

# GRANGE COMMUNITY RULES

## PRINCIPLES

And how we will know they are being met

### **There must be fairness in the community.**

People will working according to our Rules.  
There will be respect and co-operation.  
There is no abuse of some people or groups by others

### **All people in the community to have freedom of speech and opinion.**

Irrespective of age or who they are, everybody's opinion will be heard and discussed.

### **There must be trustworthiness.**

When a member has been trusted with money, when it's needed it is available and intact.  
Things that were agreed on are happening.

### **There must be harmony among the community members.**

There will be trust amongst members of the community  
When there are things we don't see clearly, we'll need to sit down and talk as community members.  
There'll be working togetherness in the community.  
Everyone will be at meetings convened by the chairperson.

### **There must be co-operation among community members.**

When there's a directive to do something, it is actually done.  
There is genuine co-operation.

### **The community shall do all that agreed upon**

All that the community agreed on is followed.  
Members abide by the agreed Community Rules.

### **The community will do subsistence farming.**

Everybody will plough during the right season.  
Trucks from the markets come to the farm for produce.  
No bags of food from the city markets will be unloaded from buses.

## **CATTLE MANAGEMENT**

- There will be an agreed number of cattle determined that the farm can sustain. Expert advice will help to set this number. This number will be divided equally among the households and thus determine the maximum number of cattle each household may keep on the farm. No number above this will be allowed.
- There will be 2 or 3 selected bulls to ensure that there is good breeding. No other bulls will be allowed on the farm.
- All cattle must be dipped and vaccinated at the right times
- Each household must contribute to purchase what is needed for the dip and medicines. The amount will be worked out and allocated to households according to the number of cattle they have.
- Leasing of cattle is not allowed.

## **Responsibilities**

Deciding about and managing the bulls is the responsibility of Subcommittee for Cattle

Monitoring numbers of animals do not exceed agreed limits will be the responsibility of a person who is elected for this task, once every 3 years. This is a sensitive issue and the person needs to be given the authority by everyone.

The Committee is responsible for maintaining the dip, for purchasing what is needed and seeing it there when needed.

One person who has the knowledge will be delegated the responsibility for managing dipping.

Community members will assist in cleaning, building and doing the necessary work entailed in fixing and maintaining the dip, under the direction of the dip manager.

All community members need to assist in the monitoring leasing of cattle.

## **GRAZING, FENCING AND FIREBREAKS**

- There are two grazing camps. The mountain camp will be used in summer, the one where fields are will be used in winter. Cattle must not be kept in one grazing area for a long time
- Cattle are not allowed in the ploughing fields during the cropping season
- No one is allowed to make their own gates in the fences
- Fencing must be taken good care of and replaced when its worn out.
- Firebreaks must be burnt at the right time, every year in June

### **Responsibilities**

The Committee is responsible for ensuring fence maintenance and replacement takes place.

Community members will provide the funds and labour to carry out fence maintenance and replacement as agreed at a general meeting.

The Chair will call a meeting to arrange the burning of firebreaks.

All community members must help with the task of burning firebreaks.

## **FIREWOOD AND THATCHING GRASS**

- Members of Grange may cut thatching grass and firewood for their own use and for selling
- Thatching grass is to be cut only in June, when it is dry
- No one from outside the community may cut thatching grass and firewood. No member may give permission to any non-member to do so.
- If anyone who is not a member is found cutting thatching grass and firewood, the Committee will warn them that they may not do so. If they persist they will be taken to court.

## **Responsibilities**

The community is responsible for managing thatching grass and firewood harvesting.

The Committee is to resolve any problems that arise.

## **RECOGNISING NEW HOUSHOLDS**

Once a household is recognised by a general meeting of members, after following the procedures set out in section 8 of the Association Constitution, this household can be allocated a residential site, cropping fields and grazing rights for cattle.

No one coming in from outside, who is not a member of the Association, will be allowed to request to be recognised as a new household on Grange.

From within the membership it is agreed that a member who is married and has children and wants to establish their own “muzi” can be considered for recognition as a new household. .

The new household must be able to sustain itself.

### Questions to be resolved:

There are two points of view and disagreement between different members about criteria for site allocation in addition to what is agreed. At this point it is left open as the members need to find a way forward for the future.

#### View 1:

Sites should be granted ONLY to married men from existing households, as that is when a separate site is needed, i.e. there are family responsibilities to be fulfilled.

We cannot allow unmarried women to have their own site, as they will bring in men from outside. We do not want the farm to be like a township. We will not have the power to prevent this, as we cannot control what happens inside peoples' houses.

Daughters will be under their parents – if she has a problem she must leave the farm.

The concern is for community stability and family retention of land rights.

#### View 2:

Sites should be made available to unmarried mothers whose names have been used to gain grants used to purchase the land. They have now used their subsidy and cannot get another to gain such rights anywhere else.

Once a woman has children she needs her own site as family conflicts start: she starts to have conflicts with her sister-in-law.

A woman who brings in men or other people from outside must be disciplined as anyone would, as she would be breaking rules

The concern is for women who have used their subsidies to have rights and choices and a way to deal with family conflicts

## **MEMBERSHIP LISTS**

A full list of members is to be kept, and members are listed according to the households they are part of. Resident dependants are also listed

This list is kept up to date by the secretary. Thus the list reflects:

- When a dependant becomes a member (turns 18, is of sound mind, is resident)
- When a member dies or leaves
- When a new household is recognised
- When a household dies out or leaves

A copy of this list is kept by each household.

Each change made is dated, stamped and signed by the secretary on the household and the committee file copy of the list.

## **SITE ALLOCATION**

*Procedures for allocating sites for residence and cropping to be clarified after resolution of people from Verdun's position, and in the planning process. A system for recording these is to be developed during planning.*

## **COMMITTEE ROLES, MEETINGS AND PROCEDURES**

The Committee has the following responsibilities

- Carry out the instructions given to it at general meetings of members
- Solve problems arising in the community
- Take reports from sub-committees and people delegated specific tasks
- Plan what it needs to do in the coming month.
- Manage community finances

The Committee will meet at least once every month, and more often if necessary.

The Chair or Deputy Chair may convene meetings at their discretion, but is obliged to call a meeting on request of at least five members of the Committee. The Secretary will notify members of meetings.

A quorum consists of five members of the Committee

Each Committee member has one vote and disputes are settled by a majority vote. If votes are equal the Chair will have the final and deciding vote.

Minutes are kept by the Secretary of all Committee meetings, and shall be made available to any member on request.

The Treasurer will keep proper financial records, which are accessible to all members, and report on finances at every meeting.

A Committee member who misses more than three consecutive meetings shall provide valid reasons for their absence. If they do not have valid reasons the general meeting will make a decision about their continued membership of the Committee.

Members are entitled to attend Committee meetings, and the Chair may allow a member to address the Committee in the meeting.

The Chair or Deputy Chair will convene general meetings once every three months

The Committee shall report to the general meeting held every three months on progress, finances, problems, needs and plans.

The Committee will delegate tasks to specific members or sub-committees who may be appointed by general meetings or the Committee. The committee will take reports from these sub-committees and members.