



**MINUTES OF CURIA MEETING
THURSDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1993**

SECTION A

1. **PROPERTY UPDATE** - As per status report.

2. **PARISH MATTERS**

**Manifold
Heights**

Father Burns has spoken with Mr. Exell, seeking advice on
i) use of a large block of land owned by the parish, and
ii) parish loans.

East Brighton

In the dispute with the architect it appears Father Heriott will accept the advice offered and is likely to settle.

Kilmore

Local Council interest in purchase of school site is waning.

3. **INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE FAMILY**

Mr. Exell reported on his meeting with Father F. O'Loughlin (IYF Committee) regarding an initiative for developing artistic works with family motifs. Support has been given to the proposal and the Diocese will provide the money to get the project under way; Diocese to manage the financial aspects.

Cf item 16. Liturgies for International Year of the Family. The VG advised that four special liturgies are proposed for IY Family 1994; 12th June, 24th July, 2nd October, 30th October.

4. **CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES - REVIEW**

It is apparent the review proposed by CSS will go ahead; perhaps in an amended form. Mr. Exell will attend a meeting organised by CSS on 28th October. If both this review and the IYF study go ahead expenses will need to be monitored carefully.

5. **INVESTMENT IN SYDNEY**

Mr. Exell advised that the Diocese has invested in property in Sydney (through a nominee company of Corrs). Mr. Exell will advise Father B. Lucas, Sydney.

6. **COMMUNITY AT MURRAY ROAD, CROYDON**

Mr. Exell has advised Bishop O'Connell of the details of the terms of agreement between the Diocese and the Sisters.



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7. **SPECIAL ISSUES - a P.R. Strategy**

Advice has been sought from three consultants and a draft paper is in preparation. The strategy is likely to cover

- i) the need for a central co-ordinating point,
- ii) media training for spokespeople and preparation of a media kit, and
- iii) the possibility of a presentation to key lay-people.

Mr. Exell will forward a copy of each consultant's report and associated notes to all the Bishops.

CLERGY DAY. Serious concern about the proposed two days in February being organised by Father Cosgriff. Bishop O'Connell and VG to follow up with Father Cosgriff.

8. **INDUSTRY COMMISSION ENQUIRY**

The Diocese will make its own submission. It was agreed that at this time it would not be appropriate to set up a meeting between the Archbishop and Mr. Scale and Pollard, at least until the terms of reference of this enquiry are clear.

9. **RETIRED PRIESTS' COLLECTION**

On the basis of the number of parishes which has submitted results, the collection is going reasonably well and better than last year (by 20%).

10. **CATHEDRAL RESTORATION AND APPEAL**

Restoration on time and going well. A pleasing result of 95% pledges honoured.

11. **DIOCESAN ARCHIVIST**

The leading applicant has not been offered the position, a situation which has not been handled well. He has written to the Archbishop and others involved in the interviewing process offering to provide service on a voluntary basis.

12. **BAYSIDE SCHOOLS**

Amalgamations Still proceeding. Of the four parishes, Port Melbourne will probably be the one to suffer most because of the school's poor condition.

13. **CORPUS CHRISTI COMMUNITY, GREENVALE**

On reviewing the financial position, submitted annually to the Archbishop, Mr. Exell said the Community was in good shape although there still remained questions about whether the Community follows the best way of providing care, as indicated by the high ratio of carers to those who are helped.



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14. **DISCLAIMER IN LETTERS OF APPOINTMENT OF CLERGY**
 Bishop O'Connell referred to Father Fleming's revision of the advice from Mr. B. Shaw, QC, proposing a disclaimer in letters of appointment in the light of Father Van Suylen's civil action. It was agreed that this should not proceed at present, especially in the light of the present case.

Bishop O'Connell reported on his recent meeting with Father P. Smith; there still appears little hope of a negotiated break through.

15. **APPEAL FOR CHAPEL AT FAIRFIELD HOSPITAL**
 Bishop O'Connell referred to a letter received by the Archbishop from the chaplains at Fairfield Hospital requesting financial assistance for the chapel. Bishop Pell questioned why the previous appeal, which had attracted such strong support had failed.

