

St Mark's Church, Emerald

Minutes of the meeting of St Mark's Anglican Church Emerald Parish Council held on 16 October 2023.

1. Present:

Andrew Bowles (Vicar), Anne Anderton (Minutes), Dan Inglis, John Mechielsen, Trevor Garrett, Aly Munzel, Katherine Mitchell, Peter Crafter and Ruth Johnson.

Apologies:

Russell Soderlund

2. Opening Devotion

Andrew read from Psalm 34:1-10 and opened the meeting with prayer.

3. Minutes of previous meeting (18 September 2023).

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 18 September 2023 were accepted as an accurate record of that meeting on the motion of Anne Anderton, seconded by Ruth Johnson. Carried.

Matters arising:

- Andrew has not yet had an opportunity to register St Mark's for the Community Benefits Scheme operated by Richies IGA;
- Andy has been asked to arrange the emergency fund allocation to the Libya floods and the Morocco earthquake appeal which was agreed to at the September meeting.

4. Parish Council Administration/Governance

Parish Council membership in 2024.

Andrew asked that we continue to pray for the Parish Council membership in 2024. He will email a nomination form to all current members who are eligible for re-election and the forms will also be available at the church.

5. Reports

Senior Minister's Report

Andrew referred to his report which had been circulated with the agenda papers.

All activities for term 4 are now commencing and Andrew has started to discuss Christmas events with the staff.

Andrew will continue his search for a possible candidate for a student minister.

Andrew had circulated the draft role description for the Regional Youth Ministry Development Coordinator. He said that the proposal is that whoever holds the role will equip and coordinate the youth work in the Anglican churches in the area and help each church to build its own local group. Andrew will get together with Jerome and Vivianne and other clergy in the deanery to consider how this might work out in practice.

The youth group had its first meeting for the term on Sunday 15 October and is planning a family games night for 19 November 2023.

Synod report

Andrew, Aly Munzel and Peter Crafter were involved in the Synod which met last week. It was Aly's first Synod and she said that it was a good experience and she is looking forward to next year when she will have a better idea of what to expect. Peter was only able to participate in the Thursday and Friday sessions due to a positive Covid test prior to the Saturday session. He has prepared a report for the AGM. He referred to some of the matters that were discussed and noted that Andrew's proposal with regard to a reduction of clergy working hours was very well supported.

Reconciliation issues

Following the referendum, Andrew advised that he is researching a reconciliation action plan with the intent of keeping the issue alive going forward.

Finance Report

Monthly Reports and Balance Sheets

Peter Crafter referred to the Financial Commentary for September 2023 and to the balance sheet as of 30 September 2023, which were circulated with the agenda papers.

The financial year for the church ended on 30 September 2023. Peter reported that the deficit for the financial year was lower than budget. However the deficit in September was \$15k because of an adjustment to accrued annual leave and a fall in giving to \$25.7k. Ministry income and giving for the year were higher than plan whilst expenses were close to plan. Peter confirmed that the leave accrual related to Andrew and Aly LVL's leave. Following a question about the assessment, Peter confirmed that he will talk to Andy about it to ensure that all payments are up to date. Peter stressed that the figures that he has provided are subject to audit which will take place in late October.

The acceptance of the financial report was moved by Peter Crafter, seconded by Katherine Mitchell and carried.

Emergency Fund Allocations

No allocation this month.

6. Governance and Administration

Policy reviews

None this month

Safe Ministry

There is nothing new to report. Andrew will be discussing with the staff the proposal that training for the host team be reviewed.

Wardens

Maintenance/OHS

It was agreed that the working bee should be held on 18 November.

Cleaning contractors

Andrew has had some discussions with the cleaners, Bruce and Colleen, about our formal relationship with them. They will be treated as contractors for the work that they are doing.

New Centrelink maintenance volunteer

Mike Walker is the new Centrelink maintenance volunteer.

Incident reports

No incident reports this month.

Capital Works

Thanksgiving Projects Update

Children's Centre bathroom

Ruth and Iain will speak to John about the tiling to be done in the bathroom.

Hall windows - blinds

The quote from Interlux has been accepted and the installation of the blinds will start soon. There is sufficient money in the Thanksgiving fund to pay for the blinds

Basketball Court proposal

There has been no further action on this.

7. Other Business

Emerald Carols by the Lake

Andrew advised that this is proceeding according to plan.

8. Correspondence

None

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on **Monday 20 November 2023**.