

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024**

The Annual General Meeting of Open Gardens Canberra Incorporated will be held on Tuesday, 10 September 2024 in the Function Room, Weston Creek Labor Club, 4 Teesdale Close, Stirling, commencing at 5:30 pm.

Please note you must be a financial member to participate in the AGM and/or to accept nomination for the committee.

**Agenda**

1. Consideration of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 27 November 2023
2. President’s Report
3. Treasurer’s report and consideration of the audited accounts for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024
4. Special resolutions (see separate page below)
5. Election of office-bearers and ordinary committee members
6. Meeting close

**Nominating for the committee**

The role of the committee
The committee is primarily concerned with the governance and active management of the association in accordance with the association’s rules. This includes the oversight and actual conduct of financial management, maintaining membership records, garden selection, publicity and managing volunteers. We rely heavily on email, so committee members need to have access. We do not have employees and so all functions are carried out by committee members or volunteers. The committee generally meets around ten times a year.
Office Bearers
There are 4 office bearers (the President, the Vice President, the Treasurer and the Secretary) and currently up to 10 ordinary committee members. All positions will be declared vacant.

Committee members
A number of the current committee members who have worked tirelessly for many years have decided not to stand again. In addition, the work of the committee has broadened over time. We are seeking people who can actively assist with roles such as garden selection, secretariat services, grant administration, publicity, website editing, social media, etc and encourage members to consider joining this active team.
The term of the committee
Commences 10 September 2024 and ends at the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting of the association.
**Please complete a** [**nomination form**](https://mcusercontent.com/7d2d342524d7c279c39f6bca2/files/a07168e1-c260-bc7e-e182-4d9f52bdd2ad/2022_OGC_Nomination_Form.docx) **(also available at the meeting) if you are interested in joining the committee.**

**Confirm your attendance**

We look forward to seeing you at the AGM. **To confirm your attendance please notify the secretary, by email to** **secretary@opengardenscanberra.org.au**

If you would like further information, please contact the Secretary, Martin Wright, at the above email address.

Please see our website ([www.opengardenscanberra.org.au](https://us11.mailchimp.com/mctx/clicks?url=https%3A%2F%2Fopengardenscanberra.org.au%2F&xid=45c0a99636&uid=43004209&iid=79118c498b&pool=cts&v=2&c=1723699551&h=b966da52fd8df95b71be885ca9e2f2871bfca8d748d14717ad8c6f7e91981008)) for information about Open Gardens Canberra and our forthcoming spring program.

**Special Resolution Number One**

Amend Rule 15 (b) to Increase the maximum number of ordinary committee members from 10 to 12.

**Reason**

To spread the increasing number of tasks involved in operating the Association across a broader base and allow additional interested persons to be involved at the committee level.

**Special Resolution Number Two**

Rule 15 number 3 to be re-worded and numbers 4 and 5 to be removed, as below.

**Reason**

To allow an office-bearer to continue in an office-bearing position beyond the current 4 year and 7 year restrictions. The current rules are overly restrictive particularly where specialised skills are involved and replacement members are not forthcoming. The need to approve an office-bearer continuing beyond a four year period will, however, rest with the members attending the Annual General Meeting.

**15 Constitution and membership of the committee**

(1) The committee consists of—

(a) the office-bearers; and

(b) a minimum of 3 and a maximum of ~~10~~ 12 ordinary committee members;

each of whom must be elected under Rule 16 or appointed in accordance with Rule 15(6).

(2) The office-bearers are—

(a) the president; and

(b) the vice-president; and

(c) the treasurer; and

(d) the secretary.

(3) Each committee member holds office for one term of office, and is eligible for re-election. If an Office Bearer has held any office for Four years continuously their nomination to continue as an Office-bearer will be subject to approval by attendees at the AGM.

~~(4) An office-bearer may not hold that office for more than 4 successive terms of office.~~

~~(5) An office-bearer may not hold any office for more than 7 successive terms of office.~~

~~(6)~~ (4) If there is a vacancy in the membership of the committee, the committee may appoint a member to fill the vacancy and the member so appointed holds office for one term of office.

**Special Resolution Number Three**

To modify Rule 16 to clarify that current financial membership is required in order to nominate as a candidate for election as an office-bearer or as an ordinary committee member.

**16 Election of committee members**

 (1) Nominations of ~~candidates~~ financial members of the Association for election as office-bearers or as ordinary committee members—

**Reason**

To make clearer the need for current membership status, which under existing rule 19(b) only operates retrospectively, viz: “For these Rules, a vacancy in the office of a committee member happens if the member…..(b) ceases to be a member”

End