



Minutes of AGM 2020

Wodonga Lutheran Parish

Minutes for 2020 AGM held at St John's Church on Sunday 22 March 2020

1. Welcome

Chairperson Jenny Simboras, declared the meeting open at 11.05am
Welcomed all present and to the AGM a fully constituted meeting with enough members present to vote.

2. Present

As per the voting registration for the AGM the attendance sheets were filled out by Adrian Gutsche results: 23 members listed present with 12 Apologies recorded. Adrian may have missed some member's names at the time.

3. Devotion : Led by Pastor Graham Zweck

4. Correspondence

In: Letter of thanks from Pastor Jaswanth
Letter from the St Marks congregation
Out: nil recorded for the AGM

5. Minutes of the previous AGM 24 March 2019 be accepted as correct

It was noted that of the recorded minutes from this AGM did not have a proposer or second, there was also a number of small errors in that a signature was missed, all of these matters have been corrected

Moved by Pastor John Simboras Seconded by Jan Farrell Carried

6. Business arising from Minutes

- Sue Edwards asked if the minutes of the AGM could be produced earlier so folk could read if there was any issue for them to note
- The revised model constitution has been received by the Parish council from LEVNT and is under review given the closure of St Marks at Yackandandah.

7. Presentation of reports

- **Parish Chairman report** – as tabled in the book of reports. An eventful year with important meetings of the Parish to consider over the last few months of the year 2019. In particular worthy of noting the request that Victory College become a District college.
- The matter of our relocation to Victory was sort of put on hold because of the need for VCAT to consider a number of objections to the proposed development at Havelock Street, which has now been resolved in favour of the Wodonga City, so planning now will continue to proceed.

- That Pastor Jaswanth has taken a call to Mackay in Queensland with a farewell on the 15th March 2020 with a barbeque lunch.
- The pastoral review was also an important time to review where we are as a Parish what we are doing well and not doing well.
- **Parish Pastor report** – as tabled Pastor highlighted a number of matters including the work of many in support of his ministry at Wodonga parish over the past 5 years.
- Offering thanks for the amazing support given by the retired Pastors of the Parish for all their on going help to him and the members.
- The closing of Savers Corner was a sad event in many ways as it is the close of an important auxiliary for the parish, but joyful in another as
- Savers Corner had supported the Parish in so many ways over many years. Something to be thankful for.
- **Treasurer Report-** as tabled. Paul highlighted a number of things namely that it was a typical year in the finances of the Parish with our outgoings exceeding our income.
- It is hard to say in terms of the budget at what's ahead in 2020 a very fluid situation at the moment it depends a great deal on what happens with the redevelopment and when. Of course the co-vid19 issues also of concern if we are to close with no worship at St Johns. Our members were encouraged to give more in these times and to consider using REG as a way of continued support to the Parish.
- **The audited statements of accounts have been checked and are found in the book of reports.**
- **We are predicting an operating loss for 2020 of \$15,432.00**
- There was a couple of corrections from the report needing to be noted, that the amount of \$2852.00 from savers corner was recorded as a donation this should read as Hall use by them as an expense.
- The other matter was that of convention expenses for Sue Housego as our delegate this was lumped in as a over all cost and not recorded as a separate amount for her.
- In addition the budget predictions for the coming year 2020 not 2019 should be noted.
- Paul answered a number of questions from the floor.
- 1. Parish Secretary leave liability and issue is being addressed.
- 2. That any increase in the secretary salary would further increase the liability, understood matter to be addressed at the time of her review.
- 3. The parish allocation of support to the LCAVD was the shortfall notified to them. Answer no it was not but nor is their an expectation by them of the short fall being paid.

Budget for 2020 as tabled in the book of reports

Moved Paul Vogelsang Seconded Carolyn kiss Carried

- **Report Building Committee-** as tabled. Tim reported that the Alatalo's were still waiting on a building permit to be issued by Wodonga City planners. Even though the VCAT issues have been resolved there is still the matter of other criteria required coming out of the VCAT hearing, in addition to engineering documents, demolition request, along with Utilities agreeing to the development. All of this is of course Havelock Street which is moving along albeit slowly.
- On the other hand the new build at VLC is also progressing with working up the documentation for a Planning permit application here.

