

PARISH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

All Souls Parish Council Meeting Highlights – November 2020

Highlights from the 9 November Parish Council Meeting:

- The meeting was chaired by our vicar Jeremy Watson and was conducted via Microsoft Teams, with 9 attendees. The meeting opened with a reading of Ephesians 6:10-24 which describes the “armour of God”. Council members discussed which of the elements of the armour had the most meaning for them in their experience.
- Council discussed the financial result for the just-completed 2019-20 church year – an overall surplus of \$8,925, which was a very good result considering the COVID-19 situation.
- Jeremy then took the council members through the proposed 2020-21 budget, particularly in relation to the planned staffing structure and capital expenditure on the audiovisual system. The budget shows an expected deficit of \$14,480 for the year. Council accepted the budget.
- Jeremy’s monthly report included the following points:
 - The commencement of the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions will hopefully give us the opportunity to open our doors again soon, but some preparation will be required.
 - Jeremy and Yvonne Cresswell have had discussions about our Playgroup volunteers being more active in participation and leadership, and more intentional in their welcome, hospitality and relationships. This will be discussed with volunteers at a Morning Tea on 16 November.
 - The Parish Council nomination process is online this year.
 - An online Music Ministry Survey had been made available to parishioners, and quite a few responses have already been received.
 - 25 parishioners participated in the SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) analysis of our church and parish. The thoughts presented will be compiled and distributed to the parish.
 - The new computer for the audiovisual system is now installed and operating in the church. A camera and cabling will be installed later.
- Georgina Magill presented her Assistant Minister’s report, with the following key points:
 - Georgina has been participating with Jeremy and Leonie in a weekly study and discussion of the book ‘Growing Leaders’ by James Lawrence.
 - Georgina has also continued attending to pastoral care matters, including her weekly messages to Fairway Aged Care and connecting by phone with parishioners.
- Leonie Dekker presented her report on Children’s and Youth Ministry, with the following main points:
 - Leonie and Jeremy have been formulating a document outlining our vision for Children and Youth during 2021. This document is now ready for distribution to those people who have responded to the invitation for help.
 - There have been weekly meetings regarding the planning for the Christmas Crib Service.
 - Activity Sheets are still being emailed to families each week.
- The Treasurer Peter Moran presented the financial report for October and for the just-completed 2019-20 church year (see second dot point above). Main points:
 - In October there had been a strong monthly collections figure of around \$17,000.
 - In January 2021 the parish bookkeeping will be moved from the diocese’s Business Services Office to a private company (Bookeepers 4 U) who carry out bookkeeping services for many parishes.

- Leonie also presented the wardens report for November – key points:
 - A safety gate will be installed outside the disabled toilet. Ray Wyld is assisting with this.
 - Jeremy has started looking into what furniture he needs for his new office near the Bingham Room.
- Child Safety and Compliance: Jeremy drew Council's attention to the "Safe Ministry Check" computer app, which is a low-cost online training and clearance screening system. Jeremy will look further into this.
- Under Other Business, Council members discussed the management of parish records. Jeremy and Martyn reported that all church documents had been moved from the office PC to Microsoft One Drive, and other documents are being stored on the parish Microsoft Teams (SharePoint) site.

Peter Coburn
 Parish Council Secretary
 15 November 2020