

**Standing Committee of the
Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki**

Minutes

of a meeting held on 19 November 2019
by video conference at Charlotte Brown House and Tikituterangi House and Zoom

Present:

**Bishop and
Chairperson**

The Most Reverend Philip Richardson

Vicar General

The Venerable Trevor Harrison

Clergy

The Venerable Malcolm French
The Reverend Jacqui Paterson
The Reverend Julian Perkins
The Reverend Dr Jeheli Singh

Laity

Ms Mary Bourke
Canon Robin Brockie
Mrs Sue MacLean

In Attendance:

Diocesan Registrar/Manager

Mr Simon Cayley

Minutes Secretary

Mrs Pip Harrison

Chair WATB

Mrs Elizabeth Bang

Trust Management Ltd

Ms Anne Edwards
Ms Grace Sun

**Diocesan Director of Mission, Edu-
cation and Vocations**

The Venerable Stephen Black

The meeting opened at 6 pm. The Most Reverend Philip Richardson **welcomed** members of Standing Committee and those attending.

Opening Prayer: The Reverend Jacqui Paterson

Bible study: The Venerable Malcolm French led a study on Luke23:33-43 (an account of the crucifixion), the Gospel for Christ the King Sunday. Five groups present had different reactions to the mocking of Jesus. The disagreement of the two criminals also being crucified is telling. One joined the Roman State's assessment of Jesus; the other identified with his innocence. Luke highlighted the innocence of Jesus in the latter's reaction and, later, the centurion's. The original text may have ended with Jesus' comment: "Today you will be with Me in paradise." Blood was not mentioned; it was the public shaming of the King of the Jews that the Gospel emphasised.

Confirmation of Minutes:

Motion: That the Minutes of the meeting of 14 August 2019 be approved as a true and correct record.

Matters Arising:

6.1 Matiere Church

The local community have communicated that they would like the church retained as a church. Further discussion will take place, once a firmer proposal has been made.

Finance

7.1 Ms Grace Sun highlighted elements in the report on Standing Committee finances for the period to 30 September, which showed a healthy \$51,000 surplus. A forecasted shortfall in the Ministry Support Fund (due to earthquake assessment grants) was currently being carried by Standing Committee. Standing Committee had also not been reimbursed from Ministry Support Fund's investments with the Waikato Diocesan Trust Board for the balance accumulated in 2017 and 2018. MITT had resumed monthly payments. The breakdown of sundry debts and credits was explored.

SC.683: Withdrawal from the Ministry Support Fund Investment

That TML's recommendation to withdraw \$38,618.43 from the Ministry Support Fund's investment with the Waikato Diocesan Trust Board be approved to meet its shortfall to Standing Committee. Moved Canon R Brockie Seconded Miss M Bourke

Carried

7.2 Taranaki Anglican Trust Board

Ms Sun noted that no audit fee had been allocated to the Cathedral Remediation Fund. Canon Robin Brockie commented that the appropriate apportioning of audit fees was a current work in progress.

7.4 Waikato Diocesan Trust Board

Ms Anne Edwards commented on this report. She drew attention to the larger than usual proportion of funds in low yield funds. These would be considered for investment at the next meeting of WDTB. Standing Committee owed an outstanding debt to WDTB in connection with MITT, which carried an interest rate.

7.2 Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki Car Fund

Canon Robin Brockie said the fund was operating as it should and supported itself.

7.5 Minutes from the Finance and Audit meeting

Canon Robin Brockie reported that the matters under 5.2 was still in progress. Discussion round parish obligations was underway.

The subcommittee recommended that the insurance premium be paid in monthly instalments to aid cash flow.

Motion: That the Minutes from the 4 November 2019 meeting of the Finance and Audit Committee be received.