- There are other issues outside of the planning permit namely the need to subdivide the site of the church from the land taken by VLC. The sub division and planning permit are being progressed by the Alatalo's through one of their consultants.
- The plans for the new build are all but completed for submission to Wodonga council. With a small amount of work left to do like landscaping intentions and a colour pallet for the build.
- There is not a time line available to us at the moment, however it is likely that the second half of this year will see a beginning.
- **Report Savers Corner** – as tabled. The coordinator Maria advised that they have ended the year on a successful note. Many thanks to the tireless efforts of our list of volunteers that make light work for all.
- Again this year we were able to provide Scholarships to three students at Victory.
- The financial results were tabled as at 31/12/2019 with credit balance of \$ 17,764.80 with \$17,708.18 being held in the LLL account. Savers Corner has now closed and may reopen at the new site at Victory in the future, that's the intention anyway. In addition the financial management will sit with the Parish Treasurer from now on in a separate account with the LLL.
- **Report Ladies Fellowship** – as tabled> Marie Hill reported that the highlights of the year. The fellowship acknowledges Noreen's faithful service since 1997, however Noreen is back and at the helm. The treasurer Wilma Trabant also resigned as she is now in Lutheran Aged care in Albury. Sheryl Parsons has taken the role of treasurer.
- **The matter of the financial report.** This will need to be looked at as the financial year accounting period is not in keeping with what's required. It is not Y/E 1 November to 31 October but 1 January to 31 December each year the figures in the book of reports need to be revisited.
- **Victory Lutheran College Report** – as tabled. Chair of College and Principals combined report. Interesting to note that the primary and secondary numbers for this year are around the 800 mark, which is nearly 50 more than this time last year at 757.
- **Financial and General report from Victory College** – as tabled. Report for year-end 31 December 2019. The College is experiencing strong growth, with continued improvement in academic results driving student demand, which is a good outcome for 2019 / 20. It is good to see good growth in enrolments at the foundation end of the college.
- The audited statements are in the Book of reports from which you can see strong stats with doubtful debts being quite low this year.
- The financial affairs of the College will be the responsibility of LEVNT this next year 2020 as the College transitions to becoming a District College.
- Capital works have continued during the year with the completion of 2 stages of refurbishment in Wirraway, also some further work was completed in the administration building office space.
- **Various other Reports** - As tabled from the Lay assistants, Facebook report, Music ministry, along with a comment of outreach by pastor Graham with a monthly service being held at Park Hall Village by him. The question was asked by Sheryl Parsons, if this was an official outreach from the Parish. No it is something that Park Hall arranged with Pastor Graham directly. Ministers from other denominations also visit Park Hall.

8 **Motions**

• **Motion 1**

That Asquith, Trotman and Spence (ATS) Accountants of 19 Stanley St, Wodonga be appointed as the auditor for Wodonga Lutheran Parish for the church year 2020.

**Proposed By: Pastor John Simboras Seconded By: Claire Roennfeldt
Carried**

9. **General Business**

Letter of thanks from Pastor Jaswanth & Stella, Jenny read the letter to the congregation.

10. Jenny read out letter received from St Marks Yackandandah regarding closure of St Marks. The final service could be Good Friday. The Parish will need to vote on the closure in due course, with an official closure in May perhaps conducted by the Bishop.
- 11 Given the closure, there could be a need to review the service times at St Johns, certainly food for thought.
- 12 The Call Committee of the Parish is scheduled to meet on 24th March to discuss the process going forward.
This Call Committee is in the call process for a Parish Pastor.
- 13 Jenny Simboras spoke of the CO-VID19 Pastoral Care Teams and the duty of care to all. If the churches are closed then we will offer up some alternatives for folk. A number of suggestions were mentioned, Live streaming of services, prayer offered, by phone, the Parish membership list be divided between Pastoral Care Teams who would ring those on their list to keep in touch. Carolyn Kiss mentioned that the situation at the moment with CO-VID 19 was very fluid. That we are reminded that keeping our physical distance from each other is an important matter.
- 14 It was also mentioned by the chair Jenny that it was very important that members consider their offerings to keep giving to the church even though we may not be able to gather together.
- 15 The treasurer suggested REG was a good way of regular giving application forms available at back of the church.
- 16 As things unfold the Parish Council will keep you informed of changes because there will be changes we can be sure of that.
- 17 Lenten are still going ahead, but this may change fairly quickly.
- 18 A further suggestion was talked of and that is what we had a number of years ago in the KIT magazine / newsletter on a monthly basis.
Any further ideas to Jenny for consideration by Parish Council.
- 19 Chair of College Council spoke on Victory Financials (the short version)
Acceptance of the reports in general.
Moved Ingrid Harder Second Noreen Kelly Carried
- 20 Other Business: Discussion about Pastor Jaswanth, being installed at this stage on 3 May in Mackay. He is planning to leave for Queensland on 31 March. Currently on leave without pay, no annual leave owing.

