**Canterbury Community Gardens Association (Inc)**

**Annual General Meeting 2018**

Friday 31st August 2018

Avebury House

**Draft Minutes**

Meeting started 2 pm

A warm welcome from the Chairperson, Catherine O’Neill. It was lovely to see all those that turned up and Catherine acknowledged Peggy our Patron who had come along today.

**Present:** Catherine O’Neill, Debbie Nelson, Tane Webster, Valentina Joyce, Donna Lusby, Barbara Moorhouse, Peggy Kelly, Rachel Vogan, Amanda O’Caroll, Micheal Lovell-Smith, Diane Whitehead,

Susan Koschula, Heather Davies, Diana Madgin, Michael Reynolds, Luke Martin, Mary Tingey,

Hayley Guglietta, Heidi Witham, Don Stewart, Karen Terns, Cathy Allden, Brendon Lewis, Christine Blance and Denise Duncan.

**Apologies:** Robyn Kilty, Sue (Kirwee), Ruth (Lincoln)Lorretta (Riccarton).

Debbie Nelson moved to accept apologies/ Di seconded

Carried unopposed

**Minutes of 2017 meeting**

Copies of the last AGM were circulated before the meeting.

True and accurate copy of the matters arising from the 2017 AGM.

Moved by Debbie Nelson/seconded by Rachel Vogan

Carried unopposed

**2018 Chairs Report.**

Please see attached report.

Catherine talked about the vision of the CCGA in building strong communities and providing support for others. Catherine mentioned that Hayley is now looking after the web site and newsline and providing support for all our communications. It was a brilliant team effort at the Autumn Show and the first Future Living Skills programme will be held at New Brighton Community Garden in September.

Feasta is at the end of October, another chance for promoting Community Gardens as there is a focus on food.

Catherine O’Neill moved that the report be adopted/ Rachel Vogan seconded

Carried unopposed

**2018 Treasurers Report/Financial Statements:**

Please see attached report and financial statement.

The main income was from Community Garden subs and the main outgoing expenditure was for the website and expenses relating to last years AGM.

Debbie Nelson moved that the report be adopted/ Hayley Guglietta seconded

Carried unopposed

**Election of Officers:**

Chariperson: Catherine O’Neill

Moved by Debbie Nelson/Rachel Vogan seconded

Carried unopposed

Secretary: Amanda O’Caroll

Moved by Debbie Nelson/Hayley Guglietta seconded

Carried unopposed

Treasure: Debbie Nelson

Moved by Amanda O’Caroll/ Hayley Guglietta seconded

Carried unopposed

**Committee members:**

Cathy Allden, Di Madgin and Robyn Kilty were re-elected to sit on the committee for another year.

Moved by Catherine O’Neill/ Hayley Guglietta seconded

Carried unopposed

New members were elected to the committee

Donna Lusby – Linwood Resource Centre

Moved by Mary Tingey/Amanda O’Caroll seconded

Carried unopposed

Brendon Lewis – Packe Street Park

Moved by Cathy Alden/ Catherin O’Neill seconded

Carried unopposed

Michael Reynolds – Food Resilience Network

Moved by Susan Koschula/ Di Madgin seconded

Carried unopposed

The Committee Members will liaise to decide on the next meeting.

**General Business**

**Rachel Vogan:** Rachelwanted totalk about the success of the Autumn Show. The feedback was that the CCGA 3metre x 3 metre stand was one of the most popular at the show. It showed how the Community Gardens came together in growing crops, sharing ideas and fostering the passion for growing food. It was also a good way of connecting people “totally awesome”

There has been no sign off for next years show as the CHS is hesitant in investing the huge some of money for the event. The Botanic Gardens is keen but it is a big amount to find. Rachel was super proud of the CCGA and the 3 x 3 stand epitomises what Community Gardens are all about.

Outside of the marque was Food Resilience which was another great way in connecting people.

If nothing is happening next year, there will be a bigger event for 2020.

**Guest Speakers – Michael Reynolds (Food Resilience Network)**

Michael is hoping to get out and about visiting the various Community Gardens. Michael is starting up a Community Garden (CG) in Woolston – Roimata Food Commons. They have 400 sq/metres to work with over 10 years, to try and get it established. It will work well with the orchard to create a project for Community Wellbeing.

The Food Resilience Network is driving the Otakaro Orchard in the city, to create a space for connecting ideas around food. The Food that is grown will be used for the café that is to be built. they are wanting to create a different space for the city centre.. Building a net work in the city had its challenges and still exist, but all groups are working together.

The project that is being worked on at the moment is FEASTA. It is the 5th one in Christchurch since the earthquakes and the event will be focusing on food and its role that it plays and the various challenges.

The Food Resilience will be working with CCGA and the Southern Seed Exchange. Monday night is closing night and it is hoped that 2 films will be screened over the afternoon and evening.

The Community Gardens will be growing food to bring along for the event and raising heritage seed from the Southern Seed Exchange. It is hoped that there will be a VIP area for Community Gardens as a way to interact with others and to have the ability to collaborate.

It was mentioned that a partnership could be formed with Food Resilience Network, Soil Association and Canterbury Community Gardens. To discuss at our next CCGA meeting.

**Luke – Southern Seed Exchange**

Luke works at the Botanical Gardens as well as being part of the Southern Seed Exchange. They collect and store heritage see which has climatized to the local climate for over 3 years. The hard part is keeping the seed stock, stocked. Some side lines are becoming low and rare whilst 35 other varieties have been lost. They have 16 different varieties of tomatoes but they are over 6yrs old, so questions over their viability.

It will be a shame to see any more lost so they are calling out for guardians from the Community Gardens, who could grow lines set apart in their community garden to be able to save seed.

Di mentioned that a section maybe available in the botanical garden as people are interested in heritage seed. Seven Oaks is another garden. Lots of seeds have been lost through vandalism so other new places for storage are being sought after.

Seed Swap in 8th Sept. this is with home gardeners who bring their own seed to swap.

**Mary Tingey**

Mark talked about the Orchard for School project, saying teachers often get dispirited as the garden beds die. Hornby Primary is doing well, as the school has a good focus on school gardening. Get the orchards in and with support the gardens will follow. Their story is hopefully one that will inspire more schools and gardening.