

# **The Uniting Church in Australia Western Australia**



**The Minutes of  
the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Presbytery of WA  
Held at Tranby College, Baldivis WA  
on  
16 June 2018**

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

On Saturday, 16 June 2018 the Presbytery of Western Australia met for the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting. There were 101 ministerial and lay members present. 48 Apologies were submitted. 9 members who had indicated that they would be attending were recorded as Absent.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Rev. Mervyn Anderson presented the Acknowledgement of Country.

## OPENING WORSHIP & DEVOTIONS

Opening Worship and Devotions were led by the Worship Team of the Rockingham Uniting Church and the Rev. Toby Keva.

## COMMUNITY BUILDING

The Chairperson (Rev. Lorraine Stokes) made some announcements and then invited the members seated around tables to spend some time building community.

## BUSINESS COMMITTEE

The Acting Secretary (Rev. John McKane) presented the report of the Business Committee and then moved: "*Presbytery receives the Report*". This was **approved by consensus**.

### Proposal 1.1

The Acting Secretary moved:

*Presbytery:*

1. *adopts the Order of Business; and*
2. *approves the following co-opted members for the 2018/2019 year:*

<u>Ministers:</u>	Bev Fabb and Marie Wilson
<u>Lay Members:</u>	Elaine Ledgerwood, Travis Windsor and Yvonne Robinson
<u>Youthful:</u>	Charles Babalola

P1.1/06-2018 was **approved by consensus**.

## STANDING COMMITTEE

The Immediate-Former Chairperson (Rev. Steve Francis) assumed the Chair.

The Rev. Lorraine Stokes presented the report of the Standing Committee and then moved: "*Presbytery receives the report*". This was **approved by consensus**.

The Chairperson resumed the Chair.

## Proposal 2.1

Mr. Travis Windsor moved:

*Presbytery appoints Rev John McKane as Acting Secretary of the Presbytery until 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018.*

P2.1/06-2018 was **Approved by consensus.**

## STRATEGY & MISSION PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Convenor (Rev. Greg Ross) presented the report of the Strategy and Mission Planning Committee and then moved: "*Presbytery receives the report*". This was **approved by consensus.**

## CHURCH LAW COMMITTEE

The Rev. John McKane presented the report of the Church Law Committee and then moved: "*Presbytery receives the report*".

This was **approved by consensus.**

Mr. McKane moved: "*Presbytery adopts Rule 3.1 (Presbytery Standing Committee)*".

This was **approved by consensus.**

Mr. McKane moved: "*Presbytery adopts Rule 3.12 (Presbytery Delegated Sub-Committees)*".

This was **approved by consensus.**

## NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

The Acting-Convenor (Rev. Ken Devereux) presented the report of the Nominations Committee and then moved: "*Presbytery receives the report*". This was **approved by consensus.**

Mr. Devereux moved: "*Presbytery notes that revised Rules for Presbytery Standing Committee (3.1) have today been adopted and will take effect for today's election.*" This was **approved by consensus.**

Mr. Devereux moved: "*Presbytery agrees to extend the close of nominations for lay people to Presbytery Standing Committee and the 2018 Synod until the end of the lunch break.*"

This was **approved by consensus.**

Mr. Devereux moved: "*Presbytery agrees to extend the close of nominations for other vacant positions listed for Presbytery until noon on Friday, 28 June 2018.*" This was **approved by consensus.**

## MORNING TEA

Presbytery broke for Morning Tea.

Presbytery reconvened.

## COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Mrs. Marie Yuncken presented the report of the Community Services Committee and then moved: *"Presbytery receives the report"*. This was **approved by consensus**.

## COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION FOR DISCIPLESHIP & LEADERSHIP

The Revs. John Squires, Anne Wright and Emma Matthews presented an overview of the work of the Committee for Education for Discipleship and Leadership.

Dr. Squires then moved: *"Presbytery receives the report"*. This was **approved by consensus**.