21 Election of Office Bearers

- Pastor Graham took the chair to conduct the election of office bearers, starting with Prayer, and asked for nominations from the floor.
- **Chairperson** as Jenny Simboras was the only nominee she was elected.
Moved Heather Grealy Seconded Noreen Kelly Carried
- **Parish Secretary** Currently vacant, Pastor Ernie Kiss accepted the nomination No other nominations received. Pastor Ernie Kiss was elected
Moved Jan Farrell Seconded Coral Kelley Carried
- **Treasurer** Paul Vogelsang nominated no further nominations Paul was elected.
- **Moved Jason Zweck Seconded Elke Haslam Carried**

22 Parish Council Members

Continuing: **John Alatalo, Tim McInnes, Margaret Burkert, Sandra Dewhirst, Jan Farrell, Roger Farrell** all nominated as there were no further nominations these folk were elected.

Moved Jan Farrell Seconded Marie Hill Carried.

- **Lay Assistants:** It was that the current members had agreed to continue on for this year namely: **Sue Housego, Sheryl Parsons, and Andrew Dewhirst.**
Appointed Carried
- **Lay Readers** Continuing: **Phillip Edwards, Angela Uhrhane, John Donker Yack, Andrew Klein**
Appointed Carried

Persons of Responsibilities

Savers Corner: Mrs Maria Davison	Co-ordinator
Ladies Fellowship: Mrs Sheryl Parsons	Treasurer
Ladies Fellowship: Mrs Marie Hill	Secretary
Lutheran Women: Mrs Marie Hill	Co-ordinator
Statistician: Heather Grealy	Secretary
International Mission: Mrs Jan Farrell	Link Member
International Mission: Mrs Ingrid Harder	Stamp Collector
LLL Representative: Mrs Kerrie Donker	
Safe Church Coordinator (SP3)	Mrs Carolyn Kiss
Music Coordinator Susan Edwards	Co-ordinator

Accepted by Members Carried

- **VLC Chairman** Adrian Gutsche is happy to continue on in the roll as Chairman of College Council. The matter of Chair and Council members now sits with LEVNT. Current members of College Council will continue until further notice from LEVNT

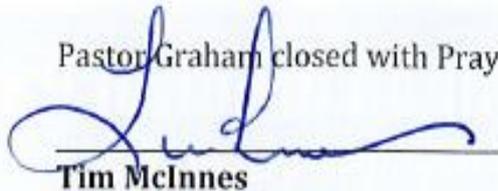
Ex-Officio

Principal: John Thompson
Congregational Pastor: Vacant
Business Manager: Glenn Wright
Minutes Secretary: Jodie Ainsworth

As there was no further business the meeting was declared closed by Chair Jenny Simboras

Meeting Closed at: 12.10 pm

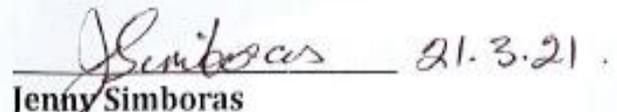
Pastor Graham closed with Prayer and Blessing



Tim McInnes

Minute Secretary

Dated: 21/3/21

 21.3.21 .

Jenny Simboras

Chairman

Dated:

Business Arising from The Previous Minutes

1: The Minutes of the previous AGM be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Proposed By:

Seconded By: