

**MINUTES OF THE
MEETING
PRESBYTERY OF THE DOWNS
3rd – 5th November 2023
ST STEPHENS TOOWOOMBA UNITING CHURCH**

ATTENDANCE

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Rev Yvonne McRostie | Presbytery Minister | Allison Kahler | Presbytery Secretary |
| Rev Adam Tipple | Presbytery Chair | Jenny Noble | Presbytery Treasurer |
| Rev Willie Liebenberg | Central Downs | Rita Wyse | Highfields |
| Kath Warner | Eastern Downs | Ps Alisi Manu | Dalby/Jandowae |
| Wilma Proudlock | Central Downs | Diane Cahill | Warwick/Killarney |
| Lyn Kajewski | Maranoa | David Cahill | Warwick/Killarney |
| Rev Rob Callow | Presbytery | Daphne Webster OAM | Oakey |
| Laurice Martin | Cambooya | Ps Cynthia Taafe | Crows Nest |
| Annie Baker | Middle Ridge | Ian Williams | Dalby/Jandowae |
| Rev Jenny Potter | Hospital Chaplain | Rev Kaye Ronalds | Granite Belt |
| Rev Kate Fraser | Middle Ridge | Ian Darnell | Property Committee |
| Sarah Hamlyn Harris | Granite Belt | Sue Case | Crows Nest |
| Rev Dylan Miegel | St Stephens | Naomi Bell | Highfields |
| Yvonne Cornford | Central Downs | Rev Ansie Liebenberg | Warwick/Killarney |
| Karen Dunmill | Goondiwindi | Warren Midgely | PRC |
| Kerrie Andrews | Lifeworks | Rev Marius Kruger | Highfields |
| Sandy Adams | St Stephens | Rev Dona Spencer | Bottle Tree RAM |
| Les Adams | St Stephens | Ps Jenni Feldmeier | CBW RAM |
| Ps Peter Cole | Blue Care | | |

APOLOGIES

| | |
|--------------|--------------|
| Beryl York | Maranoa |
| Sharon Baker | Middle Ridge |

CONGREGATIONS WITH NO ATTENDEES TO THE PRESBERTY MEETING

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------|------------|--|
| Wilsonton | St George | Chinchilla | |
|-----------|-----------|------------|--|

Movement of Members During Meeting

Rev Kay Ronalds arrived 9:15am departed 4:00pm

Rev Dylan Meigel away from meeting 11:20am – 3:00pm

FRIDAY 3rd November 2023

Commissioning service of Jenni Feldmeier as Bush Chaplain, Cunnamulla, Burke and Wills Remote Area Ministry

SATURDAY 4th November 2023

Welcome

Quorum as per regulations was reached

NEW MEMBERS AND VISITORS

Welcome to new members Cynthia Taffe (Crows Nest District) , Jennie Feldmeier (CBW RAM), Peter Cole (Blue Care Chaplain)

Visitors Kevin Griffiths (Synod), Kellie Broderick (Synod), Sam McDonell (Uniting Care)

2023.11.01 Resolved to associate Kevin Griffiths, Kellie Broderick, Sam McDonell with Presbytery **Consensus**

2023.11.02 resolved to adopt the agenda **Consensus**

ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2023.11.03 Resolved to adopt the minutes of the Presbytery Meeting held at Middle Ridge dated June 2023 **Consensus**

2023.11.04 Resolved to receive the Correspondence Register **Consensus**

2023.11.05 Resolved to receive the distributed reports. **Consensus**

Consensus

Bible Study

Bible study from Synod in Session by Kate Isles

Combined Presbytery Mission Pool (CPMP)

Discussion on the progression of the establishment of the CPMP as per resolution from June Presbytery meeting. Lengthy discussion was held regarding having donations included in the calculations. Additional proposals for how to what is regarded as donations and direction on how to manage requests from congregations to vary their contributions were requested for further discussion in General Business.

Cambooya Story

Laurice Martin

- The Cambooya congregation has been within the community for 117 years
- Has experienced phases of growth and decline. While the area continues grow, there has been a continual decline in the congregation
- In the last 2 years due to deaths and relocation and changes in circumstances for congregation members, the congregation is left with only two regular attendees
- Following the recent congregational meeting held in October the decision was made by the congregation to dissolve the congregation
(refer to PRC recommendation)

St Stephens Story

Les Adams

- The History of the church dates to 160 years
- Current outreach includes Winter shelter, gateway house, MOW, Boys Brigade.
- Future Projects – main project to turn the hall into an going income stream, top floor of hall - low cost housing proposal. Currently all ground floor space is leased, as well as having car parking rentals on the grounds during the week

Catch up in Zones

Presentation of Ordination Candidate

Annie Baker was presented as a candidate for ordination having completed the required competencies. Annie Shared with the Presbytery the journey to ordination.

Annie Baker and Rev Kate Fraser departed the room during the rest of the discussion.

Pastoral Relations Committee members who interviewed Annie recommended the ordination to the Ministry of Deacon.