## CANDIDATES FOR THE MINISTRIES COMMITTEE

The Convenor (Mrs. Moira Mathie) presented the report of the Candidates for the Ministries Committee and then moved: *"Presbytery receives the report"*. This was **approved by consensus**.

## PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Convenor (Rev. Trevor Waters) presented the report of the Pastoral Relations Committee and then moved: *"Presbytery receives the report as amended"*. This was **approved by consensus**.

Presbytery **acknowledged with acclaim** the work of the Rev. Mark Illingworth as the Pastoral Relations Unit Co-ordinator until he took up the position of Deputy General Secretary of the Synod.

### Proposal 9.1

The Rev. Mark Illingworth moved:

*Presbytery agrees:*

1. that existing Congregations with less than a total of a 16 confirmed members and members-in-association normally be designated as a Faith Community (Regulation 3.9.2(a)) providing that any such congregation may request to be designated as a small congregation in terms of Regulation 3.9.3;
2. that Presbytery hold a copy of the membership records for each Faith Community (Regulation 3.9.2(b));
3. that the Presbytery in consultation with the Faith Community appoint a designated specified minister for each Faith Community to provide guidance, encouragement, development and accountability (Regulation 3.9.2(c));
4. that in accordance with the current Presbytery Rule P2.1.3 each Faith Community may appoint a participant who is a confirmed member of the Church as a member of Presbytery; and
5. that the responsible body for property used by Faith Communities shall be the Presbytery when and if the Faith Community is no longer able or willing to be responsible for the property. (Regulation 4.5.1(b)).

P9.1/06-2018 was **approved by consensus**.



## LUNCH

Presbytery broke for Lunch.

Presbytery reconvened.

## RURAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE

The Convenor (Mrs. Yuko Tonai-Moore) presented the report of the Rural Ministry Committee and then moved: "*Presbytery receives the report*". This was **approved by consensus**.

### Proposal 10.1

Mrs. Tonai-Moore moved:

*Presbytery approves:*

1. *the placement of two extra FT equivalent ministry agent positions (making a total of three FT equivalent placements) to work with rural and small communities to assist those communities in their missional life and outreach;*
2. *the funding for these positions to be made available from the start of 2019 for an initial 5-year period and*
3. *that the Rural Ministry Committee, in communication with other Presbytery bodies, put together job descriptions for the new positions.*

Presbytery could not reach consensus on this Proposal.

The Rev. Greg Ross moved:

*Presbytery:*

1. *notes the request of the Rural Ministry Committee;*
2. *agrees to put on hold the employment of any further staff positions until the state of the Presbytery's budget can be discerned and brought for adoption to the next Presbytery meeting; and*
3. *requests the Presbytery Standing Committee to give its primary attention to the development of a considered strategic mission plan and budget.*

Presbytery could not reach consensus on this motion.

Presbytery reviewed the need for a decision to be made at this meeting.

The Chairperson moved: "*Presbytery needs to resolve the question now*".  
This was **approved by consensus**.

The Rev. Greg Ross moved: "*Presbytery agrees to make this decision by Formal Majority*".  
This was **approved by consensus**.

The Rev. Greg Ross moved:

*Presbytery:*

1. *notes the request of the Rural Ministry Committee;*
2. *agrees to put on hold the employment of any further staff positions until the state of the Presbytery's budget can be discerned and brought for adoption to the next Presbytery meeting; and*
3. *requests the Presbytery Standing Committee to give its primary attention to the development of a considered strategic mission plan and budget.*

This was **seconded**.

The Rev. Bev Fabb moved as an amendment that 2. would read:

*"agrees to put on hold the employment of any further staff positions except the Presbytery Minister (Uniting Generations) until the state of the Presbytery's budget can be discerned and brought for adoption to the next Presbytery meeting".*

This was **seconded**.

The amendment was discussed.

