

DIOCESAN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 9 October 2002 at 7.30pm
at St David's, Burnside**

PRESENT: The Most Revd Ian George (Chairman), The Ven John Collas, the Ven Bob George, the Ven John Stephenson, the Hon Justice Bleby, Mr Peter Casson, the Very Rev'd Steven Ogden, the Revd Dr Don Owers, the Rev'd Caroline Pearce, the Rev'd Peter Stuart, Mrs Dianne Bradley, Mrs Helen Carrig, Mrs Gwenda Cunningham, Mr Ian Curwen-Walker, Mr John Dibben, Miss Margaret Flint, Ms Sue Henry-Edwards, Ms Jan Horsnell, Mr Euan Miller, Dr Peter Nicholls, Mr Tim Pennington, Mr Allan Perryman, Mr Chris Purton, Dr Warren Rogers, Mr Tim Saunders, Miss Christine Solomon, Dr Baden Teague, Ms Rosemary White

APOLOGIES: *Leave of Absence:* The Revd Stuart Langshaw, The Revd Dr Cathy Thomson, Mr Chris Purton *Apologies:* The Ven Bart O'Donovan, The Ven Barry Davis, The Revd Peter Williams

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms Virginia Hickey, Mr Colin Ames, Mrs Anne Jarvis

159 OPENING

Dr Peter Nicholls took the opening prayers.

The Archbishop welcomed Ms Virginia Hickey, Consultant for the Diocesan Structures Review, who attended the meeting as an observer.

A welcome was also extended to Ms Jan Horsnell, and to the Ven John Stephenson as the new Archdeacon of The Port.

He reported with regret the resignation of Mr Fred Field from the Diocesan Council.

Members were asked to note the death of Judge John Roder on 8 October.

The Vicar-General moved a procedural motion:

That item 7.3 of the agenda be taken immediately.

CARRIED

He then moved: **That Ms Jan Horsnell be appointed to Diocesan Council under section 21 (c) of the Constitution.**

CARRIED

Ms Horsnell was commissioned as a member of the Council during the meeting.

160 MINUTES :

It was moved: **That the minutes of the meeting of 11 September 2002 be confirmed and signed.**

CARRIED

161 ARCHBISHOP'S FORUM

.1 The Report of the Archbishop had been distributed, and questions and comments invited. The following issues were raised:

- Details of the Vicar-General's position
- Anglican Consultative Council Meeting in Hong Kong
- Protocols about clergy moving from one Diocese to another
- The Archbishop's speech against war with Iraq
- HIV/AIDS and the possibility of the Churches requesting aid agencies to help distribute appropriate medication
- ABM Provincial Committee, and the Allan Daw Memorial Fund established by the ABM for a specific project to help the Church in Papua New Guinea.

It was moved: **That the report be received.**

CARRIED

.2 Issues members of Council wish to raise with the Archbishop

.1 Small Groups' Reports from Synod

The Rev'd Peter Stuart reported that on further reading of the Small Groups' comments, there was not enough substance for discussion and development by the Diocesan Council. It was believed that as the Groups had discussed the Archbishop's Vision Statement, the summaries of those discussions should be passed to the Archbishop for his consideration in developing his vision further.

It was moved: **That the report be received.**

CARRIED

162 STRATEGIC MATTERS

.1 Sexual Abuse Response Task Group Interim Report (DC Minute 153.1)

Copies of the Report of the Task Group were tabled. Archdeacon Collas moved

That this be considered a confidential Report and that members return copies before leaving this hall.

CARRIED

He then moved: **That the Report be received and the recommendations adopted.**

In speaking to the Report, Archdeacon Collas noted that members of the Task Group who were present tonight included himself, Mr Casson, Ms Jan Horsnell and the Revd Peter Stuart. Questions and comments were invited. A long discussion ensued.

After amendments from Mrs Carrig and Justice Bleby were accepted, Recommendation 1 as amended was put

1. That the Archbishop and Synod of the Diocese of Adelaide:

- a. **acknowledge that boys were abused by the late Mr Bob Brandenburg while participating in activities organized by the Church of England Boys Society (CEBS).**
- b. **extend to victims and those associated with them our sincere regret and apology that this abuse occurred.**
- c. **extend to the Adelaide and other communities affected our sincere regret and apology that this abuse occurred.**
- d. **assert that sexually abusive and harassing behaviour is not acceptable.**
- e. **express our commitment to the prompt development of better processes to care for and support of victims of sexual abuse.**
- f. **reiterate our commitment to the further development of policies and procedures which will ensure that all children and young people can participate in activities associated with the Anglican Church in safety.**
- g. **express a commitment to meet our proper obligations in receiving and responding to complaints of sexual abuse and actively to engage in education aimed at preventing abuse.**

CARRIED

After further amendments from Mrs Carrig and Justice Bleby were accepted, Recommendation 2 as amended was put

2. That

- a. **the current DRG processes be reviewed;**

- b. the initial contact process be reviewed and possibly outsourced to external and accessible professional experts on a contractual basis;
- c. the provision of counselling and other healing supports be outsourced to appropriately qualified organizations;
- d. in case of complaints against Bob Brandenburg, victims be invited to make complaints and to supply information to appropriate contact persons.

CARRIED

Archdeacon Collas moved Recommendation 3

3. That the Executive Officers of the MDC and Anglicare SA be requested to collaborate on advice to the Diocesan Council in December about the appropriate provision of:
- a. screening processes for people seeking authorization for ministry with children and young people
 - b. educational programmes that will enable existing and future clergy and lay leaders to have a good understanding of their responsibilities and boundaries
 - c. educational programmes that will enable people throughout the Diocese to assist the development of a culture of awareness about the protection of children and an arena of safety which ensures children are protected.

CARRIED

After amendments from Dr Owers and Ms Horsnell were accepted, Recommendation 4 as amended was put

4. That the Task Group provide an interim report to the November meeting and should by the December meeting of Diocesan Council -
- a. Consult with Diocesan Insurers to enable these recommendations to be fulfilled;
 - b. establish an appropriate process whereby victims of sexual abuse by Bob Brandenburg can be made aware of the Diocese's acknowledgement, apology and commitment to provide them with support;
 - c. develop contractual arrangements and protocols for outsourcing the initial complaints contact, victim assessment and support services;
 - d. in collaboration with the DRG and representatives of survivor groups, formulate recommendations for the revision of the Diocesan Response Group guidelines, processes, membership and record keeping;
 - e. prepare a diocesan document of apology, and an invitation to those who have been abused by Bob Brandenburg to make a complaint;
 - f. give consideration to an appropriate monitoring process which ensures that all protocols, timelines and accountabilities are observed.

CARRIED

Justice Bleby moved a new foreshadowed section 5.

5. That the processes referred to in Recommendations 2, 3 and 4 be conducted in consultation with the General Synod Sexual Abuse Working Group and the Child Protection Committee.

CARRIED

The Archbishop expressed his thanks and appreciation of the many hours of work done by the Task Group.

ACCLAMATION

162 .2 Parish of Tea Tree Gully – Sale of Land

A Report dated 2 October 2002 from Mr David Plumridge was distributed, and Archdeacon George spoke to the report and replied to questions.

The Diocesan Secretary moved **that part (5) of the motion be amended by the addition of the words “Market Linked Fund” after “ASTF”, the word “income” to replace “interest”, and the addition of the words “or for some other purpose” after the word “housing”.**

CARRIED

Justice Bleby moved an amendment to the preamble, **that after the word “that”, first occurring, the following be added, “, subject to the Parish Council agreeing to these amended conditions,”**

CARRIED

The motion as amended was put

That, subject to the Parish Council agreeing to these amended conditions, approval be given for the sale of part of the land in Ct Vol 5797 Folio 193 and described as allotment 99 subject to:

- 1) **Boundary realignment as shown on the attached plan prepared by Master Plan (8758 dated November 2001) and issue of new titles.**
- 2) **An easement being granted over the north eastern side of the church car park on Allotment 96 for services to Perseverance Road.**
- 3) **The sale price to be not less than \$97,500 plus GST.**
- 4) **The sale process to be overseen by the Diocesan Secretary in conjunction with the Property and Insurance Committee.**
- 5) **The net proceeds of the sale to be invested in the ASTF Market Linked Fund in the name of the parish and that the capital and income be used to provide suitable clergy housing or some other purpose with the prior consent of the Diocesan Council.**

CARRIED BY THE REQUIRED TWO THIRDS MAJORITY.

The Very Revd Steven Ogden moved

That the Diocesan Administration Council be asked to make a report about Diocesan Assets Guidelines to the February 2003 meeting of Diocesan Council with a view to the possible establishment of an ordinance, or amendment to the Parochial Administration Ordinance 1985.

CARRIED

162 .3 Review of Diocesan Structures (DC Minute 153.2)

It was reported that the Consultant had begun the Review Process. A Consultation with members of Diocesan Council would be held on Wednesday, 23 October at 7.30pm in Church Office. A consultation with parish clergy and lay leaders would be held on Thursday, 7 November at 7.30pm at Hawthorn.

It was moved: **That the Report be received.**

CARRIED

162 .4 Clergy Stipends for 2003

A Memo dated 9 September 2002 from the Provincial Stipends and Issues Committee was considered. Dr Rogers spoke to the report and noted that the recommendations had been approved by the Diocesan Council of the Diocese of The Murray last week.

