

**MINUTES OF THE 14th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
ADULTS SURVIVING CHILD ABUSE ("ASCA" or the "Company")
(ABN 49 072 260 008)**

**Held at 10am on Saturday 27 November 2010
at the Kirribilli Neighbourhood Centre ("KNC"),
16-18 Fitzroy Street, Kirribilli, Sydney NSW.**

1. Opening, Declaration of Proxies and Quorum

Members Present (in person at KNC): John Teer (Chairman & Treasurer), Cathy Kezelman (Chief Executive Officer & Director), Geoff Bahnert (Director), Terry Nagle (Director), Clare Porta (Director & Company Secretary), Roger Wong (Director), Roger Perry, Amanda Jones.

Apologies: Nil

The Chairman opened the meeting at 10am and advised that a total of 17 proxies had been received with the following voting directions:

- 10 proxies have directed the Chairman to vote in favour of the special resolution and 1 proxy has directed Cathy Kezelman (CK) to vote in favour of the special resolution;
- 1 proxy has directed the Chairman to vote against the special resolution; and
- 3 proxies have directed the Chairman to exercise his voting discretion and 2 proxies have directed CK to exercise her voting discretion. The Chairman noted both he and CK will be voting these proxies in favour of the special resolution.

The Chairman noted that the 25 members present (in person at KNC and by proxy) constituted a quorum.

The Chairman indicated that the meeting was convened under the Notice of Annual General Meeting dated 1st November 2010 which was mailed to members on that day.

2. Minutes of the 13th Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the 13th Annual General Meeting were tabled. The Chairman noted that they have been available for download from ASCA's website.

There was no discussion in relation to the minutes.

The Chairman put the motion to the meeting *"to approve the minutes of the 13th Annual General Meeting as a true and correct record"*.

The motion to approve the minutes of the 13th Annual General Meeting as a true and correct record was **PASSED**.

3. Chairman's Report

The Chairman proceeded to present the Chairman's Report. The following key points were noted:

- ASCA's previous Chair, CK, has recently been appointed as Chief Executive Officer. A vote of thanks was extended to CK for her extensive contribution to ASCA and adult survivors throughout her 3 year tenure as Chair. There has been a significant increase in awareness of ASCA and adult survivors throughout this time period.

- FY2010 was a more challenging year for ASCA from a fundraising perspective, with less funding received from both government grants and other sources (donations, fundraising activities) relative to FY2009.
- ASCA has continued to advance the health and wellbeing of adult survivors through its core service offerings:
 - Survivor workshops remain in high demand. In light of the current funding constraints, it is somewhat challenging to meet this demand.
 - Workshops for health professionals and community workers (frontline professionals) are building capacity within the healthcare sector to address the needs of adult survivors.
 - ASCA's 1300 phone line has been receiving an increasing number of calls.
 - The monthly "Breaking Free" newsletter was published throughout 2010 and has continued to receive positive feedback.
- The second annual Forget-me-knot Day was held on 12th November 2010 to raise awareness of the needs of Australian adult survivors.
 - A launch event was held at Hyde Park Barracks in the Sydney CBD and was addressed by Senator Mark Arbib (Minister for Indigenous Employment and Economic Development, Minister for Social Housing and Homelessness, Minister for Sport) who continues to be an advocate for ASCA within the federal government.
 - Several events in the Northern Territory were co-ordinated by Geoff Bahnert. Events were also held at other locations around Australia.

The Chairman then extended a vote of thanks to ASCA's members, subscribers, champions, patrons, ambassadors and other supporters (volunteers and pro-bono suppliers) for their support throughout 2010.

The Chairman also noted that there have recently been some changes to ASCA's board of directors with the resignations of Michael Salter, Silvio Del Vecchio and Michelle Gortan. A vote of thanks was extended to all three for their contributions to ASCA.

Silvio Del Vecchio's contribution as a significant fundraiser for ASCA (via three marathon runs with donations matched by the Macquarie Group Foundation) was also acknowledged and applauded.

The Chairman then asked CK to address the meeting.

