

PARISH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

All Souls Parish Council Meeting – May 2020

Highlights from the May meeting (11th May):

- The meeting was chaired by our vicar Jeremy Watson and was conducted via Zoom. There were 10 attendees and one apology.
- Jeremy led a discussion on how the church would operate as the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted, with the first step being gatherings allowed of up to 10 people. The key points were:
 - It was thought desirable to accommodate these gatherings as soon as possible, especially for parishioners who had been unable to connect via Zoom to services.
 - It would be difficult to accommodate the people in the church itself because for Zoom services there are obstructions in the pew areas including power cables, cameras, computers and a large screen. Also the church heating would not be on.
 - It was agreed to instead locate the gathering in the Lounge, watching a live feed of the service on a large screen, and with the heating on. Jeremy agreed to plan for this to commence at the service on Sunday the 24th of May.
- Jeremy reported on the short courses and small groups meeting at this time, the upcoming special Parish Council meeting “Planning for a Healthy Church” on the 17th of May, and the departure of Karen Peeler from the office administrator role.
- Georgina Magill, our Assistant Minister, reported on the new pastoral care arrangements put in place recently and said it was amazing how well people have responded to them.
- In the discussion on the music ministry reports it was suggested that Choir Practice could now recommence on Thursdays now that the restrictions had lifted somewhat. There was also discussion about the need to purchase some new musical and audiovisual equipment based on the recent experiences in the Zoom services.
- The Treasurer Peter Moran reported that in April income was down 20% on budget. Expenses were also down 22% on budget due to not having a Family or Youth Minister and because the Assistant Minister had not been paid for April, but overall there was a loss of around \$9,500 for the month. Staff expenses are also expected to be higher in May. Peter also answered a query about the parish’s qualification for JobKeeper payments, saying that the requirement is for a 15% reduction in income for the whole diocese, not for an individual parish.
- Leonie Dekker, Churchwarden, presented the Wardens Report. The key points were:
 - The wardens have agreed to purchase from Bruce Peeler the projector he loaned to the church following the failure of the church projector.
 - The Sparrows Bar have requested permission to move their recycling bin through the Op Shop yard to minimise disturbance to neighbours, which may require resurfacing of the yard. Jeremy will raise this with the Op Shop committee.

- Optus will be doing upgrade work on their tower equipment in a week or two, requiring the installation of scaffolding.
- Alissia Adam, Child Safety and Compliance Officer, reported that the current Youth Alpha being run online has one male and one female leader, with around 6 young people attending.
- Martyn Baker, Churchwarden, reported that his sister's church in the UK was also participating in Thy Kingdom Come and suggested that our parish could share with them in a 24-hour prayer session. Council agreed enthusiastically with this.
- Richard Childs said the next Alpha course would be starting online on the 21st of May. There are a couple of likely attendees in the pipeline and he requested prayers for other attendees to come forward.
- Daryl Williams, Churchwarden, reported that he has added Jeremy's name to the church sign.

Peter Coburn
Parish Secretary
23rd May 2020