

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL HELD IN THE DIOCESAN OFFICES, PARKER AND STIBBARD ROOMS, LEVEL 3, 134 KING STREET NEWCASTLE, ON THURSDAY 22 April 2010 at 5.30pm.

Item No:	SUBJECT
2010.022	PRAYER The Reverend Canon Dr Julia Perry led the meeting in opening prayer at 5.30pm.
2010.023	<p>PRESENT The Right Reverend Dr Brian Farran; The Right Reverend Peter Stuart (Assistant Bishop); The Chancellor Mr Paul Rosser QC; The Venerables Stephen Pullin and Arthur Copeman; The Very Reverend Dr James Rigney; The Reverend Canons Hugh Bright, Brian Gibbs, Dr Julia Perry, Sonia Roulston and Stephen Williams; The Reverend David Battrick; Messrs WK (Keith) Allen, Alan Green; Professor Peter Ravenscroft; Ms Beverly (Bev) Birch, Mrs Margaret Flannery and Mrs Sue Williams.</p> <p>IN ATTENDANCE: Nil</p> <p>APOLOGIES: Mr John Cleary (Diocesan Business Manager); The Reverend Canon Keith Dean-Jones</p>
2010.024	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST The Reverend Canon Stephen Williams and Ms Bev Birch – (P21 business papers) Property Approval Board, 3 March 2010 P3, Merewether – St Augustine’s Church Organ Report.</p>
2010.025	<p>BISHOP’S REPORT TO COUNCIL P1-6 of the Business Papers This was Received (Professional Standards Matters – see P6, Letter to Clergy)</p> <p><i>It was agreed that the passing of Fr James Michael Brown (former priest of this Diocese) on 4 April 2010 in Bristol England was to be added to In Memoriam.</i></p>
2010.026	<p>ASSISTANT BISHOP’S REPORT TO COUNCIL P7 of the Business Papers This was Received</p>
2010.027	<p>MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING 25/2/2010 P8-14 of the Business Papers The Diocesan Council Meeting scheduled for 25 March 2010 had been cancelled.</p>

	<p>Moved Ms Bev Birch Seconded The Reverend David Battrick Carried <i>“That the minutes of 25 February 2010 had been circulated and were a correct record of the proceedings of that meeting after the following correction.”</i> P8 <i>Moved The Venerable Arthur Copeman</i> (That the 25 February 2010 minutes were correct.)</p>
2010.028	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</p> <p>(A) Morpeth – Rationalisation of Permanent and Temporary Trust Accounts Carried over to the May meeting</p> <p>(B) The Children Special Religious Education and Youth Ministries Ordinance Amendment Ordinance 2010 – running minute To be removed from the agenda until further notice.</p> <p>(C) Professional Standards Sub-Committee – running minute To continue.</p>
2010.029	<p>REPORTS:</p> <p>(A) Bishop’s Official Acts and Record – (P15-18) These were <i>Received</i></p> <p>(B) Property Approval Board Minutes</p> <p>(i) Minutes 3 March 2010 (P19-22) The Venerable Stephen Pullin answered questions. <i>These were Received</i></p> <p>(ii) Minutes 8 April 2010 (P23-26) The Venerable Stephen Pullin answered questions and noted that these minutes had not yet been ratified by the Property Approvals Board. They had been included to provide information relating to later items in the agenda. P24 the letter from the parish of Camberwell, was a request to proceed with the restoration of the church.</p> <p>(iii) Recommendation re Camberwell To continue</p> <p>(C) Parish Administration Ordinance (P27-45) Bishop Peter spoke to the Report from the Working Group. The document tabled was a discussion paper and Bishop Peter spoke to each of the 14 items, sought and answered questions and received input from members of this Diocesan Council.</p>

	<p>The Bishop thanked Bishop Peter and the Working Group. Moved The Right Reverend Peter Stuart Seconded Professor Peter Ravenscroft Carried <i>“That that the Diocesan Council appoints a Drafting Committee to develop a Bill for a suitable Ordinance on which wider consultation with the Diocese would be undertaken”.</i></p> <p>It was Resolved that “That the Drafting Committee comprise of 3 members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Paul Rosser QC - Convenor • Bishop Peter Stuart • Mr Keith Allen”. <p>Moved The Right Reverend Peter Stuart Seconded Mrs Sue Williams Carried “That the question of amendments relating to Synod membership of lay representatives and OLMs be referred to the Drafting Committee”.</p>
2010.030	<p>FINANCIAL MATTERS:</p> <p>(A) Financial Statements – Not available at time of printing as a new Accountant was yet to be appointed. The Bishop noted a new accountant would commence soon.</p> <p>(B) Outstanding Parish Debtors as at 31 March 2010 (P46) The Venerable Stephen Pullin noted that both he and the Diocesan Business Manager were furthering this. This was Received</p> <p>(C) Mission Giving Statement as at 31 March 2010 (P47-48) Information only</p> <p>(D) Episcopal Certificate Schedule as at 31 March 2010 (P49) This was Received</p>
2010.031	<p>DIOCESAN COUNCIL AS SYNOD:</p> <p>(A) Lakes Grammar – An Anglican School Ordinance (P50-52) This item was to be removed from the agenda until further notice.</p> <p>(B) Trustees of Church Property: Mangrove Creek Land – Land Sale Ordinance (P53-54) Mr Keith Allen noted that he had referred the Parish’s request for an extension of one month to the Diocesan Business Manager. Carried over to the next meeting.</p>

	<p><i>The Bishop was advised that under delegated power this Diocesan Council could vote on the following agenda items. The meeting did not move into Synod.</i></p> <p>(C) Swansea (Yondaio) Land Sale Ordinance [Extension of Currency] (P55) Moved The Venerable Stephen Pullin Seconded Mrs Bev Birch Carried <i>“That this Diocesan Council grants an extension of currency for the Swansea (Yondaio) Land Sale Ordinances 2008 for a further 12 month period until 22 April 2011”.</i></p> <p>(D) Muswellbrook – Extension of Verlie Weidmann Village (P56) Moved The Venerable Stephen Pullin Seconded The Reverend Canon Hugh Bright Carried <i>“That this Diocesan Council endorses the Property Approvals Board recommendation for the extension of the Verlie Weidmann Village in the Parish of Muswellbrook and that any future developments of the subject property are to be brought before the Property Approvals Board for approval before such development is commenced”.</i></p> <p>(E) Croudace Bay Land – Disposition of Proceeds (P57) The Venerable Stephen Pullin spoke to this and provided background and the history of this land. It was noted that both historically and as part of the current Diocesan Strategic Plan, proceeds of the sale of the land was intended to support a ministry presence in the Warners Bay area. The Parish of Belmont was to be informed of the decision taken at this meeting.</p> <p>Moved The Venerable Stephen Pullin Seconded Mrs Sue Williams Carried <i>“That this Diocesan Council approves the Disposition of Proceeds in respect of the Croudace Bay Land be placed in trust for the development of new ministry in Warners Bay”.</i></p>
2010.032	<p>BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:</p> <p>(A) Panel of Triers – Replacements for the Reverend Geoff Piggott, The Reverend Canon Paul Robertson and Mr Jim Helman (P58) The Bishop noted that it was necessary to nominate a Lay Person to replace Mr Jim Helman. Nominations were still being sought.</p> <p>Moved The Venerable Arthur Copeman Seconded Mrs Margaret Flannery Carried <i>“That this Diocesan Council appoints The Reverend Canons Hugh</i></p>

Bright and Stephen Williams to the Panel of Triers to replace The Reverend Geoff Piggott and The Reverend Canon Paul Robertson for the remainder of their 3 year term, noting that 2011 Synod is an Election Year”.

(B) Diocesan Council – Suggested appointments: (P59)

The Bishop noted that he wished to continue ensuring that there was representation from each of the Deaneries.

**Moved The Reverend Canon Hugh Bright
Seconded The Reverend Canon Sonia Roulston
Carried**

“That this Diocesan Council appoint the following people to this Diocesan Council:

- ***Mrs Glenyce Armstrong – Southlakes Parish, to replace Mr Richard Turnbull***
- ***The Reverend Canon Brian Gibbs- Chaplain to Bishop Tyrrell Anglican College, to replace The Reverend Canon Paul Robertson. Further that The Bishop was to appoint The Reverend Mandy Wheatley (as 6(b,b) Appointment, The Bishop’s Appointment), to replace The Reverend Canon Brian Gibbs. With all appointments being for the remainder of the 3 year term, noting that 2011 Synod is an Election Year”.***

The following appointments were yet to be made:

- Replacement for Mr Paul Rosser (who became an ex-officio appointment)– Bishop’s Appointment. A person with appropriate legal qualifications was required.
- Replacement for Dr Ann Taylor – Election

(C) Professional Standards Board (P60)

The members were advised of the role, duties and requirements for a person to be nominated to the Professional Standards Panel and that all nominations were to be accompanied by Curriculum vitae.

For these nominations to be included in the next Diocesan Council Business Papers, they were to be forwarded to the Diocesan Business Manager within the next 21 days.

**Moved Mr Alan Green
Seconded The Reverend Canon Sonia Roulston
Carried**

“That following advice, it was not in the best interest of anyone to receive nominations for the Professional Standards Panel from The Bishop. We thank The Bishop for his nominations however, nominations for these positions should be put forward from the

	<p><i>members of this Diocesan Council”.</i></p> <p>(D) Provincial Synod Vacancy – [Replacing the Reverend Canon Paul Robertson] Carried over</p> <p>(E) Scone Grammar School Board appointment (P61) The Bishop noted that he had advised the school of his nomination of Mr John Colvin, a well known and active member of the Muswellbrook Parish and the Diocese, to fill the School Board position. The Bishop had subsequently been advised that the person who had tendered his resignation had withdrawn it. The Bishop was to attend the next School Board meeting in May 2010.</p>
2010.033	<p>NEW BUSINESS:</p> <p>(A) General Synod Office – Appellate Tribunal Decision – (P62-75) This was for Information Only.</p> <p>(B) Hunter Valley Research Foundation – Sponsorship – (P76-79) <i>Moved Mr Keith Allen</i> <i>Seconded Mrs Margaret Flannery</i> <i>Carried</i> <i>“That this Diocesan Council agrees to Bronze Sponsor Level sponsorship of the Hunter Valley Research Foundation and the sponsorship amount of \$1,000 be paid from the Special Purposes Fund.”</i></p> <p>(C) National Church Life Survey – (P80-82) The Venerable Stephen Pullin noted that he had been advised by National Church Life Survey that any specific information which the Diocese of Newcastle required could, for a fee, also be included in the survey. The Venerable Stephen Pullin seconded The Reverend David Battrick Carried <i>“That this Diocese participate in the next National Church Life Survey.”</i> Further Moved The Venerable Stephen Pullin Seconded Mrs Sue Williams Carried <i>“That the Bishops Advisory Group identify any particular areas of concern and interest for this Diocesan Council which should be included in the National Church Life Survey”</i></p> <p>(D) Anglican Diocese of Newcastle – Use of Computers Policy (P83-88) Information Only</p>

