

**(C) Diocesan Ordinances Review**

Mr WK Allen provided a short report on some of the ordinances which needed investigation and review.

It was resolved:

'That Diocesan Council list this as an agenda item for the next month and members make themselves familiar with the following ordinances and allow an hour for discussion of these items:

- Audit
- Parish administration
- Clergy discipline ordinance

Any written comments in relation to these three ordinances to be received by the Diocesan Office one month prior to the next meeting of Diocesan Council.'

**(D) Further Schools**

Mr A Green reported that there had been a meeting between the Sydney and Newcastle Schools Commissions. This was to be discussed at the Diocesan Schools Commission meeting to be held Friday 29 April. The Diocese needs to determine as a priority if it is interested in working with the Sydney Schools Corporation. It is expected that there will be more than one school under consideration.

**(E) Professional Standards – Appointment of Chairman of CASM** [pages 21-23 of the business paper]

The Venerable IS Palmer spoke to the papers that were circulated in the business papers.

The following recommendations were made:

- 'That Diocesan Council appoint Mr Philip Gerber as Director of Professional Standards for the Diocese of Newcastle for a period of 12 months and that the appointment be reviewed.'
- 'That payment for Mr Philip Gerber's services should be at the same rates and under the same circumstances as he presently applies to the Diocese of Grafton.'
- 'That Diocesan Council appoint a Professional Standards Committee to include people with skills and experience in law, ministry, and social work.'
- 'That we appoint an honorary chairperson for that committee.'
- 'That we set up the administration of professional standards in the Diocese in the Samaritans Offices. And that either in such an office or at the Diocesan Office we store all records relating to enquiries or allegations of a professional standards nature in a single central place and with all the necessary security of files.'
- 'That having appointed a Director of Professional Standards that we review all current records.'

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- ‘In order to facilitate the implementation of professional standards in our Diocese that we acquire the services of a competent personal assistant (paid \$8,000-10,000pa – one day a week).’
- ‘That we appoint a part time paid chaplain with pastoral and counselling skills to give pastoral attention to those involved in any complaint.’
- ‘That we appoint or re-appoint contact people throughout the Diocese and that these people are given regular professional training and are paid for their services at the rate of \$100 per hour. The contact people have the responsibility to document allegations and get signed statements concerning the allegation. They are not primary pastoral carers.’
- ‘That we make available to the Central Coast, Newcastle, and the Hunter the facilities of the 1800 number presently available to Sydney. And that all contact people be provided with a dedicated mobile phone.’

It was resolved:

‘That Diocesan Council accepts in principle the ten recommendations of the Professional Standards Working Group and request this group with the Diocesan Business Manager to facilitate the implementation of the recommendations.’

The Council requested that details, including cost, be provided to the next meeting in respect of any contract with Mr Philip Gerber.

**(F) Report regarding Lakes Anglican Grammar School** [pages 24-30 of the business paper]

The issue of ownership of liability was to be dealt with at the 5 May meeting.

Mr WK Allen asked that any decisions of that meeting be transmitted to the respective school boards.

**(G) East Maitland – Mission Giving** [page 31 of the business paper]

It was resolved:

‘That Diocesan Council request the Diocesan Financial and Pastoral Advice Board convene a meeting with the East Maitland parish to resolve financial issues.’

**(H) Terms of Reference – Diocesan Council Executive** [page 32 of the business paper]

It was resolved:

‘That this matter be deferred to the August meeting of the Diocesan Council when both the Bishop and the Diocesan Business Manager have taken up their positions.’

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**(A) Bishop’s Official Acts and Record** [pages 33-35 of the business papers]