

Standing Committee of Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki

Minutes

of a meeting held at the Parish of St John, Te Awamutu on 24 June 2017

Present:

Bishops and Joint Chairpersons

The Most Reverend Philip Richardson and The Right Reverend Dr Helen-Ann Hartley

Vicar General

The Venerable Trevor Harrison

Clergy

The Reverend Malcolm French
The Reverend Jason Grainger
The Reverend Carol Hancock
The Reverend Jacqui Paterson

Laity

Mrs Cheryl Anderson
Canon Dr Bryan Bang
Canon Robin Brockie

Diocesan Registrar-Manager

Vacant

In Attendance

Mrs Pip Harrison as minute secretary
Mrs Elizabeth Bang – Chair, Waikato Diocesan Trust Board

The meeting opened at 10.58 am. Bishop Helen-Ann and Archbishop Philip Richardson welcomed Standing Committee. Congratulations had been sent to Mrs Susanne Rowse on the birth of her and the Reverend Joel Rowse's son, Wiremu Joel. The Archbishop commented on the immediate response of the local churches to the fire at Grenville Tower in London and asked for prayer for those involved. He also asked prayers for the Bishop-Elect of Dunedin, the Reverend Dr Steven Benford, whom he had seen in London.

Opening Prayer: Canon Dr Bryan Bang opened in prayer.

Bible Study: The Right Reverend Dr Helen-Ann Hartley led a reflection on 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 in the light of being chaplain to the Magic netball team. Her points were: the culture of the team matters (e.g. inclusion of new people); you need to keep the ball (our inheritance) moving and treasure it; 'hustle' is a frequent instruction – let's be eager; focus on one game at a time, whether the last game was won or lost; don't blame one person, when things go wrong. Instead work as a team to improve things; keep playing as if you can still win, even when the gap widens between teams; every person in the team and surrounding supporters matters.

Apologies: Mrs Susanne Rowse

Motion: That the apologies received from Mrs Susanne Rowse be sustained.

Carried

SC.590: Appointment of Canon Robin Brockie as Acting Registrar-Manager

That Canon Robin Brockie be appointed as Acting Registrar.

B Bang/French

Carried

(Canon Robin Brockie abstained from voting.)

Items for Discussion:

Bishops' notes

The Right Reverend Dr Helen-Ann Hartley reported that Te Pouhere Sunday had been successfully celebrated last week. The Reverend Malcolm French had been appointed Archdeacon for Parish Renewal. The Reverend Julian Perkins had become Chaplain at Waikato Hospital. The Reverend Ellen Bernstein was moving to the parish of Warkworth. St Peter's and St Paul's schools were looking for Chaplains. Waikato Diocesan School has a new Principal, Ms Di Curran, starting in Term 3. The Lift course was nearing the end of first block. 128 people were doing the course and the technology was supporting it well.

The Most Reverend Philip Richardson reported that the challenge of raising \$15 million for St Mary's Cathedral had become clearer over time. One possibility was to request a new government fund for earthquake strengthening for buildings of national significance. Work was continuing.

Lance Pilbrow and Julia Moore-Pilbrow had been doing a review within individual parishes in North Taranaki, leading to the realisation that the shape of parishes in the future might be different. One example, would be the co-operative venture of BAF's charitable company in providing 50 houses in Marfell being combined with the parish of St Chad's ministry being embedded within the Marfell community.

The work of Venerable Trevor Harrison's work as Archdeacon of both archdeaconries in Taranaki was acknowledged and appreciated. Collegiality was increasing.

The report of the Motion 29 Working Group would be with the Bishops by 1 July and released to the church a week or so later, after the bishops had discussed it. He reminded Standing Committee the work of the group was around mechanisms that might be used to cope with varying beliefs and said they were suggesting seven or so possibilities. Their approach reflected much of what was happening elsewhere in the communion.

Motion: that Standing Committee move into committee.

Carried

Motion: that Standing Committee come out of committee.

Carried

The Reverend Malcolm French was presented with his licence as Archdeacon and prayers were said for him.

SC.591: Statutory Provision of Notice of Termination

That Standing Committee notes the statutory provision (Statute for the Conclusion of Stipended Ministry) of up to nine months sustentation of stipend from the date of notice of termination of position.

French/B Bang

Carried

SC.592: Review of Diocesan Administration

That Standing Committee endorses the decision of MRS to engage Mr Simon Cayley to review the work of the Diocesan administration in the wake of the departure of the Diocesan Registrar/Manager.

Paterson/Grainger
Carried

SC.593: Consequences of SWEEP Account Closure

That Standing Committee regrets and takes responsibility for the lack of communication of the financial consequences of the closure of the sweep account between the end of March 2017 and the end of May 2017.

Hancock/Anderson
Carried

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2016

It was noted that not all the documents had been supplied to Standing Committee members and that their adoption would be handled by email.

Amendment to Resolution

SC.594: Rescission and Replacement of Resolution SC.578

That this Standing Committee rescinds resolution SC.578 and replaces it with the following resolution: This Standing Committee authorises TATB to enter into an overdraft arrangement with the TSB Bank, noting the conditions under which the loan was offered and that the Chairs of Standing Committee write to the TSB bank expressing appreciation for the loan provision.

Brockie/Harrison
Carried

Motion: that Standing Committee move into committee.

Carried

Motion: that Standing Committee come out of committee.

Carried

Trusts in Parishes

SC.595: Trusts in Parishes

That Standing Committee asks the Statutes Revision Task Group with the Chancellor to prepare a paper for presentation to and discussion at Synod 2107 with recommendations by way of guidelines or statute to address the issues raised, a draft of same to be available for discussion at the meeting of Standing Committee on 17 August.

Richardson/Anderson
Carried

Minutes of 20 May 2017 meeting

It was agreed that the minutes of the 20 May would be amended, if necessary, and confirmed by email.

Next meeting: 6pm on 17 August by videoconference with an interim videoconference to discuss Simon Cayley's report on Diocesan Management, once it is available.

The meeting closed at 2.20 pm.