

The Uniting Church in Australia

Western Australia



Minutes

of

**The Meeting of the 11th Annual General Meeting of
Presbytery of Western Australia**

Saturday, 5 November 2016

These Minutes record events and the business of those committees or bodies that relate to the Presbytery of Western Australia.

The following documents are included with the Minutes:

Annexure 1- Membership Attendance List

Annexure 2 - Nominating Committee List

Annexure 3 - Rules of Presbytery

Annexure 4 - Safe Church - Supplementary Report Professional Standards

The Business Session was conducted at Billabong Uniting Church, on Saturday, 5 November 2016

PART I – CONSTITUTION

CONSTITUTION OF THE MEETINGS OF PRESBYTERY

The General Secretary, Rev David de Kock opened the meeting and welcomed all those in attendance. It was noted that Rev de Kock would remain as Secretary of this meeting due to the election of a new Secretary of Presbytery later in the proceedings.

PART 2 – OPENING WORSHIP

The Moderator, Rev Steve Francis led the Opening Worship. Rev Lesley de Grussa delivered a reading from Jeremiah Chapter 31 verses 31-34. Coral Richards continued with a reading from Matthew Chapter 28 verses 1 - 10. The message was brought by Rev Cathie Lambert.

INDUCTION SERVICE - REV DR IAN TOZER AS DEPUTY GENERAL SECRETARY

The Moderator inducted Rev Dr Ian Tozer as Deputy General Secretary and appropriate symbols were presented. Rev Tozer was welcomed by Presbytery members.

PROPOSAL I - BUSINESS COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION 1/2016-17

That Presbytery of Western Australia approved by consensus:

1. Adopt the Order of Business
2. Affirm Rev David de Kock, Rev Steve Francis, Bruce Wilson, Maggie Johns, Rev Dr Ian Tozer, Maree Kemp, Amanda Badenhorst, Justine Woodward, Clare Ligtermoet and Frances Stanley as members of the Business Committee
3. Appoint Amanda Badenhorst as Minute Taker.
4. Appoint Clare Ligtermoet and Rev Mark Illingworth as Screen Managers.
5. Appoint Janine McDonald as timekeeper and first aider.
6. Appoint Margaret Martin, Ian Passmore and Tom Stokes as scrutineers for the ballots with Maree Kemp (EA to General Secretary) assisting with administrative support in relation to the nominating committee.
7. Appoint Rev Mark Illingworth and Rev Ruth Vertigan as Presbytery chaplains.
8. Co-opt Rev Bev Fabb, Rev Jean Mayers, Rev Mervyn Anderson, Rev Marie Wilson, Justine Wall, Ps Kristin Grainger, Clare Ligtermoet, Margaret Johnston, Margaret Martin, Ian Passmore, Ashley McMillan, Maggie Johns, Trevor Thomas, Rev Karama Ioapo, Robert Watson, Dr Elaine Ledgerwood and Travis Windsor.
9. Appoint Rev David de Kock, Rev Steve Francis, Coral Richards and Margaret Johnston to be responsible for the confirmation of the minutes for the 2016 November Presbytery meeting.
10. Re-affirm the membership of the Presbytery to include confirmed members representing bodies that are directly responsible to the Presbytery and authorise the Standing Committee to enact the By Laws and Rules to this effect.

PROPOSALS 2 AND 3 - CANDIDATES FOR MINISTRIES COMMITTEE

Due to Justine Wall being in hospital, a statement she had prepared outlining her call and experience during formation was presented to the Presbytery.

Rev Craig Collas, Chair of the Candidates for Ministries Committee, proposed that permission be given for Rev Anne McAndrew to serve as a member of the Candidates for Ministries Committee for one more year, noting that Anne had already served on this Commission for the past 10 years.

RESOLUTION 2/2016-17

A ballot was conducted and the Presbytery agreed to the ordination of Justine Wall as Minister of the Word subject to her receiving a certificate of completion of studies and being called to a placement.

RESOLUTION 3/2016

Presbytery agreed by consensus to grant permission for Rev Anne McAndrew to serve as a member of the Candidates for Ministries Commission for one year.

PRESBYTERY REPORTS

The following reports were presented (Annexure 1)

Report 1	Candidates for the Ministries Commission
Report 2	Church Law
Report 3	Commission for Education for Discipleship and Leadership (CEDAL)
Report 4	Congregational Community Services Commission (CCSC)
Report 5	First Third Working Group (FTWG)
Report 6	Liturgy Committee
Report 7	Ministers Benefit Fund (Not Submitted)
Report 8	Multicultural Ministries Commission
Report 9	Pastoral Relations & Placements Commission
Report 11	Perth College of Divinity (PCD)
Report 11(a)	Perth College of Divinity (PCD)-Churches' Review of the PCD's role in Formation 2016
Report 12	Rural Ministry Working Group (RMWG)
Report 13	Safe Church Awareness Training
Report 13.1	Safe Church – Supplementary Report – Professional Standards - See Annexure 4 (<i>Distributed at the meeting</i>)
Report 14	Strategy & Missing Planning Commission (SMPC)
Report 15	Royal Commission Synod Task Group
Report 16	Uniting Church Mission Fellowship

There was some discussion and the following was noted:

- Report 2 Church Law - Remove Dr French from the membership

The merits of receiving the reports 'en bloc' were discussed.