Brockie / Harrison

Carried

Items for discussion:

8.1 Trustee Declarations beyond those already made: none.

8.2 Conflict of Interest - specific to this agenda: none.

8.3 Health and Safety – none beyond agenda items.

8.4 Risk – none beyond agenda items.

8.5 Manager's Report – to be circulated.

Mr Simon Cayley asked for guidance on whether a facilitated Planning Day should be scheduled and who should be included. The Archbishop said that the Bishop's Staff had made some high level priorities in preparation for the Road Map at Synod. Following the presentation of the "Road Map" setting out the high-level priorities at Synod 2019, the Bishop's Staff will be holding a two-day meeting facilitated by Mr Chris Clarke in December to plan deliverables within those. He suggested that further work facilitated by Mr Clarke involving Standing Committee, Trustees and Bishop's Staff would be useful.

Mr Cayley was asked to arrange such a planning day in the New Year after Bishop's Staff had completed their facilitated session with Chris Clarke. The planning day should have a clear statement about not overstepping Standing Committee's governance role in the brief for the facilitator.

Mr Simon Cayley acknowledged the Venerable Stephen Black for his work on the new diocesan data base and website, which were due to go live in the new year. The Venerable Stephen Black outlined some of the new content in the website, which would include spiritual materials, information, videos to do with vocation and ideas about building community. The data base would capture information of use for pastoral work, statistics and administration.

8.6 Episcopal Leadership Commission

The Archbishop asked how Standing Committee wished to engage with this report. Ms Mary Bourke suggested that the recommendations of the report be included in the Strategic Planning Meeting. This was agreed, as long as the issue did not take over the Meeting agenda. The Archbishop said the Commission's process had provided the diocese with the opportunity to discuss ways forward. He commented that the work done by Bishop's Staff in preparation for Synod had been very useful and that things in the diocese had moved on. Mr Simon Cayley said he thought the Commission was aware that the report might affirm and underpin decisions already being made. The Archbishop suggested the decision as to whether any of the Commission be invited to the Planning Day be left to the facilitator. Letters would be sent with gifts to the Commission members, expressing gratitude for their work.

8.7 Co-opting Members to Standing Committee

There are positions for two clergy and three lay people to be co-opted to Standing Committee. The Archbishop reported that the new Dean of Waikato would prefer not to be appointed Vicar General after Trevor's retirement until Easter at least. The Archbishop suggested that, given the proposed re-structuring of the Southern Taranaki region, it would be useful to have the Venerable Pat Scaife on Standing Committee, as she was part of that discussion and knew the area well. The Venerable Pat Scaife would stop being Archdeacon at the end of the year, when Mr Chester Borrowes would take up appointment as Lay Archdeacon of Waitotara. There was some discussion round the relative merits of experience and fresh thinking. The Archbishop suggested there might be some value in

splitting the term and that he believed the Venerable Pat Scaife would be open to doing a part-term with someone else taking over after the re-structuring.

SC.684: Co-opted Member of Standing Committee

That the Venerable Pat Scaife be invited to join Standing Committee, with the Archbishop discussing with her the length of the term. Moved Miss M Bourke Seconded The Ven. M French

Carried

The Archbishop invited nominations for lay members. Mrs Sue MacLean suggested Mrs Helen Aston and agreed to circulate her CV.

The Archbishop suggested a current General Synod representative, Mrs Pip Harrison (Synod rep., AAW, NCW, Standing Committee minute secretary).

It was agreed that the names and CVs of those nominated be circulated for consideration and email decision.

8.8 Synod Minutes (SC.1911.8.9)

It was noted that the Minutes of Synod 2019 had been received and the President had asked the Diocesan Manager to ensure all required actions were followed up.

8.9 Confirmation of Sub-committees for 2020 (SC.1911.8.7)

The Archbishop notified Standing Committee that the Board of Nominations has been trialling a variety of members. He suggested that a more current list than those in the above paper be prepared and brought to the next meeting for confirmation.