	<p>(E) Anglican Parish of Denman – Request to reduce the size of their Parish Council (89) Moved The Venerable Arthur Copeman Seconded The Reverend David Battrick Carried <i>“That this Diocesan Council agrees that the Parish Council of the Anglican Parish of Denman be reduced from 21 to 14 for a three year trial period consisting of 1 each:</i> <i>Rector’s Warden</i> <i>Parish Secretary</i> <i>Parish Treasurer</i> <i>Assistant Parish Secretary</i> <i>Assistant Parish Treasurer</i> <i>As well as 4 Wardens and 1 representative from each of the four centres plus a Mission Secretary.”</i></p> <p>(F) Exceptional Purposes Expenses Trust (P90) The Bishop noted that he had been informed by the Diocesan Business Manager that this amount had not been budgeted for. There were additional outstanding and upcoming expenses which may also require funding. The Venerable Arthur Copeman Seconded Mr Alan Green Carried <i>“That this Diocesan Council endorses the Trustees of Church Property’s decision to reimburse the \$60,379.55 from the Exceptional Purposes Expenses Trust (D0272) without committing to further payments.</i> <i>This Diocesan Council acknowledges that there is a maximum of \$150,000 available from this fund this year. The Trustees recommend to Diocesan Council to consider other options, including amending the Professional Standards Ordinance.”</i></p>
2010.034	<p>ADDITIONAL ITEMS: Manning Valley Anglican College – Handout 1 The Chancellor noted that it was a requirement of each of the new Schools Ordinance that all appointments were to be staggered.</p> <p>Moved Mr Keith Allen Seconded The Archdeacon Carried <i>“That this Diocesan Council approves the re-election of:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Adam Sharp for a period of 2 years, expiring 22 April 2012</i> • <i>Mrs Rhonda Futterlieb for a period of 3 years, expiring 22 April 2013, to the College Council of the Manning Valley Anglican College.”</i> <p>It was agreed that the school was to be advised of the reason for the staggered</p>

re-election of their nominees.

The Bishop advised this Diocesan Council that the report by The Reverend Peter Lawrence Chief Executive Officer of the Western Australian School Commission had been received. The Chair of the Manning Valley School Council had advised him that he would forward a copy of this report to both The Bishop and the Diocesan Business Manager.

The report highlighted the need for significant changes and restructuring. All parties were working in close consultation.

Resignation of Professor Peter Ravenscroft from Diocesan Council as of 22 April 2010.

The Bishop noted that as a result of Professor Ravenscroft's resignation, appointments would have to be made to replace him on both Diocesan Council and to General Synod. It was necessary to elect a replacement to General Synod tonight.

Moved Ms Bev Birch

Seconded Mrs Sue Williams

Carried

"That The Chancellor, be elected to represent the Diocese of Newcastle at General Synod."

Chaplain to the Professional Standards Committee – Handout 2

This was required due to the vacancy left by the resignation of The Reverend Ann Watson.

During the discussion it was noted that it was necessary that:

- The Bishop was required to distance himself from contact with complainants until the process was concluded.
- Pastoral assistance, in the form of an offer of spiritual guidance was to be made available.

Moved Mr Keith Allen

Seconded Mr Alan Green

Carried

"That The Reverend Margaret Carr be appointed to Chaplain and The Reverend Jan Deaves also be appointed to the position of Chaplain to the Professional Standards Committee by The Bishop, pursuant to section 27 of the Professional Standards Ordinance 2005-2007."

Further,

Moved The Venerable Arthur Copeman

Seconded Mrs Sue Williams

Carried

"That the conditions and terms of these chaplains to the Professional Standards Committee be:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Reverend Margaret Carr the Chaplain to the Contact People and the members of the Professional Standards Committee.</i> • <i>The Reverend Jan Deaves will be the Chaplain to fulfill 27(2) to be available to offer, or provide, spiritual care to all parties involved in an issue.</i> <p><i>Further, that the two chaplains would be reimbursed any reasonable expense such as telephone and travel.”</i></p> <p>Clergy Housing where a Residence has been provided. Handout 3 The Venerable Stephen Pullin spoke to the Draft Policy and provided background and historical information. He noted that it was intended that any Policy in relation to Clergy Housing was to work in parallel with the Emoluments Board and provide standards and procedures. In answer to a question relating to how this would impact in individual taxation, it was noted that it was the responsibility of individual clergy to investigate and determine how this and any financial issues would impact on them. It was agreed that it was necessary for all priests to be aware of any proposed changes and that any change required careful consideration.</p> <p>Moved The Venerable Stephen Pullin Seconded The Reverend David Battrick Carried <i>“That the tabled draft policy be adopted.”</i></p>
2010.035	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING 27 MAY 2010 In Attendance: Messrs Geoff Kelly, Geoff Spring and Michael Elliott for who will give a presentation on Professional Standards.</p>
2010.036	<p>THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS the meeting closed with prayer led by The Bishop at 6.55pm</p>

Confirmed: _____ (Chairman)

Date: _____