RESOLUTION 4/2016-17

Presbytery received the Presbytery Reports as presented to the meeting.

RESOLUTION 5/2016-17

Presbytery approved by consensus that future Presbytery Reports are to be received and discussed separately.

NEW CHURCH STRUCTURE

The General Secretary and Rev Lorraine Stokes presented an overview of the new Church Structure. A power point presentation relating to the separation of the Synod and the Presbytery was presented and booklets were made available.

PLENARY DISCUSSION

The following was noted:

- A. At the rise of the Presbytery meeting the following will be established:
 - (1) a Presbytery Standing Committee,
 - (2) a Pastoral Relations Committee, and
 - (3) a Presbytery Property Committee.
- B. Election of new Presbytery officers - Chair, Secretary and Treasurer - will take place today.
- C. Changes to the Presbytery Rules and the Bylaws for Synod approved in September will be enacted.
- D. Membership of the Presbytery has been brought into line with the current Regulations.

There was general discussion relating to some of the Committees and Commissions within the new structure. It was noted that further changes will be required as the changes primarily separate Synod and Presbytery. The General Secretary acknowledged the work of the General Council and the Standing Committee in the preparation of the new structure.

RESOLUTION 6/2016-17

Presbytery approved by consensus to resolve in principle that the structure of Presbytery be separated out from the Synod as outlined in the Regulations. It was further agreed that the Presbytery Chair, the Secretary and the Treasurer be separate from the Synod.

After general discussion, it was suggested:

- A. papers for future Presbytery meetings are received at least a week prior to the meeting.
- B. Suggestion that Mission Planning continue with the current rules for Strategy & Mission Planning Committee to allow time for further consultation about the future direction of the Church. It was also suggested that a proposal be brought to the May 2017 Presbytery meeting.

RESOLUTION 7/2016-17

Presbytery approved by consensus that Mission Planning continue with the current rules for Strategy & Mission Planning Committee, that the nominations for the Mission Planning Sub-Committee be accepted as the nominations for Strategy and Mission Planning Committee and that a proposal be brought back to the May 2017 Presbytery meeting.

RESOLUTION 8/2016-17

Presbytery approved by consensus that the Presbytery Standing Committee undertake a view to clarify the roles, structure and purpose of the Presbytery Regions and Regional Pastors and report on this to the May 2017 Presbytery Meeting.

CHURCH LAW

Paul Olney, Chair of the Church Law Committee, presented the report of the Church Law Committee and proposed the adoption of Proposal 4 with amendments as listed.

PROPOSAL 4

It was noted that the form in which Rule 3.5 was presented contained errors.

- I. Agree to adopt the following Rules of the WA Presbytery:
 - a) 1.1 Introduction of Rules of the Presbytery
 - b) 1.2 Enactment amendment and repeal of Rules
 - c) 2.1 Membership of Presbytery
 - d) 2.2 Presbytery meetings
 - e) 2.3 Presbytery regions
 - f) 2.4 Officers of the Presbytery
 - g) 2.5 Election of Presbytery Bodies
 - h) 3.1 Presbytery Standing Committee
 - i) 3.2 Pastoral Relations Committee
 - j) 3.3 Candidates for Ministries Committee
 - k) 3.4 Property Committee
 - l) 3.5 Commission for Education for Discipleship and Leadership
 - m) 4.1 Congregational Community Services Committee
 - n) 4.2 Rural Ministry Committee
 - o) 4.3 First Third Committee
 - p) 4.4 Multicultural and Cross-Cultural Committee
 - q) 4.5 Liturgy Committee

RESOLUTION 9/2016-17

Presbytery approved by consensus to replace Rule 3.15 Commission for Education and Leadership (CEDAL) with Rule 3.5 - Commission for Education for Discipleship and Leadership and authorise Presbytery Standing Committee to make changes needed to correct typographical errors.

Paul Olney presented the other rules as listed, noting the following notes and amendments:

- Removal of the provision for the Mission Planning Sub-Committee from Rule 3.2 Pastoral Relations Committee as assumed in Resolution 7/2016-17
- Deletion of Rule 4.5 Liturgy Committee
- Noting that the Business Committee, Church Law Committee, Liturgy Committee and Nominating Committee are joint committees of both Synod and Presbytery and that the By Law relating to these are approved by the Synod.

After extensive discussion, Presbytery was not able to reach consensus on the adoption of the other rules as amended. The chairperson then asked if those who did not support the

majority position were prepared to live with the majority view and allow the Presbytery to record an agreement. This was not agreed.

Rev Ken Williams then explained the voting process. If consensus is not obtained, those disagreeing are asked to acknowledge that they have been heard. If there is no movement to agreement, a proposal needs to be put that this matter needs to be determined today. Only the chair can bring that proposal. If more than 75% of the Presbytery agree then the Presbytery goes into formal proceedings.

The Chairperson proposed that the Presbytery needed to resolve the question at this meeting and that the matter be decided by using formal procedures. This was agreed. The Chairperson ruled (in terms of Manual for Meetings Para 7.10) that the debate had become unduly extended and repetitious and that the motion be put to the vote immediately without debate.

RESOLUTION 10/2016-17

It was decided by formal majority to adopt the other rules as listed noting the amendments and that the Presbytery requests the Presbytery Standing Committee review the new rules in consultation with Presbytery Committees, as priority over the next 6 months in order to bring a report on any amendments to the May 2017 meeting of the Presbytery of WA.

Rev John McKane requested that his dissent be noted as, in his opinion, the Presbytery had not followed procedures.

The Chairperson noted that the formal procedure process had ended.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, the General Secretary presented the report and noting that a ballot was required for the Multicultural and Cross Cultural Committee and the Chair and Secretary of Presbytery. The Chair of the Multicultural and Cross Cultural Commission gave a brief verbal profile of those nominated.

RESOLUTION 11/2016-17

Presbytery agreed to receive the Nominating Committee Report as attached.

Multicultural and Cross Cultural Committee

It was noted that Rev Nalin Perera was the only nominee for Chair of the Multicultural and Cross Cultural Committee and thus no ballot was required

RESOLUTION 12/2016-17

After a ballot was conducted and the following 4 members were elected to the Multicultural and Cross Cultural Committee:

- *Rev Jae Boem (David) Park (Presbytery Elect - Multicultural)*
- *Rev Ciptomaratalu Sapangi (Presbytery Elect - Multicultural)*
- *Kalo Fotu (Presbytery Elect - Multicultural)*
- *Rev Judy Sanderson (Presbytery Elect - Non Multicultural)*

Presbytery Secretary, Chair and Treasurer

No nominations were received for the Treasurer and this will be referred to the Presbytery Standing Committee.

RESOLUTION 13/2016-17

After a ballot was conducted Presbytery appointed the following officers of Presbytery:

- Rev Lorraine Stokes (Chair)
- Rev Dr Ian Tozer (Secretary)

FIRST THIRD WORKING GROUP PRESENTATIONS

Rev Hollis Wilson, Chairperson of the First Third Working Group outlined the redevelopment of the Uniting Church Campsite since its closure back in 2011/2012 and invited everyone to attend the Uniting Church Campsite commissioning service at 12.30pm on Saturday 10 December at 140 Caves Road Busselton.

Rev Brenton Prigge, First Third Specialist (South-West) outlined how Busselton has seen progress in a truly unique context of almost eight years of uninterrupted First third Ministry.

Janine McDonald shared reasons to celebrate in an overview of her work as First Third Officer.

FIRST THIRD WORKING GROUP REVIEW

Travis Windsor, First Third Review convenor, briefly highlighted some of the results of the review gathered through focus groups and an online survey. A written summary together with recommendations had been distributed to the members.

Synod Standing Committee and Presbytery Standing Committee (as the successors of General Council) will carefully consider the content of this significant report and will report back to the 12th Annual General Meeting of the Presbytery of Western Australia to be held on Saturday 20 May 2017.

OTHER MATTERS

The Presbytery was constrained by time and did not deal with all matters on Order of Business.

CLOSE

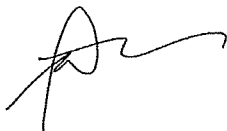
The Closing Reflections and Prayer were conducted by Rev Alan Jeffrey, the Moderator's Chaplain.

In accordance with the Manual for Meetings in the Constitution and Regulations of the Uniting Church, we confirm these Minutes to be a true record of the proceeds of the meeting of Presbytery of Western Australia held on 5 November 2016 at the Billabong Uniting Church.



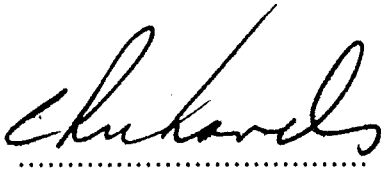
Moderator

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Rev Steve Francis

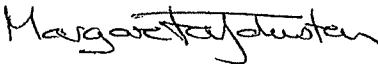


General Secretary

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Rev David de Kock



Coral Richards



Margaret Johnston

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