



News from Diocesan Council

June 2009

DIOCESAN COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

The June meeting was the first of the new Triennium.

Membership of Diocesan Council:

The Bishop

The Right Reverend SM Smith (Vicar-General and Archdeacon)

The Very Reverend AP Jones (Dean)

Lay Canon JM Harley (Chancellor)

Mrs DM Jones (Registrar)

The Reverend Canons B Ashworth & AP Bainton

The Reverend Fathers MB Boughey, RJ Farnell, PW Simmons, C Talbot & DC Withers

Lay Canons Mrs A England & Mr MH Bleby

Mrs JC Hervé, Dr KJ Pidgeon

Messrs MH McFarlane, DI Fleming & RJ Plummer.

Mr John Strachan remains Synod Solicitor. The Office of Advocate was declared vacant and no appointment was made.

Finance Audit & Investment Committee

The Bishop, Mr DI Fleming, Mr RJ Plummer, Mr MH McFarlane, Mr RR Smith, Mr DL Baulderstone and Mr M Adams. The Bishop delegated the chair to the Vicar-General.

Legislation Review Committee

The Bishop, Mrs JC Hervé, Dr DK Hewitson, Mr JF Strachan, Dr KJ Pidgeon & Canon D van Dissel.

Privacy Officer: Mr JF Strachan

Risk Manager: Mr M Adams

Publications Officer: Mr MH McFarlane

SAFER CHURCH MINISTRY

Mrs Vivien Bleby was invited to give a presentation to Council on the principles of Safer Church Ministry.

Over the past four years the following courses had been conducted in the Diocese of Adelaide:

Child - Safe Environments (2-day course that includes reporting child abuse and neglect).

Power and Trust Seminar (a full-day training which includes bullying, harassment and boundary crossing).

Recognise and Respond Training (a 2-day course that includes how to recognise and respond to both adult and child abuse).

Safety & Screening (long half day course that includes risk management, grooming behaviours and appropriate touch, noting that it was now considered to be more abusive not to touch than to touch appropriately).

The Bishop is concerned that the Diocese does not have such rigorous practices recommended by Mrs Bleby. Council will discuss the best way of addressing what needs to happen to ensure safer church ministry in The Murray.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL MATTERS

Stipend Continuance/WorkCover

Council discussed a Summary of a proposal for (SA) Provincial Stipend Continuance Insurance Cover, *known as Group Income Protection insurance*. The Summary presented two options recommended by the Registrars: that a common waiting period be adopted so that only pro-rata calculation of premiums per person/per diocese is necessary – and that it be 60days if acceptable to all dioceses with a fall back to 90 days. Council resolved to accept the 60 day waiting period and authorized the Registrar to finalise the salary continuance insurance cover with one of the appropriate insurers, noting that there is still a choice to be made between the suggested proposal for (SA) Provincial Stipend Continuance Insurance Cover and the National Insurance Program, pending due diligence.



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Professional Standards clearances

Checks will be made on all recent lay ministry appointments to ensure they have satisfied the professional standards clearance.

Media Liaison Officer

Council resolved to continue the engagement of the Media Officer for a further period of 12 months.

Insurance Fidelity Fund

The Fund is currently fully drawn and the FAI Committee will make a recommendation to Council regarding how best to re-establish the Trust Account.

Car park lease

A twelve month lease has been secured with the Department of Health - Children, Youth & Women's Health Service for car parking facilities at the rear of the 4 Clara Street, Murray Bridge.

SYNOD

Vacancies filled by DC:

Provincial Council: Canon AP Bainton, Fr MB Boughey, Mr MH McFarlane and the Registrar.

Panel of Assessors: Fr RJ Farnell, Fr PF Carlsson and Fr PW Simmons, Mr JF Strachan, Lay Canon A England, Mrs JC Hervé, Mr RJ Plummer and Lay Canon MH Bleby

Seal holder: Mr MH McFarlane

Diocesan Nominator Laity: Mr DI Fleming

Chair of Committees: Lay Canon JM Harley;
Deputy Chair: Mrs JC Hervé

Questions on Notice: The Bishop tabled answers to Questions on Notice for the records.

Distribution of Synod Report: The Synod Report will be emailed to members of Synod

who attended and also to each parish to be tabled at parish council, noting that members who do not have email should request a copy from their parish.

Digital recording of Synod: The digital recording will be archived.

Global Financial / Credit Crisis: The text of the motion will be sent to members of the General Synod Standing Committee .

Increase in Diocesan Donations: The matter was referred to the FAI Committee for recommendation to Diocesan Council.

Murray Darling Basin parishes: Mr Bleby offered to explore this matter taking into consideration options that may be already available and operating in the river communities through Anglican Community Care.

Support for the Registrar: The matter was referred to the FAI Committee for recommendation to Diocesan Council.

DEVELOPMENTS SINCE DIOCESAN COUNCIL

1. The Bishop has appointed Fr Reg Farnell as an Archdeacon in The Murray.
2. The Bishop has filled the casual vacancy on Diocesan Council created by the above appointment by appointing Fr Durham Clarke.
3. The Bishop has made an appointment of Archdeacon of The Murray who will be Rector of Mount Barker. He will commence duties on Monday 2nd November 2009 as Archdeacon and will be inducted as Rector of Mount Barker on 10th November. His name will be made public on Sunday 19th July.