

Waterworks Valley Landcare Group Inc.

Constitution

1. Title

The organisation shall be titled “Waterworks Valley Landcare Group” (“the Group”).

2. Membership

Any member of the community declaring an interest in the objectives of the Group may, upon application and payment of the membership fee, become a member of the Group.

3. Objectives

- a) To work co-operatively with local government, government departments, industry and the community to achieve sustainable land use.
- b) To increase awareness about land and water degradation and its control and prevention.
- c) To promote and encourage the environmental care ethic in school children by involving schools in Group activities
- d) To promote and encourage an environmental care ethic in the general community and to organise social activities for this purpose for the whole community.
- e) To research, plan, practice, co-ordinate and develop all aspects of training of persons to monitor biological indicators to measure the “health” of an area.
- f) To obtain money for all the above purposes through self funding, the Natural Heritage Trust, other government program funding, community fund-raising and sponsorship.
- g) To work with all stakeholders to reverse land and water degradation problems.

4. Management

The Management of the group shall be vested in a committee known as the “Executive”.

a) Executive

- i. President
- ii. Secretary
- iii. Treasurer

b) Election

- i. The officers shall be elected at the annual general meeting (AGM) of the Group and hold office for the ensuing year.
- ii. If an office becomes vacant the remaining members of the Executive may appoint a member to that office or call for nominations to the election of members.

c) Records

The Executive shall keep membership records, maintain accurate financial records and record activities for the Group.

5. Executive Meetings

- a) Meetings of the Executive shall be as required.
- b) Members of the Group may attend these meetings and may be invited to vote on business.
- c) The President shall preside as Chairman of the Group or in his/her absence as decided by the members present at the meeting.

6. Meetings

Meetings of the Group such as working bees and educational meetings shall be held as required.

7. Annual Meeting

The annual general meeting of members shall be held within three months of the end of the Group's financial year.

8. Quorum

At general meetings a minimum of 4 members shall form a quorum for the meeting.

9. Voting

- a) Each member has one vote only.
- b) The chairman may exercise a deliberate and casting vote where a deadlock in voting arises.
- c) Votes may only be given personally and not by proxy.

10. Finance Records

- a) A true and accurate record shall be kept by the Treasurer for monies received and expended by the Group.
- b) The Records shall be open to inspection by the members, subject to reasonable restrictions.

11. Accounts

- a) The Executive shall be open and hold accounts in financial institutions as determined by the Executive in to which all monies received shall be paid as soon as possible.
- b) No cheques or cash shall be drawn on the accounts except for payment of expenditure authorised by the Executive.
- c) Cheques for the issue shall be signed by at least 2 of the following officers:
 - i. President
 - ii. Secretary
 - iii. Treasurer

12. Subscriptions

The amount of annual subscription shall be as determined by members at the annual general meeting.

13. Financial Year

The financial year of the Group shall be from the first of July to the 30th of June

14. Amendments

The constitution may be amended only at annual general meetings and only upon 30 days notice being given to all financial members.

15. Non Profit Group

The assets and income of the Group shall be applied solely in furtherance of its above mentioned objectives and no portion shall be distributed directly or indirectly to the members of the Group except as bona fide compensation for services rendered or expenses incurred on behalf of the Group.

16. Dissolution

- a) In the event of a dissolution of the Group any assets shall be transferred to a like group or association having similar objectives and which is a non profit organisation exempt from income tax under Section 23 of the Income Tax Assessment Act.
- b) A motion to dissolve the Group may only be taken at a special general meeting to which all financial members must have been notified and only upon 75% of the members present approving of the dissolution.
- c) In the event of the Group being wound up:
 - i. every member of the Group; and
 - ii. every person who, within the period of twelve months immediately preceding the commencement of the winding up, was a member of the Group, is liable to contribute to the assets of the Group for payment of the debts or liabilities of the Group and for the costs, charges and expenses of the winding up and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves such sum, not exceeding \$1.00, as may be required, but a former member is not liable to contribute in respect of any debt or liability of the Group contracted after he/she ceased to be a member.