awaiting decision for Grant Sustainability Officer.
- Bonfire acquittal has been prepared by Trish . **ACTION:** – Rosie to submit to Shire. Bonfire acquittal – we owe the Shire \$656 of unused funds (not matched).

Non allocated money:

- Currently round \$20,000 – need money for earthworks, landscape and wagon Shelton.

Tax deductible gift recipient status: Sally would like to progress this (with Trish). If we had a separate fund for Native Area this may fit into category.

GST status – we have a GST Tax concession, we could get back the gst. (under 100K). If we registered for GST we would need to charge GST for services (which we don't do), but we could

claim back the gst we have paid. Downside is that we would be required to submit monthly or quarterly BAS statements.

Shelton suggests asking our Facebook

Current balance: \$

\$434 banked (Shelton paid Sally cash of \$65 shared stall with Sally's AVP group) raised at Darlington Arts Festival.

Expenditure process is by reimbursement OR by invoice direct payment. Bendigo phone app requires two signatures to approve expenditure.

DARLINGTON COMMUNITY GARDEN INC			
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2022		(Previous Period)	
	Year ended 30 June 2022	22 mths. to 30 June 2021	
INCOME:			
Membership	492.00	0.00	
Grants	8000.00	10495.00	
Community Fundraising	4519.57	3498.80	
Containers for Change	3060.00	733.00	
Spring Launch 2021	2312.50	0.00	
DAF 2021	235.28	0.00	
Bushdance	2214.10	0.00	
Wagon	0.00	19279.23	
Raffle 2022	1495.00	0.00	
Interest	1.46	3.63	
TOTAL INCOME	22329.91	34009.66	
EXPENDITURE:			
Costs specific to Grants	14105.59	0.00	
Community Fundraising costs	1719.71	0.00	
Spring Launch costs	1447.53	0.00	
DAF 2021 costs	101.00	0.00	
Bushdance costs	458.35	0.00	
Wagon costs	6160.95	7792.00	
Earthworks,trenches, water connection	6128.00	0.00	
Insurance	965.00	0.00	
Memberships	425.00	0.00	
Website	339.03	0.00	
Incorporation costs	198.00	0.00	
Other operational costs	112.55	45.02	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	32160.71	7837.02	
NET RESULT FROM ACTIVITIES	-9830.80	26172.64	
Profit & Loss Account brought forward 1 July 2021	26172.64	0	
Net Result for Year to 30 June 2022	-9830.80	26172.64	
Profit & Loss Account carried forward 30 June 2022	16341.84	26172.64	
Represented By:			
Bendigo Bank Account	7650.65	15692.64	
DaSRA Account	8691.19	10480.00	
TOTAL ASSETS: 30 JUNE 2022	16341.84	26172.64	
AUDITOR'S REPORT:			
I HAVE AUDITED THE RECORDS OF DARLINGTON COMMUNITY GARDEN INC AND CAN CONFIRM THAT THIS INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT CORRECTLY REFLECTS THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ORGANISATION AND THE BANK BALANCES AT 30TH JUNE 2022.			
	Betty Pitcher F.C.A.(U.K.) Honorary Auditor		

Constitution: 33 (1) Decide by resolution the number of ordinary committee members (if any) to hold office for the next year.

DECISION Up to 10 ordinary members on the committee including Team Leaders. **Unanimous agreement.**

NOTE: Constitution 34: ...a committee member holds office for a period **for two years** (unless resigns).

Constitution 49: 3c Election of Chair and Executive Committee members

- Chair – Louise Stelfox (Elected 2021) Continues
 - Vice Chair – Susie Itzstein (Elected 2021) Continues
 - Secretary – Trish Cook (Elected 2021) Continues
 - Note: Shane Bailey Acting Secretary Dec-Jan 2023 Thank you Shane.
 - Treasurer – Rosie Logie (Elected 2021) Resigned – **Position Vacant**
-

Constitution 49: 3c Election of Team Leaders (ordinary members) – All positions were elected unanimously. Team Leader role of Horticulture and Design has been split into two distinct positions. One possible vacancy remains.