CK made the following key points:

- For a small not-for-profit organisation ASCA has a large brief, namely to support and advance the needs to 2 million+ Australian adult survivors of child abuse.
- ASCA has been very actively lobbying federal government for funding for services for adult survivors:
 - ASCA was recently highlighted in federal parliament in the speeches of two Senators during adjournment debates.
 - Senator Mark Arbib has recently briefed Jenny Macklin, the federal Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, in relation to ASCA and adult survivors.
 - However, there is currently no identified federal government funding stream for adult survivors.

- Following its November 2009 apology to the "Forgotten Australians" (those who suffered abuse or neglect in care), the federal government has allocated recurrent funding to two organisations supporting the "Forgotten Australians", namely the Alliance for Forgotten Australians and Care Leavers Australia Network (CLAN). ASCA has built relationships with both of these organisations over the past year.
- ASCA is also actively seeking funding from the NSW government. Meetings with the Department of Justice & Attorney General have led to the submission of a funding proposal and discussions with the Department of Premier & Cabinet and the Department of Health. The NSW Premier, Kristina Keneally, attended the Forget-me-knot Day event at the South Sydney Uniting Church.
- A submission will also be presented to the Northern Territory government in the coming months for Northern Territory workshop funding for 2011/12.
- ASCA is continually seeking and assessing sustainable income streams to fund the core operations which include the 1300 phone line, adult survivor workshops and the "Breaking Free" newsletter.
- On Forget-me-knot Day, ASCA was supported by other organisations representing survivors of various forms of child abuse and neglect, namely Survivors of Clergy Abuse Australia (SCAA), the Alliance for Forgotten Australians and Care Leavers Australia Network (CLAN). Forget-me-knot Day received 600 media mentions throughout Australia (vs 160 media mentions for the inaugural day in 2009).
- ASCA's media presence has been increasing. Various media outlets regularly contact ASCA for comments/interviews on issues surrounding child abuse and adult survivors.
- The workshops for adult survivors have continued to receive very positive feedback. There is strong demand for further workshops next year.

4. Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2010 together with the Directors' Report, Directors' Declaration and Auditor's Report

The Chairman tabled the Financial Statements together with the Directors' Report, Directors' Declaration and Auditor's Report for the year ended 30 June 2010 for consideration and noted that they had been made available for download from ASCA's website.

The Chairman opened the meeting for questions and discussion in relation to the Financial Statements.

There was no discussion in relation to the Financial Statements.

5. Presentation of Directors and Officeholders

The Chairman introduced each of the Directors and Officeholders to the meeting.

6. General Business

Roger Perry enquired about the board composition. It was noted that there are currently 6 directors and the maximum number of directors is 11. All directors contribute significant voluntary hours to ASCA through attendance at board meetings and activities and participation in various ASCA fundraising and awareness raising activities.

7. Special Business

The Chairman announced that the resolution to be put to the meeting as a **special resolution** was:

'That the current Constitution of the Company be replaced with the document titled "Constitution of Adults Surviving Child Abuse (ABN 49 072 260 005)" a copy of which I am holding and have initialled for the purpose of identification and which is on display for review by members, and which, on passing of this special resolution, is adopted as the Company's Constitution.'

The Chairman noted that the key elements of the proposed new Constitution are detailed in Attachment 1 to the Notice of Annual General Meeting and in summary these are:

- Removing the Area Committee system to simplify and streamline ASCA's governance.
- Replacing the system of elected Director candidate nominations through the Area Committee system with an election procedure which enables ASCA members to be nominated as elected Director candidates subject to meeting the nomination criteria and consenting to their nomination.
- Increasing the maximum continuous term for the chairman from 3 years to 5 years so that it is aligned with the maximum continuous term of directors.
- Allowing directors to prescribe a nil annual membership fee and introduce an application fee for new members. This would reduce the administration burden of ASCA's national office.
- A revised set of objects to reflect changes in ASCA's activities since 2007. In essence, ASCA's objects are to provide its members with information and access to professionally-facilitated resources to help survivors of child abuse and neglect.

The Chairman opened the meeting for questions and discussion in relation to the special resolution.

There was no discussion in relation to the special resolution.

Number of votes for the special resolution: 24 (8 votes in person and 16 by proxy as disclosed at the commencement of the meeting) representing 96% of total votes cast

Number of votes against the special resolution: 1

The resolution was **PASSED** as a special resolution.

8. Closure

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.35am.

Signed as a true and correct record.

John Teer
Chairman

Dated: