



MINUTES OF THE CEBS NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

Held at Camp Bindaree, Melbourne on the weekend of
MAY 2nd -4th 2008.

Attendance list

National Officers	Ven. Conrad Patterson (Chairman) Rev. Warren Rumble (Treasurer) Chris Oliver (Secretary) Graeme Nicholls (Leader development Officer)	Adelaide	Ken Pidgeon
Melbourne	Ray McGahy Bruce Anderson	Sydney	Ken Harkness
Brisbane	Alan Victor Peter Victor	Gippsland	Gary Prosser
Western Australia	Brad Young	Rockhampton	
Newcastle		Visitors	Dennis and Jenny Wright The Rev. Richard Bruce The Most Rev. Philip Freier

Session 1 Fri 2/5/2008 8:00pm to 9:35pm

Chairman welcomed delegates and (after brief introductions) opened the meeting with prayer.

Archbishop Freier was welcomed by the Chairman and was invited to speak to us.

Moved that the Archbishop Phillip Freier be thanked for his attendance and for his interest in our movement. Carried **Action: Secretary to write letter of thanks.**

Chairman invited delegates to submit other items of business.

APOLOGIES

Beth Berry (Rockhampton). Gillian Whittall (Rockhampton). Chris Martin (Adelaide), Debbie Wadeson of National GFS.

Moved that apologies be accepted. (Ken Pidgeon/Bruce Anderson) Carried.

Bruce Anderson welcomed the delegates on behalf of the Melbourne CEBS Diocese.

Items to be added to Agenda:

NIL

ACCEPTANCE OF 2007 MINUTES

It was moved that the Minutes be received as circulated. (Alan Victor/Bruce Anderson).
Carried

It was moved that the circulated Minutes be taken as a true and accurate record of the meeting. (Ken Harkness/Alan Victor.) Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

None tabled (other than Notice of the Meeting).

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

CEBS National Website.

Alan Victor reported that the website is continuing with much the same rate of "hits". Increase in costs. The web host will cost \$ 60.00 to maintain. Domain name will cost \$ 140 to renew for 2 years. Due on 15 May, 2008. Alan proposes to include a password protection .

Moved that National Council approve continuation of registration of domain name for next two years. (Alan Victor/Bradley Young) Carried.

National Council Minutes have not been uploaded on the website for privacy reasons.

Camp Badges

Graham Nicholls reported that there is a problem obtaining 2008 National Camp badges. He will follow up on this.

Unclaimed Monies

Alan Victor has not yet carried out further searches for unclaimed monies but still intends to do.

Joint GFS/CEBS Conference

Graham Nichols reported that he had discussions with GFS but there has been no progress towards holding a joint conference. It remains on the GFS agenda.

Rockhampton and Mackay Branches

Chris Oliver advised he still does not know what is happening in Mackay. Rockhampton is operating until the end of the year. **Action:Secretary to continue to follow up.**

National Youth Leadership Conference

Bradley Young has raised the suggestion of a joint leadership conference with CNET/YNET and their general response was that they did not believe there was a need for it.

There was general discussion of qualifications and accreditation of youth and children's leaders. There seem to be greater restrictions on lay volunteer leaders than in the past however there is little uniformity around the dioceses.

CNET/YNET REPORT

Chris Oliver (with Brad Young) attended CNET in Tasmania and reported on his experience of the programme. He advised that Rev. Dr Lindsay Stoddart, Dean of Hobart, spoke on "Starting Small". Other topics were: Engaging with your local community through families. Tips on keeping boys interested without losing girls. Faith development. Major pastoral needs with youth.

(Copies of these are available from Chris Oliver)

Chris Oliver reported that he found the programme worthwhile with excellent resources being shared.

www.max7.org is world central collection of children's ministry resources.

Moved that report be received. Chris Oliver/Graham Nicholls. Carried.

NATIONAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Chris Oliver read his written report.

Moved that the reports be received. Chris Oliver/Peter Victor. Carried

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:30PM

MEETING RESUMED 9:00AM , SATURDAY, 2 MAY, 2008

SPECIAL SESSION

The Chairman invited the Meeting to break into three groups to consider questions related to where we would like to be in 10 years time.

(The responses are included after each question)

- What might CEBS look like?
Boys ministry-male models focus. Name not relevant-name change. Involvement with community. Children as the main priority. Focus on family. A product to franchise. ?Attach to parishes. New catchment area. 'Leaders in Boys Ministry'. Better contact with diocesan structures. Profile change. Facilitating other people's ministry.
- Who will be our constituency?
Parishes. Families in the community (sports groups). Resource users. Past members. Unchurched children. People will travel. Parents who meet the standards we have to offer. Those who do not fit in - Special training. Low cost.
- What can we offer?
Resourcing. Networking. Training. Melbourne model-start up grants. Start up package including leadership assistance; according to the needs. Offer a model that works. A spiritual dimension. An external resource portal.

This was followed by a general discussion of the responses.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Ven. Conrad Patterson spoke of the importance of looking forward to possibilities rather than being constrained by the past. Assess the real needs. Find the resources that exist. Go in new directions where the spirit leads. CEBS needs generational change. CEBS needs structural change - involving "observers" at our meetings as "participants". He agreed that we need to find what we do well and do them very well. Young people need a voice in the Church and CEBS National Council continues to provide this voice. Conrad congratulated the Council on the cooperative spirit of the meeting and that he believed that this boded well for the future of the organisation.

Chairman invited Rev. Richard Bruce, Advisor on Youth for the Archbishop of Melbourne, to address the meeting. Richard spoke of the “hedgehog” principle – the importance of doing one thing really well.

STATE REPORTS

Western Australia

Chris Oliver spoke to his report. They are heading in a new direction and receiving better support from the diocese. CEBS is being better accepted as part of the diocese’ children’s ministry. CEBS is also diminishing. Branches are going into recess. There has been a new Sudanese group with 25 members. They are training 6 young Sudanese leaders. CEBS now have joined in a common office with other diocesan youth organisations. Brad Young, as a paid youth worker with the diocese is being allocated some time for CEBS and providing a broader vision for the movement.

Brad Young reported that they are looking at non-branch activities, such as camps. The movement needs to more focus on **boys’ ministry** rather than “CEBS” as such.

South Australia

Ken Pidgeon reported that in 2007 they had only one branch with 2-3 leaders and 5 children. That branch is now in recess. The organisation will be closed but he would still like to maintain some affiliation with the National Council. CEBS did not receive any benefit from the sale of the campsite.

Melbourne

Bruce Anderson spoke to his written report. They run 2 social events per year for people with a past CEBS association. 35 attended the most recent one. They are seeing a small but significant improvement in numbers attending branches. There are other boys groups that are looking to become more closely affiliated. There is now about 90 boys whereas a few years ago there was only about 50. CEBS is now enjoying a closer working relationship with the diocese.

Gippsland

Graham Nicholls spoke to his written report. Whilst they still have only one branch, other groups are beginning to be have a closer affiliation. The equipment trailer is being well appreciated by groups. 40-50 people are attending Friends of CEBS and GFS held each term.

Sydney

Ken Harkness spoke to his written report and answered questions. Sydney CEBS was in 2007 absorbed into Sydney’s Anglican Youthworks.

Brisbane

Alan Victor spoke to his written report. 30 September, 2008 is the agreed dissolution date for the Brisbane Society. Closing service is on 13 September, 2008. The Pointro campsite will be held by the Diocese of Brisbane on trust, with the income for the "CEBS Youth Grants Scheme". Grants for within the Queensland Province.

Rockhampton

Chris Oliver tabled the Rockhampton report from Beth Berry. She is running the single branch (with 11 members) but expects to retire at the end of the year.

Moved a vote of thanks to Beth Berry and prayers for the health of Colin Guy.
Alan Victor, Peter Victor. Carried.

GFS

Graeme Nicholls reported that he represented CEBS at the GFS Conference at Newcastle. It was affected by local flooding.

Moved that the reports be received. Bruce Anderson/Ken Pidgeon

14TH NATIONAL CAMP

Graham Nicholls spoke to the written report. The email network around the movement made it possible to hold a successful camp at short notice. 47 attended with an excellent time of fellowship and christian growth. The break-even financial result of the camp was made possible by the generosity of Melbourne CEBS, especially in providing its campsite without charge and contributing to the cost of the food.

Moved that the National Council thank and congratulate the planning committee and CEBS Victoria for their organising of the camp and its excellent success. Chris Oliver/Ken Pidgeon. Carried.

Action:

Secretary

Moved that the National Council thank Sydney for their preparations and attempts to organise the National Camp notwithstanding that it was not able to proceed. Chris Oliver/Warren Rumble. Carried.

Action: Secretary

15th NATIONAL CAMP

It was moved that the Secretary approach the Bishop of Tasmania to ask if he would be pleased to allow the 15th National Camp to be held in Tasmania as a touring camp.

Moved Warren Rumble/Bruce Anderson. Carried.

Action: Secretary

Moved that subject to the destination, the next national camp be a touring camp. Moved: Graham Nicholls/Alan Victor. Carried.

Moved that the next camp be held in January, 2010. Moved Graham Nicholls/Bruce Anderson. Carried.

The camp director not yet decided as it depends on the venue.

Ken Harkness expressed the apology of Sydney CEBS that, due to insufficient registrations, it had not been able to conduct the National Camp as it had undertaken to do.

NATIONAL TRADING OFFICER (CEBS Shop) REPORT

The present Trading Officer is retiring for health reasons.

Moved that Warren Rumble be appointed as the Trading Officer. Graham Nicholls/Ken Harkness. Carried.

Moved a vote of thanks to Allan Thomas for his 18 years of service as Trading Officer Ken Pidgeon/Peter Victor. Carried. **Action: Secretary to write letter of thanks**

Moved that Ken Harkness be appointed as the Association's Public Officer. Gary Prosser/Chris Oliver. Carried.

NATIONAL TRADING ACCOUNTS

National Treasurer, Warren Rumble, tabled and spoke to the audited Accounts.

He proposed writing off \$ 5,000.00 in stock.

Gross trading surplus was \$ 192.00.

Trading expenditure was \$ 244.00

After write off, the deficit is \$ 1,997.00.

Moved that the audited accounts be received as tabled. Warren Rumble/Ken Pidgeon. Carried.

Moved a vote of thanks to the Treasurer for his service. Carried by acclamation.

Moved that Ken Harkness and Warren Rumble make arrangements for the transfer of stock from Sydney, the costs to be borne to by the Council. (Ken Harkness/Warren Rumble) Carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2:00PM

MEETING RESUMED AT 8:30PM

NATIONAL AWARDS

No nominations received.

NEW INITIATIVES

Chris Oliver reported that Perth CEBS no longer trains leaders itself but uses diocesan training. Also, Perth held a clowning workshop led by Roly the Clown from the UK. Melbourne is growing and looking to its future. WA is also.

Other new initiatives are set out in written State Reports

"APOLOGY" OF NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR PAST ABUSE BY CEBS LEADERS

The was general discussion of this and surrounding issues.

Moved that this Council is minded to consider a form of "apology" (in relation the past pedophile activity and other abuse within the CEBS movement) but seeks, through its Chairman, the guidance of the dioceses as to the propriety of this and the form. Ken Pidgeon/ Alan Victor. Carried. **Action: The National Chairman**

NATIONAL LEADERS CONVENTION

Brad Young proposed that National CEBS hosts a boys' ministry conference with experts on boys' ministry. The initial response of the meeting was positive and it invited Brad to submit a written proposal by end of October, 2008 for an email vote, noting that any such conference is likely to require the support of other organisations. **Action: Brad Young**

NATIONAL CHAIRMAN

It was noted that the 4 year term of the current Chairman ends next year and an election will be needed to be conducted through the year.

IN MEMORIUM

Duncan Hughes (South Australia)

Vincent Rae (Young leader at Moe, Gippsland, tragically killed in a car accident)

Rev Ian Ellis (Associated with CEBS through St Johns Homes for Boys and Girls, Melbourne, and being involved in the CEBS Community Services Foundation.)

Chairman led a prayer acknowledging with gratitude the services of these former leaders.

RECOGNITION

Order of Australia was awarded to former CEBS Leader, Harold Dibley, of Sydney.

2009 MEETING VENUE

In The Diocese of Bendigo at The Bishop James Camp and Conference Centre, Stuart Mill, near St Arnaud from 1st to the 3rd May 2009.

EXPRESSIONS OF THANKS

Denis & Jenny Wright
Diocese of Melbourne
Ken Harkness (as Minute secretary)
Conrad Patterson (Chairman)

OTHER BUSINESS

Child Protection

It was noted that all CEBS Branches are required to comply with the child safety protocol of their diocese.

The meeting closed with the CEBS Prayer, the CEBS Rule of Life and a Blessing led by the Chairman.

Confirmed as a true and correct record:

Date: _____:

Signed: _____:
National Chairman