As per resolution from PRC

2023.11 06 That the Presbytery approve the ordination of Mrs Annie Baker as per Reg 2.4.5(b) subject to her receiving a letter of call to a placement and an Exit Certificate from the Board of Christian Formation.

2023.11.07 Resolved to hold a Secret Ballot

Consensus

2023.11.08 Resolved to appoint Sam McDonell and Kevin Griffiths scrutineers
Consensus

Results of ballot

Ballot found in the affirmative refer to resolution

2023.11.09 Resolved to destroy the Ballot papers **Consensus**

2023.11.10 Resolved to associated Lysani Pallay, Sam, Ben with Presbytery (Easter madness)
Consensus

Recommendations from Reports

2023.11.11 Resolved to elect Yvonne McRostie to chair the meeting while the standing committee report was presented
Consensus

MC3 Report

Verbal report - Marius Kruger

- There has been a change in the membership of the committee
- Have been working on some daft proposals for discussion at Synod Standing Committee
- Hoping to launch in the new year

SCOTSPGC

Verbal report

- Joint Nominating Committee has received some names for consideration
- Thank you to the Minters assisting with Chapel services for Term 4
- Board members are needed. Thankyou to Bob Burgess for his work on the school board, his term is finishing at the end of the year

PRC

2023.11.12 That the Presbytery support the decision of the Cambooya Uniting Church to cease to be recognized as a congregation as per Reg 3.4.3. **Consensus**

2023.11.13 That the Presbytery to join with the community of Cambooya to celebrate the 117 years of continuous worship, witness and service. **Consensus**

Hospital Chaplain

Thank you to Marg Thorpe for her work as Pastoral Care Coordinator. Dr Steven Hughes has been appointed as the new Coordinator.

Following the decision of the Synod Standing Committee to cease funding hospital chaplaincy from 30th June 2024, conversation was held.

The Pastoral Oversight Coordination Committee has been requested to provide a report to the February Presbytery Meeting

2023.11.14 Resolved that the Presbytery records that Hospital Chaplaincy is a significant mission in the life of the Presbytery. **Consensus**

Synod Report

Kevin Griffiths and Kellie Broderick

- New General Secretary Rev Dr Adam McIntosh
- New Moderator Rev Bruce Moore
- Work of Synod in Session Regarding the proposal re hospital chaplains was referred to Synod Standing Committee. Communication with regards to the decisions from SSC will be communicated in due cause.
- Synod in Session reports will be available on the website soon
- Interim report on the resourcing review will be available soon. Working group volunteers are required.
- Social and affordable housing – Framework is being developed in regard to the capacity of the church to engage in this work, work done
- discipleship study guide is completed. Will be distributed when available.
- Advent and Christmas resources are available
- Integrational church workshops are being developed
- One church posted available to order.
- Act 2 submissions close November

Easter Madness.

Lysani Pallay – Director of Easter Madness

- 5th – 8th April 2024. Theme Uprising.
- Encourage your young people to come to Easter Madness
- Pray for campers/ leaders/
- Looking for Ester madness champions – promoting in the community

2023.11.15 Resolved to endorse the cost of up to 50% Subsidy to attend Easter Madness for participant from the Downs Presbytery. **Consensus**

2023.11.16 Resolved to make a Donation of \$3000 to Moreton Rivers Presbytery to support Easter Madness. **Consensus**

37th Synod Reflections.

Members of the Presbytery shared the reflections of the recent Synod in Session

Exponential Conference Story

Willie and Ansie Leibenberg gave a brief overview of the Exponential conference recently attended

General Business

Meeting dates for 2024

23rd – 25th February 2024 – Allora

14th – 16th June 2024 – Lifeworks

1st – 3rd November 2024 – Warwick/Killarney

2023.11.17 Resolved to approve the Presbytery dates for 2024. Consensus

CPMP - Regarding Donations

2023.11.18 Resolved to elect Yvonne McRostie to chair the meeting the discussion
Consensus

Motion regarding donations being calculated in the CPMP budget was received. Lengthy discussion was held regarding the proposal.

2023.11.19 Resolved that a decision on the proposal was not required to be made at this time. **Consensus**

CPMP - Congregations that request a deduction or variations to contribution

3 options discussed.

2023.11.20 Resolved to drop option 3 with no further discussion (See Prop attached)
Consensus

After further discussion

2023..11.21 Resolved that

1. That the Presbytery delegates to the Presbytery Standing Committee, working with the Pastoral Relations Committee, the power to negotiate an agreement for a CPMP reduction with churches that request this.

2. That any agreement shall last only for a period of one fiscal year, at the end of which time the situation should be reviewed.

3. That members of the Presbytery Standing Committee who are members of churches seeking to negotiate an agreement for a CPMP reduction, shall remove themselves from any Presbytery Standing Committee and Pastoral Relations Committee discussion and deliberation about CPMP agreements for those churches.

4. A full report of CPMP contributions be made available and presented to the presbytery.

Consensus

Mission moments.

Warwick Uniting Church -

Opening of Protea place presentation, proposals for accommodation, a grant submission has been made.

Closing Worship and Communion

SUNDAY 5th November 2023

Worship with the St Stephens Congregation