



# Zero Net Emissions by 2030

## **Mount Alexander Sustainability Group Inc**

### **Annual General Meeting 2020**

12 November 2020

By Zoom video conference

## **1. Welcome and acknowledgement of country.**

Meeting started at 7.40 pm.

The Chair, Peter Brain, welcomed attendees.

Chair provided an acknowledgment of country.

### 1A. Video conference arrangements

Secretary summarised the relevant parts of the conference arrangements, including that attendees should keep themselves muted (to reduce background noise) unless they have something to say, and voting would generally be by a show of hands (either physically or using the 'reactions' button on Zoom).

## **2. Attendance and apologies**

### ***Attendance – Members (18):***

Deane Belfield, Brier Johnson, Margot Foley, Jim Foley, Gerry Egan, Kieran Blain, Bill Grant, Ian Jones, Mary Blain, Lesley Jones, Maurice Molan, Peter Brain, Mick Lewin, Elizabeth Newburch, Prakash Keegel, Randall Berger, Pat Horan, John Carruthers

### ***Attendance - Non-members (or members who are not financial) (4):***

Sarah Myles, Lyn Rule, Alison Hanly, SallyRose Carbines

### ***Apologies (3):***

Jules Hurley, Rex Odgers, Maree Edwards

Secretary advised that the meeting has a quorum.

## **3. Proxies**

Secretary advised that he had received no proxy forms, and none were presented to the meeting.

#### **4. Acceptance of Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting**

The meeting agreed that the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting (AGM) could be taken as read.

A motion was proposed to accept the minutes of the 2019 AGM.

**Moved:** Deane Belfield

**Seconded:** Mary Blain

**Resolution:** Carried.

#### **5. Matters arising from the previous AGM**

The Secretary advised that there were no matters arising from the minutes.

#### **6. Report from the Committee**

Peter advised that copies of the annual report had been circulated and are available on the website.

He summarised the report. He added the following matters:

- The report mistakenly omitted the activities of Mount Alexander Ecohousing Group (MAEG) which is a working group of MASG. It has been active in the past year including in lobbying for changes to Council rules for tiny houses and advocacy for declaring a climate emergency.
- Under the Regenerative Agriculture project, certain payments have been made to Deane Belfield, a member of the Committee, for work done in managing and organising this project.

No questions or comments were raised by attendees.

A motion was proposed that the annual report be accepted.

**Moved:** John Carruthers

**Seconded:** Margot Foley

**Resolution:** Carried.

#### **7. Treasurer's Report:**

Maurie Molan summarised the written Treasurer's report, which is part of the annual report and includes a certificate signed by two committee members certifying that the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Association.

No questions or comments were raised by attendees.

A motion was proposed "That the statement is confirmed as a true and fair record of the financial position of MASG during and at the end of its last financial year."

**Moved:** Gerry Egan

**Seconded:** Mick Lewin

**Resolution:** Carried unanimously.

## **8. Setting membership fees**

Gerry Egan advised that the committee recommends that the fees continue unchanged.

No questions or comments were raised by attendees.

A motion was proposed "that membership fees continue unchanged."

**Moved:** Gerry Egan

**Seconded:** Randall Berger

**Resolution:** Carried.

## **9. Election of committee members**

Chair declared all positions on committee vacant.

Gerry Egan advised that the AGM can decide the number of committee positions to be six, seven, eight or nine. He further advised that the committee recommended a continuation of the current practice to have nine positions.

A motion was proposed "that there be nine committee membership positions."

**Moved:** Peter Brain

**Seconded:** Deane Belfield

**Resolution:** Carried.

Chair asked the Secretary what nominations had been received. Gerry Egan then advised that he, as Secretary, had received nominations with the required seven days' notice for Melissa Pollock (a new nominee) and the following members of the existing committee - Mary Blain, Deane Belfield, Gerry Egan, Mick Lewin, Peter Brain, Terry White, Bill Grant and Maurie Molan.

Chair advised that these nominees, being equal to the number of committee positions, are deemed to be elected.

Ian Jones,

Chair congratulated the elected committee members.

Chair also thanked Ian Jones for his work on the committee and noted that Ian plans to continue to be strongly involved even though not a formal member of the committee.

## **10. The costs of climate change**

Attendees agreed to the recording of this section of the meeting, for possible future showing.

Peter advised that the presentation document had been circulated, and it was then made available to all attendees via the 'Share Screen' feature of Zoom.

Peter made the presentation on "The cost and benefits to Mount Alexander Shire households from climate change damage avoidance and CO<sub>2</sub>e reduction costs 2020-2100." He advised that the work is to answer the question – Does the benefit of avoiding damages arising from climate change outweigh the cost of mitigation measures? After much analysis, the answer is 'Yes'.

Ian Jones thanked Peter for the excellent presentation and the complex work underlying it.

Two comments were made on the presentation, as follows:

- Randall Berger advised that the 'Good Car Company' is rumoured to have an interest in establishing local operations and suggested that MASG could provide some support for this idea. In response, Allie Hanley offered to raise this possibility with them.
- Deane Belfield suggested that there is a need for advocacy to governments to make policy changes to support a transition to Zero net emissions.

## **11. General Business**

Chair invited members to raise other items of business. No matters were raised.

## **12. Meeting closed**

Meeting was declared closed at 9.15 pm.