

# MOLONGLO CATCHMENT GROUP Inc.

ABN 78 210 867 987



## 2011-12 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

10 December 2012

**Held at the MCG Office: Unit 13, Cassidy Arcade, 72-76 Monaro Street, Queanbeyan**

### 1. Welcome and Apologies

The meeting was declared open at 5.05 pm by Lynton Bond (President) in the Chair. A warm welcome was extended to all present.

In attendance were Lynton Bond, John Bruggeman, Karen Williams, Don Fraser, Carol Billett, Stephen Skinner, Anna See, Rachel Marks, Jim Arnold, Tom Baker, Maryke Booth, Margaret Piper.

Apologies were received from Linda Beveridge and Cathy Robertson.

### 2. Minutes of the 2010-2011 AGM

Minutes were available on the MCG website. A hard copy was tabled for the Chairman's signature when adopted.

### Motion: Williams/Arnold

**"That the minutes of the AGM held on 12 December 2011 be adopted as a true record".**

**Carried**

### 3. Business Arising

Last year Lawler Partners had been appointed auditors. The situation had been revised by appointing RSM Bird Cameron who have been working furiously on the audit for the last two weeks.

### 4. Reports

#### a. **President's Report (Lynton Bond)** (Full report circulated by email)

Andy Westcott, Coordinator, moved on to a more secure position with the Commonwealth Government. We were fortunate to be able to engage Anna See after a relatively short hiatus to ensure the Group's work continued.

We have had problems in retaining Project Officers: Deb Saunders stayed for 3 months and helped set up the **Biodiversity Monitoring Project** and guided the commencement of the **Sustainable Horse Management on Small Properties**; Mary Appleby worked for 4 months and helped run the **Rabbit Control Project**. Since the end of August we have been in a more stable situation with the engagement of Rachel Marks who has enthusiastically taken over the Biodiversity Monitoring project, naming it **Vegwatch**, and following up the rabbit project as well as taking on the **Bioblitz**.

The **Molonglo Waterwatch** program continues to thrive under the enthusiastic guidance of Stephen Skinner.

The Majura Valley Landcare Group is going well, thanks to Andy's and Anna's guidance.

*Along the Molonglo* Art Exhibitions continued to be successful and assisted in raising general awareness of issues within the community.

Our presence at **Floriade** was largely successful but there were hassles with parking and a lower level of support from the organisers.

The **Molonglo Bush on the Boundary Group** is going quite well and **K2C** is still going strongly with funding found to the end of 2011.

**Oaks Estate** riparian restoration has proved very successful, thanks largely to its nurturing by Karen Williams. John Bruggeman's support is also noted.

MCS continues working well to date. For 8 years running we have been implementing projects highlighted in the LBG Action Plan, which has been picked up by the Greens and ALP, thus creating a higher profile.

The President expressed his gratitude for the assistance of the Committee: Karen for her well-reasoned insights; also Jim and Don; Tom for filling in – his contribution has been noteworthy; Stephen, Anna and Rachel Marks for their frank and fearless advice; John who has had a difficult year; Linda and Carol.

Tom, on behalf of the Committee, thanked the President for his ongoing support, commitment and contribution in running the business.

**b. Financial/Auditor's Report – Treasurer (Maryke Booth)**

The Treasurer had hoped to present the audited accounts but the audit was not yet completed. The auditors wanted more information and still have questions. The accounts will have to be held over. The auditors have proved no more efficient than the previous auditors. They have had the material for over 3 months now.

**Motion: Baker/Williams**

**“That the financial report be deferred.” Carried**

**c. Coordinator's Report (Anna See)**

MCG has been working with Roads ACT on the Majura Creek realignment. There were concerns from the Landholders on the impact of groundwater and flooding so MCG organised a hydrology workshop run by Dr Sara Beavis. Sara looked through the plans and confirmed that she believed the design of the Parkway was adequate to address all hydrology concerns. The workshop and further conversations with Sara managed to alleviate the Landholders' concerns.

MCG has teamed with the Atlas of Living Australia, Inspiring Australia and the ACT Government to hold the ACT's first ever BioBlitz, planned for March 2013 on Black Mountain. The aim is to find as many living things as possible whilst educating the community about surveys and biodiversity.