Team Leader	2021-22	2022-23 – new
Horticulture	Alison Atkinson (elected)	Alison Atkinson (continues)
Design	Alison Atkinson (elected)	Kylie Brinfield (elected)
Memberships	Catherine Doherty (resigned)	Sandeep Shankar (elected)
Events and Education	Shane Bailey & Shelton Huettig (Elected)	Shane Bailey & Shelton Huettig (continues)
Sustainability Coordinator	Winsome Santa Maria Resigned	Kate Herren (elected)
Communications Coordinator	Sonja Parker (Elected)	Sonja Parker (continues)
Ordinary Member	Sally Herzfeld (Elected 2021)	Sally Herzfeld (continues)

Ordinary Member	Karen Davies – resigned –	Myles Durham (elected)
Other Ordinary Members	– Kate Herren – (resigned to be team leader	VACANT POSITION (10)

Constitution 49: 3e Confirm or vary Membership Fees: Currently \$20 per individual, \$15 (unwaged), kids free. Financial year is: July 1st – June 30th. Pro rata rates currently apply. Pay Forward Options – one available. Please speak to any committee member if you wish to use, or you know someone who might like the assistance.

DECISION to continue membership fees as is. Seems fair in this current climate of increasing interest rates and inflation. **Unanimous agreement.**

Next meeting 24th November – venue to be confirmed

Monthly Committee Meeting (Committee & Team Leaders, observers welcome)

Changed to Thursday evening 7 pm. Last Thursday of the month.

ACTION: Trish to book pavilion with Shire – awaiting further information.

Constitution 49: 4 Other business

EARTHWORKS / LANDSCAPING. Tim Hunter may still be able to assist with earthworks before March, for planting in early autumn. We may need to make a donation to Tim's foundation if the supervisors end up doing the work (instead of students). If it can't be done by mid February, Kylie has another person available. Kylie unavailable in January, and she needs to be here when the work is done. We will need to buy in fill, edging pathways, compacted gravel paths, etc. Discussion re: materials for ground underneath arbour.

Mosaics need to be laid over summer. Needs to be a professional job. Donated red brick pavers will act as boarder to protect mosaics. Mosaics will cost about \$2k for materials, plus sealant, and labour to professionally lay. Alison has spoken to new owners of Megan's house and they are happy to donate bricks. Rosie also has some for donation. **ACTION:** Sally/Alison/Kylie. On Saturday to lay out an example, photograph and send to Shire (Sally to consult with David Grant), to get permission to lay. Quotes to be sought. Kylie, Alison and Sally to progress.

DECISION: Committee agreed unanimously to allocate \$10,000 toward earthworks and landscaping, including mosaics

Discussion re; Arbour ground material. Asphalt thought to be too hot, and will look too much like a road.

DECISION: Committee agreed unanimously for compacted gravel material to be laid underneath arbour. Kylie to progress.

FUTURE EVENTS BUSHDANCE and BONFIRE Shelton would like for DCG to have another bush

dance. Discussion regarding best time of year. January was too hot. Want to avoid the rain. Bonfire wrap up is suggesting that the bonfire only be run every two years, perhaps alternating with the Bushdance. Focus can be different, bonfire could be scaled down, or modified to suit DCG. Event purpose needs to be clear eg Income generating, Membership generating, promote the DCG or just have fun. To be further discussed at committee meeting. **ACTION:** Shelton to consider dates.

MEMBERSHIPS Sandeep will need a handover from Catherine. **ACTION:** Trish to help introductions. Currently 580 on Facebook with paid memberships currently only 37. Benefits to members need to be considered when running events etc.

HORTICULTURE Sally and Alison will continue Saturday morning busy bees. Alison to put together a roster for monthly focus groups for the Sunday afternoon, where people will take on roles.

SUSTAINABILITY Thank you and farewell to Winny who set up the Recycling Hub. Kate has indicated she will take on the Sustainability Role and move this in more of a prevention and education role. If the grant is successful, Kate will be 'working' 2 days at the DCG. The project is an DCG / Urban Revolution partnership. The project will be based at DCG, and we will be required to meet with Jo from the shop once a month.

COMMUNICATIONS: Sonja has been doing website. Susie has been doing the Darlington Review. Susie has done a fabulous job doing the monthly Review articles. It is a big job, as she has to be across the myriad of DCG activities. Thank you Susie, greatly appreciated.

OTHER:

Alison will ask Kate McGonigal if she would like to be formally involved.

INSURANCE cover needs to be clarified as conflicting information. **ACTION:** Shane to clarify in writing with Katherine Batchelor (Insurance rep).

Goals for 2023, Earthworks, trees, landscaping, wagon shelter.

Thank you everyone. Great lunch and great meeting under the arbour. We all contribute to the garden for a reason or a season, do what we can with our skill set, and have made some lovely friendships. Warm welcome to Myles and Sandeep for coming onto the committee.

Time close: 1505pm

Note:

Louise FIFO

Alison away January

Kylie away January

Trish away Dec & January