

DISCUSSION PAPER: REVIEW OF CONSTITUTION

The following proposal will be put to AFOTC members at the Annual General Meeting on 1st September 2018:

The Committee may co-opt up to 3 individuals, whether members of the association or not, as the Committee considers necessary for the achievement of a specific purpose related to the association's objects. Co-opted Committee members shall hold office for a specific period.

Background

- The Constitution of Australian Friends of the Camino was adopted by members at a meeting on 28th February 2011.
- It has been reviewed in full for the first time in 2018.
- Further review is scheduled following the AFotC Conference in October 2019 to ensure the Rules of the Association are relevant for the next decade, and in accordance with AFotC members' approval.

Discussion

- AFOTC Committee discussed the need for a Review of the Constitution at a Committee meeting on 8th May 2018.
- At this meeting, it was recognized that:
 - i. The Constitution presently does not prescribe fixed terms for Committee members – consequently Committee members who re-nominate each year are almost always automatically re-elected.
 - ii. The Constitution also does not presently provide a means to co-opt additional members to the Committee;
 - iii. In order to thrive and develop, it is important that there be opportunities for all members who wish to contribute to the future operation of AFotC;
 - iv. The National Conference 2019 will provide an ideal opportunity for AFotC members to have input into future planning and review of the Constitution for the next decade;
- It was further recognized at the AFotC meeting of 8th May 2018 that continuity of management will be important in 2018/2019 as AFOTC prepares for the first National Conference in October 2019.
- As all current Committee positions are filled (in accordance with numbers specified in the Constitution) there is limited opportunity for other AFOTC members to join the Committee this year.
- It is therefore proposed that an additional Clause be added to the current Constitution to provide opportunity for other people, with skills necessary to the effective operation of the Committee, to be co-opted to the Committee for specified periods.
- Constitutional change requires a majority of members present at a general meeting to pass a special resolution.