The Rev. Bev Fabb moved: *"the amendment be withdrawn"*.

This was **seconded** and **agreed**.

There were no further amendments.

On returning to the original motion it was **carried**.

The Chairperson **ruled** that Presbytery would return to making decisions by consensus,

## **UNITING GENERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Messrs. Janine McDonald, Margaret Johnston and Luke Williams presented the report of the Uniting Generations Committee and then moved: *"Presbytery receives the report"*.

This was **approved by consensus**.

## **ELECTIONS**

Presbytery conducted an election for Standing Committee.

## **MULTICULTURAL & CROSS-CULTURAL COMMITTEE**

The Convenor (Rev. Nalin Perera) presented the report of the Multicultural and Cross-Cultural Committee and then moved: *"Presbytery receives the report"*. This was **approved by consensus**.

## PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The Convenor (Rev. Steve Larkin) presented the report of the Property Committee and then moved: *"Presbytery receives the report"*. This was **approved by consensus**.

## TABLE GROUP WORK

The Chairperson invited the Table Groups to consider *"5 Top Priorities for Presbytery for the Next Six Months"*. The Table Groups completed the work and the lists were submitted to the Acting Secretary for consolidation and consideration by Standing Committee.

## MINUTE OF APPRECIATION FOR THE REV. DR. IAN TOZER

Mr. Travis Windsor moved:

*Rev Dr Ian Tozer was the Secretary of the Presbytery of Western Australia from November 2016 until February of this year. As such, he took on the challenging task of leading the effective separation of the Presbytery and Synod and was integral to creating its own distinct identity.*

*Ian took up the position having had long experience in many different aspects of the life of the Uniting Church, both inside Western Australia and in other Synods. This gave the Presbytery a voice who had an excellent understanding of the role of the Presbytery at a time when such an understanding was critical to its development.*

*Ian brought both wisdom and knowledge to his role; he encouraged and supported the Standing Committee and could be both pastoral and legal as was required. It was with great sadness that the Standing Committee received his resignation from this role.*

*As a Presbytery, we wish Ian every blessing in his future ministry and thank him for the many hours he has given us.*

This was **approved with acclaim**.

## NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE (SUPPLEMENTARY)

The Acting-Convenor (Rev. Ken Devereux) presented the supplementary report of the Nominations Committee and then moved: *"Presbytery receives the supplementary report"*.

This was **approved by consensus**.

Furthermore Presbytery:

1. **received** the result of the ballot for elected members of Presbytery Standing Committee: Kalo Fotu, Rev Nalin Perera and Louise Powell;
2. **declared** the nominated Lay people for Synod elected;
3. **declared** that the office-bearers and committee members for other Presbytery Committees or other bodies as submitted by the Nominating Committee are elected; noting that late nominations received will be held during the extension til noon Friday 28 June then referred to Standing Committee;
4. **thanked** all those people who have served on behalf of the Presbytery during the last year;



5. **authorised** the Presbytery Standing Committee to complete any vacancies arising in regard to the 15<sup>th</sup> national Assembly or the 2018 Synod, not-with-standing the general limitations on the powers of the Presbytery Standing Committee; and
6. **noted** that the Nominations Committee will endeavour to provide the complete listing of appointments on the Presbytery Committee Membership webpage by Tuesday night 19 June; and will put forward further nominations to fill vacancies to the July 17 meeting of the Presbytery Standing Committee.

## CLOSING

The Chairperson commissioned the Convenors of the various Presbytery committees for the ensuing year and then closed the Meeting at 3.22 pm.

**WE CONFIRM THAT WE HAVE CHECKED THE MINUTES FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA HELD ON 16 JUNE 2018 AT TRANBY COLLEGE AND CONFIRM THAT IT IS A TRUE REFLECTION OF THE EVENT.**

**Acting Secretary of Presbytery**



Rev. John McKane

**Chairperson of Presbytery**



Rev. Lorraine Stokes