SECTION B

1. **FATHER MORCOS HEFDALLA**
 Father W. Jordan has agreed to have Father Morcos live at Flemington and celebrate Mass for the Coptic Community in the Flemington Church. The parish will be unable to find the 50% of Father Morcos' stipend which will need to be funded from another source.
2. **FATHER WOTJEK CHUCHALA**
 Letter of appointment has been prepared to Maidstone parish commencing 16th October, 1993.
3. **HUNGARIAN CHAPEL**
 Difficulties regarding the blessing ceremony appear to be resolved. Father Janos Kiss has agreed that the Archbishop will not celebrate Mass but will take part in an Ecumenical Service declaring the building open.
4. **CROATIAN COMMUNITY WELFARE ASSOCIATION**
 This Association has written to the Archbishop complaining about the behaviour of Croatian priests, accusing them of slander and open hostility. The issue is how welfare funding from the Government is directed within the Croatian Community.
5. **MR. B. JORY**
 The VG reported on his recent meeting with Brian. It was agreed that the VG write to Brian recognising his contribution to the diocese and enclosing a cheque to assist him financially.



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2. **FATHER JOHN VAN SUYLEN**

Father Fleming advised that Mr. John Date was acting as broker in negotiations on behalf of Father Van Suylen. Sir James Gobbo has agreed to act as mediator. It would need to be clearly held that mediation would involve no review of the merits of the case and would depend on Father Van Suylen's unconditional withdrawal of the Writ.

3. **POLICY STATEMENT ON PASTORAL ASSOCIATES (tabled)**

The document forwarded by Father Maurie Cooney is proposed as the basis for a round table conference with civil and canon lawyers, CROPP, pastoral associates, representatives of the diocese. It was agreed the document be reworked by Father Fleming and presented to the pastoral associates as the penultimate version prior to adoption.

4. **FATHERS BILL DURKIN/HUGO FERNANDES OSB**

Vicar General advised that Father Durkin would be on sick leave for another three weeks. Father Fernandes, from Sydney on three weeks holiday, had indicated his willingness to supply in the parish.

5. **FATHER GRAHAM CARTER**

A priest from Toowoomba about to commence an MA at Monash University for two years; Ashburton was suggested as a possible residence.

6. **FATHER JOHN TREACY**

The Vicar General advised that Father Treacy was living at Rye. He had no faculties, although he had conducted some funerals at a local funeral parlour.

It was agreed the Vicar General would seek advice from Father Gerry Gallagher.

7. **FATHER ANJOU SOARES**

The Vicar General advised that Father Soares from Pakistan will be visiting relatives in Oakleigh between July - December. His Bishop has requested he be permitted to conduct mission appeals. It was agreed the standard reply would be given and Father Soares would be directed to Father N. Wilson, PMS.

8. **EXORCISM**

The Vicar General has received a request from Father Searson, Doveton, seeking permission to conduct an exorcism. The Vicar General will contact Fathers Tom White and Joe Grech for advice.



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9. **HADFIELD PARISH**

Profile has been received. Bishop O'Connell has got additional information and figures from Father K. Burke.

10. **RESERVING BLESSED SACRAMENT IN PRIVATE RESIDENCE**

A request has been received by the Vicar General from a prayer group in Canterbury to reserve the Blessed Sacrament. It was agreed this would not be permitted.

11. **ACU AND CATHOLIC HOSPITALS - BIOETHICS CENTRE**

Bishop Connors advised that a Consortium had been formed which will become an incorporated body to be subsidised by the hospitals, and located at the Mercy Hospital. The Archbishop asked whether the diocese should be formally involved. Bishop Pell said that ACU would be proceeding with caution.

12. **CRAIGIEBURN**

Bishop O'Connell advised that Father Spierings had indicated his desire to be moved at the end of 1994.

Next meeting of Curia, Tuesday, 21st June, 1994, at 2.00 pm.

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