

PARISH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

All Souls Parish Council Meeting Highlights – September and October 2020

Highlights from the 14 September Parish Council Meeting:

- The meeting was chaired by our vicar Jeremy Watson and was conducted via Zoom, with 10 attendees. The meeting opened with a reading of Ephesians 5:1-20 which was followed by a discussion of the passage's key messages, including the exhortation for us to be imitators of God, and to live purely.
- Jeremy said that the date for the Statutory Annual Meeting had been set - Sunday 29 November. He also said he had checked with the Diocese and it will be OK to run the meeting online if necessary, although the hope is to be able to run it onsite in accordance with the current COVID roadmap.
- Parish Council discussed a proposal from Jeremy for the purchase of audiovisual equipment and a new PC to allow improved live streaming of our services. The proposal had been developed by Martyn Baker (Churchwarden) and Luke Alabaster (Contemporary Music Co-ordinator) and the expected cost was about \$6,000. Parish Council approved the purchase.
- Jeremy drew Council's attention to a draft Vision and Strategic Plan timeline he has drawn up for next year. The timeline allows for completion of the Vision and Strategic Plan by about October next year.
- Amongst inwards correspondence was the regular Diocesan Business Services Bulletin, which in the August edition mentioned the resignation of Ken Spackman as CEO of the Melbourne Anglican Diocese Corporation.
- Jeremy's report for September included the following points not discussed elsewhere in the meeting:
 - Church Member Directory – this is progressing well. After checking it will be made public via Elvanto access. Then a print version will be made available, ensuring privacy is protected.
 - Small Groups – the newer small groups on Tuesday (Peter and Sue Coburn) and Thursday (Richard and Karyn Childs) will soon be running a 7-week 1 Peter bible study that will align with the upcoming preaching series.
 - Annual Leave: Jeremy will take annual leave from 21 to 27 September 2020.
- Georgina Magill presented her Assistant Minister's report, in which she mentioned that the following new categories have been set up in Elvanto: past parishioners, those in nursing homes, fringe parishioners, and community contacts (e.g. those who help with Playgroup or the Op Shop). She also mentioned that there had been good feedback on the Peacemaker sermon series.
- Leonie Dekker (Warden) presented her report on Children's and Youth Ministry, with the following main points:
 - An email was sent on 14 September asking parishioners to volunteer to be part of the children's ministry team.
 - Leonie will be doing story readings from church library books and putting them on the church website.
 - There will be a Zoom movie night for the Youth group over the school holidays, and the Youth group will continue in Term 4.
 - Jeremy will contact some of the families to see if they would like to re-form the Parents group.
- The Treasurer Peter Moran presented the financial report for August: Key points were:
 - Collections were \$10,566 for the month - a little lower than last month and under the budgeted figure for August of \$12,821.
 - Year-to-date Collections are 12.5% below budget.

- This was offset by additional year-to-date income of \$55,000 from Job Keeper, a Victorian Business Support grant of \$10,000 and a \$10,000 Diocesan Assessment Relief grant.
- Leonie also presented the report of the wardens meeting held on 5 September. The key points were:
 - The current arrangement with the Diocese for them to do our bookkeeping is not adequate, and Martyn will look into hiring a bookkeeper.
 - Jeremy wrote to the Sparrows Bar explaining the reason for All Souls' objection to their permit application to use the All Souls carpark for their refuse/recycling bins.
 - New development in Bay Road across from the church (corner of Trentham Street) - Peter C had looked into the proposed "reduction in parking" and found that it there won't be a significant impact on parking for people coming to All Souls.
- Council members also received the regular monthly Music report from Warwick Lewis, in which he reported that choir practice is continuing via Zoom, and that he has arranged for locum organists for the Christmas services while he is away on leave from 22-28 December.
- Under Other Business, Council members discussed Christmas Services, Men's Ministry (for next year) and Samaritan's Purse Online Christmas Shoeboxes. There was also discussion on the establishment of a Grounds Roster.

Highlights from the 12 October Parish Council Meeting:

- The meeting was chaired by Jeremy and conducted via Zoom, with 10 attendees. The meeting opened with a reading of Ephesians 5:21-6:9. This passage opens by exhorting us to submit to one another out of reverence to Christ.
- Parish Council discussed the draft budget that had been drawn up by Jeremy, Peter Moran (Treasurer) and Martyn Baker (Warden). It was noted that this year there had been many impacts on finances due to the change in clergy, vicarage renovations, resignations of staff, COVID-19 and the reduced Op Shop income, and income from the federal Job Keeper and state Business Support programs. Overall there had only been a small net deficit for the year.
- Jeremy led a discussion on the structure of the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis he is planning that will be undertaken leading up to development of the parish's Vision and Strategy for next year and beyond.
- The Sandringham Traders Association sent an email on 29 September advising that the association was being re-formed. After discussion it was agreed that Jeremy should enquire about nominating the church as a member.
- In Jeremy's Vicar's Report he mentioned that the youth Zoom group has begun a 4-week series called Faith in an Anxious World.
- Georgina Magill (Assistant Minister) reported that she had visited Jennifer Bede in the weeks leading up to her death, and that the funeral was much appreciated by her family. Georgina also said that BayCISS had again expressed their appreciation for the continuing All Souls support.
- Council discussed the draft budget for 2020/21. Jeremy said that one of the aims for the future would be to have more ministry staff and fewer part-time positions. He also wishes to delay advertising for the Director of Communications and Administration position until he has had further discussions with existing staff and others. Andrew commented that it was important for the parish to set its ministry strategy, which would then make it clear which positions need to be created and filled. Jeremy agreed and said we should ask the parish to pass next year's budget in good faith until that had been done.

- Leonie presented her report on Children's and Youth Ministry, with the following main points:
 - Young Souls families are continuing to receive activity packs via email and are now receiving activity sheets based on 1 Peter (linking in with the sermons).
 - 30 people were emailed last month asking if they were willing to be a volunteer in the children's ministry team. Of the 30 people contacted, 23 people responded. 12 people said they were willing to help with various roles including 6 people wanting to help with Young Souls (as a helper only).
 - A document outlining the vision and structures we want in place for families, children and youth in 2021 is currently being developed which will be distributed to those interested in volunteering or anyone who is interested.
- Council members received the regular monthly Music Report from Warwick Lewis and Contemporary Music Report from Luke Alabaster.
- The Treasurer Peter Moran presented the financial report for September, the end of the church year: The overall picture was a loss of around \$10,000, compared with a budgeted loss of \$1,200. This was largely due to the loss of income due to COVID-19, although that was offset by federal and state government income support.
- Alissia Adam (Child Safety Officer) reported on:
 - Child Safe Training she had undertaken recently, which included some recent examples of issues in the Anglican Church.
 - The new Diocesan Release Form for Group Online Communication, relating to children and youth.
 - The upcoming October/November Diocesan Child Safe Consultation, during which Jeremy will attend the Clergy Focus Group, and Alissia will attend the Child Safe Officers group.

Peter Coburn
 Parish Council Secretary
 28 October 2020