SC.685: Confirmation of Subcommittees

That Standing Committee approve the following members to its sub-committees:

Finance and Audit: Canon Robin Brockie (Chair), Canon Gerald Bailey, Ms Chrys Thompson.

Moved Archbishop Philip

Carried

Mr Brockie said they were keen to include new members to ensure succession planning.

Statutes Revision Task Group: Canon Gerald Bailey (Convenor), Canon Dr Bryan Bang, Mr Giles Brant, Mrs Anne McAloon. Moved **Archbishop Philip**

Carried

The Archbishop said it was important to mentor new people into this group. The Chancellor had also communicated that he would like to mentor someone for three or four years into the Chancellor's role.

8.10 Payments to Relieving Clergy (SC.1911.8.8)

SC.685: Increase in Relieving Clergy payment

That in compensation for tax due on it, the payment to relieving clergy be raised to \$66.50 for a service with a maximum of \$133 per day, for more than one service to compensate.

Moved The Ven. M French Seconded Mrs S Maclean

Carried

8.11 Renewal and Review of TML Contract (SC.1911.8.10)

Mr Simon Cayley said the contract with TML stated the renewal would be negotiated with the Finance and Audit Sub-committee and this process was agreed.

8.12 Debt Relief to the Parish of Ngaruawahia (SC.1911.8.11)

The Archbishop expressed appreciation for the amount of work Canon Robin Brockie had done in relation to Ngaruawahia's debt. He reported that the parish had a substantial accumulated debt, despite various efforts to solve the problem. Canon Robin Brockie was in the process of communicating a possible solution to the parish and it was agreed that he would also discuss the parish's obligation in the matter with key people, the view that there was some diocesan contribution to current situation not standing up to investigation.

SC.686: Parish of Ngaruawahia Debt

That Canon Robin Brockie discuss the parish's responsibility with the main proponent of an opposing view and then present the proposals to enable repaying the debt to the Ngaruawahia vestry. Moved: Miss M Bourke Seconded The Rev'd J Paterson **Carried**

8.13 Synod Items

Euthanasia

SC.687: Action of Euthanasia Motion from Synod 2019

That The Reverend Julian Perkins and The Venerable Stephen Black form a group to advise and comment on euthanasia in the light of the recent Act and the referendum planned for 2020.

Moved Miss M Bourke Seconded Mrs S Maclean

Carried

Abortion

SC.688: Action of Abortion Motion from Synod 2019

That the Venerable Trevor and Mrs Pip Harrison (with guidance from the Venerable Stephen Black) monitor the progress of the Bill on Abortion Law Reform to assist members of the Diocese with relevant and up to date information to enable them to engage at each stage of the legislative process. Moved Miss M Bourke Seconded Mrs S Maclean **Carried**

The Improvement of Social Security in Aotearoa New Zealand

SC.689: Action of Motion from Synod 2019

That the President of Synod write a letter requesting the Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance implement the findings of the Welfare Expert Advisory Group to substantially reduce poverty and provide affordable housing in New Zealand in Budget 2020, and phase in further improvements in successive years.

Moved The Ven. T Harrison Seconded Mrs S Maclean

Carried

8.14 Repayment Plan for Diocesan Insurance

SC.690: Payment of Diocesan Insurance

That the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee that the current monthly payment plan for the Diocesan insurance should continue into 2020 be approved.

Moved Canon R Brockie Seconded The Ven. M French

Carried

8.15 Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care

The Archbishop reported that he was receiving updates on the Commission's work and he would circulate an upcoming one.

8.16 Secretarial Support

Resolution of future secretarial support for Standing Committee in 2020 was left with the Diocesan Manager for him to deal with.

9 Items for Information

9.1 Tikanga Giving for the Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki, August and September 2019.

9.2 Minutes of the November meeting of the Combined Diocesan Trust Boards.

9.3 BAF 2019 Third Quarter Activity Report

The meeting closed at 8.02 pm.

Date of the next meeting: Saturday 15 February 2020, Te Kuiti.