Small grants funding was utilised well by our members this year with 6 groups successfully applying for funding. The groups were Friends of Mount Majura, Friends of Black Mountain, Royalla Landcare, Captains Flat and District, Queanbeyan Landcare and Mount Ainslie Weeders.

Attended the National Landcare Conference and had a poster on display showcasing the Sustainable Horse Property Management for Small Farms project which engendered a lot of interest.

A community survey for the Molonglo Catchment Strategy review has provided valuable insight into the community's view on environmental issues within the catchment. A draft summary of the survey results has been tabled.

Thank you to everyone for being so welcoming and for their advice and support.

**d. Waterwatch Coordinator's Report (Stephen Skinner)**

This year so far we have had a total of 502 site reports for water quality sent in by our volunteers: that is an average of 42 reports per month, with about 19 groups participating each month. A very big thank you to all our volunteers.

Throughout this year, using the data that our volunteers have reported, we have been able to contribute to catchment environmental reporting and decision making on the Majura Road redevelopment, the Murrumbidgee to Googong pipeline management, various reviews of EIS for the *Poplars*, Stage 5 at Mugga Lane Tip and other similar developments.

In January the CHiP report, including the frog census, was completed. March was a busy month: the Highs and Lows of Rivers and Wetland Health Conference made it quite clear that the key to waterway health lies in maintaining variable flows. The first afternoon Platypus Walk was held in May and a good crowd saw several water rats but no platypus. In June several volunteers and committee participated in a forum at the University of Canberra. July, August and September included more platypus events and in October participated in the display at Floriade.

In this calendar year we have engaged with ten different schools and conducted 38 classes.

**e. Project Officer's Report (Rachel Marks)**

Joined MCG at the end of August so report is based upon predecessor's records and reports.

The main projects have been organising the display at Floriade and the ongoing Biodiversity monitoring project in the local parks. Currently collating and analysing data from this survey and collaborating with Anna See as coordinators for the ACT Centenary BioBlitz to be held in March 2013. Rabbit control in the catchment is also a key project.

**5. Appointment of Returning Officer**

Anna See accepted nomination as returning officer.

**6. Election of Management Committee**

Lynton Bond vacated the Chair. The Returning Officer took control of the meeting and declared all the positions on the committee vacant.

The Returning Officer then called for nominations for the following positions:

**President**

<b>Lynton Bond</b>	Nominated: Baker	Seconded: Williams
No further nominations.	Declared elected by acclamation.	

**Vice President**

<b>Karen Williams</b>	Nominated: Baker	Seconded: Billett
No further nominations.	Declared elected by acclamation.	

**Treasurer**

<b>Maryke Booth</b>	Nominated: Bond	Seconded: Baker
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Conditions: Bookkeeper engaged. Maryke to continue payroll duties.  
Accepted.

No further nominations. Declared elected by acclamation.

**Secretary**

**Carol Billett**

Nominated: Williams      Seconded: Booth

No further nominations. Declared elected by acclamation.

**Committee Members (6)**

**Tom Baker**

Nominated: Bruggeman      Seconded: Booth

**Don Fraser**

Nominated: Baker      Seconded: Bruggeman

**Margaret Piper**

Nominated: Fraser      Seconded: Booth

**John Bruggeman**

Nominated: Arnold      Seconded: Booth

**Jim Arnold**

Nominated: Baker      Seconded: Bond

**Linda Beveridge**

Nominated: Williams      Seconded: Bond

(NB: Linda Beveridge was not present at the AGM but had indicated beforehand her willingness to be elected to the Committee)

No further nominations were received. The above six members declared elected.

All positions filled.

**Public Officer:**

**John Bruggeman**

Nominated: Booth      Seconded: Bond

Anna See vacated the Chair. The re-elected President, Lynton Bond, occupied the Chair.

**7. Appointment of Auditor**

The appointment of an auditor will be reviewed, depending upon performance.

**8. Business**

Nil.

**9. Meeting Close**

The President thanked the members for their interest and commitment and declared the meeting closed at 6.07pm.

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**(Chairman)**

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**(Date)**