

THE TOORONGA VILLAGE COMMUNITY GARDEN PROJECT:



History/Reflective:

In mid 2012 several residents made a successful submission to the Owner's Corporation for a herb and vegetable garden to be established on the podium level in the private garden area of C and D Towers. Funds were supplied through its managing agents, to build and establish two raised garden beds. Interested social members then contributed funds towards further development of the project, in order to buy more materials and plants. The funds were administered and maintained via the building manager for the gardener to source. The garden has been a rewarding community initiative enjoyed and tended by many.

Purpose and Objectives:

- Link residents interested in gardening and encourage interaction and involvement between them
- Provide a bi-organic herb and vegetable garden where residents can participate in sharing the gardening and the harvest
- Grow fresh and nutritional food
- Give a sense of achievement and satisfaction that comes from growing your own food
- Offer an opportunity for shared decision making and co-operation in a community environment
- Make available a healthy outdoor exercise and recreational activity
- Provide an educational environment to those interested in learning about the garden and how to use the herbs and plants for cooking and nutrition.

Management of Site:

The vegetable and herb garden is located in the allocated purpose built garden beds and supplied pots on the site behind Billy's Courtyard. As a community garden, interested residents can belong to the gardening group, to contribute and enjoy the project. The gardening group is open to any residents of any age.

The gardening group works in conjunction with the property's gardener on a planting program, who can assist on any major or seasonal maintenance works required as identified. Several meetings during the year should be practically scheduled to organise this. The central liaison point will be through the building manager's office who will have our funds on hand for plant and materials purchasing and in contact with the gardener to convey the group's needs.

To focus on planting repeat and abundant crops that are easy to be shared, suit the space allocated, and are practical in suiting a wide range of needs. The gardening group would be responsible for some planting, watering, and tending the garden. At times extra assistance will be sought from the gardener for changeover of crops and removal of rubbish etc. to keep the area as tidy as possible.

The gardening group keeps the community updated on what's happening in the garden for the community newsletters.

Funding Sources:

Tooronga Village Community Inc. Budget

For purchase of materials and plants

Owners Corporation [Garden] Budget

For Gardener's hours e.g. sourcing materials, some meetings, some plantings, building and maintenance.

Resolving Issues

Representatives from the garden group should liaise with the Building Manager and an OC representative where there are concerns.

Progress Review

Working arrangements and budgets will be reviewed annually.

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