He moved:

- .1 **That the recommended minimum stipend for clergy from 1 January 2003 be \$30,048 per annum (\$2,504 month);**
- .2 **That the recommended level of fully funded superannuation be 18% - \$5,412 per annum (\$451 month);**
- .3 **That parishes continue to pay Rectory Fuel (heating and cooling) costs.****CARRIED**

The Revd Peter Stuart moved

That the Archbishop be requested to consider any pastoral implications of the current stipend levels, the possibility of further stipend adjustments in 2003 and report to the

next meeting of Diocesan Council; and that this be sent to the Provincial Stipends and Issues Committee and to the other two Dioceses. **CARRIED**

163 POLICY MATTERS

- .1 Remuneration Packages and Fringe Benefit Exempt Accounts for Religious Practitioners
It was reported that draft guidelines which were distributed were the result of a revision of the existing guidelines taking into consideration the changes to the tax laws and rulings, and in consultation with the National Anglican Resource Unit (NARU) and the Provincial Stipends and Issues Committee of the Provincial Council.
It was noted that the guidelines were fully compliant with current tax legislation, and had the endorsement of the above groups.

It was moved: **That the Guidelines be noted.** **CARRIED**

- .2 Policy: Support for Clergy Prior to Induction or Commissioning in a Parish
A draft Policy was distributed and it was moved
That this Policy be adopted by the Diocesan Council and take effect in the Diocese when it has received approval by the Archbishop. **CARRIED**

164 REPORTS AND MONITORING

- .1 Diocesan Administration Council
Minutes of the Meeting of 25 September 2002 were distributed.
It was moved: **That the report be received.** **CARRIED**
- .2 Ministry Development Council
Minutes of the meeting of 18 September 2002 were tabled.
It was moved: **That the report be received.** **CARRIED**
- .3 Use of the Synod Seal
The Report of the use of the Synod Seal for the month of September 2002 was distributed.
It was moved: **That the report be received.** **CARRIED**
- .4 Legacies Received
It was moved: **That the Report of legacies received in the period 1 July – 30 September 2002 be received.** **CARRIED**
- .5 Synod Seal Signatory
A Memo dated 26 September 2002 from the Diocesan Secretary was distributed and it was moved: **That the Vicar-General be authorised by Diocesan Council to countersign Synod seal signatures during any extended absence of the Diocesan Secretary.** **CARRIED**
- .6 Parish of Unley
Mr Dibben reported that he had yet to receive the necessary documents, and that therefore his work had not yet begun.
It was moved: **That the report be received.** **CARRIED**
- .7 Synod of the Diocese of The Murray
The Report from Dr Peter Nicholls of the August meeting of the Synod of the Diocese of The Murray was distributed.
It was moved: **That the report be received.** **CARRIED**

165 BUSINESS ARISING IF NOT ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

- .1 SA Anglican Schools Commission

A memorandum dated 3 October 2002 from the Vicar General was tabled. After a brief discussion Mr Miller moved

That this matter be deferred to the next meeting.

CARRIED

.2 Judge John Roder

Justice Bleby moved

That this Council notes with sadness the passing of John Herbert Roder, a faithful member of this Church and a long-serving member of the Parish of St David, Burnside. As Presiding Member of the Planning Appeal Board, the Planning Appeals Tribunal and the Environment Resources and Development Court, he made a distinguished contribution to the Planning legislation and jurisprudence in this State. His dedication to his family and his contribution to the Parish of Burnside will be long remembered.

This Council extends its deepest sympathy to Denise and his extended family, and assures them of our prayers at this time.

CARRIED

166 CORRESPONDENCE

.1 Mr Fred Field – Resignation from Diocesan Council

It was moved: **That the correspondence be received.**

CARRIED

Mrs Carrig moved **That Diocesan Council accepts the resignation of Mr Fred Field with regret and we thank him for his thoughtful contribution to the work of the Council. We are pleased that he will remain a member of the Diocesan Legal Committee. We wish him well in his new position of resident Magistrate in Port Augusta.**

CARRIED

167 ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Diocesan Council

The Revd Peter Stuart was elected (vice The Ven John Stephenson).

168 FINAL FORMALITIES

.1 Items Deferred

Due to the lateness of the hour, the Diocesan Secretary moved **that all other starred items be deferred to the next meeting.**

CARRIED

The following matters were deferred:

- Donation by the Parish of Hawthorn
- Exploring the Next Steps : Ministry Development in the Diocese of Adelaide
- Policy: Child Protection – Compulsory Police Checks for Clergy
- Synod Guarantee – St John’s Grammar School
- Synod Guarantee – St Columba College

.2 Vote of Thanks

The Vicar-General moved **that a vote of thanks be given to the Rector, the Revd David Thornton-Wakeford, and the people of the Parish of Burnside for hosting this evening’s meeting.**

CARRIED

It was moved **that a special vote of thanks be given to Mr Colin Ames for his amiable work in washing the dishes.**

CARRIED WITH ACCLAMATION

.3 Next Meeting – 13 November – Parkside

Mr Miller reported that the Annual Dinner would begin at 6.00pm at Juno’s Café, and that further information would be provided with the agenda for the November meeting.

CLOSURE:

The meeting closed with the Grace at 10.58pm.