

BLACKALL RANGE UNITING CHURCH

COUNCIL MINUTES

TIME: 9.07 am

DATE: Monday August 15th 2022

VENUE: Maleny Manse

The Church Council shall give priority in its life to building up the Congregation in faith and love, sustaining members in hope, and leading the Congregation to a fuller participation in Christ's mission in the world. This priority shall be reflected in the agenda of its ordinary meetings.

ITEM	AGENDA – (CIRCULATED PRIOR TO MEETING)	Who	MINUTES– (DECISIONS/RESOLUTIONS ONLY)
1.	Attendees: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rev. Liena Hoffman <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peter Uhlmann (Chair) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Duncan Drew <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stuart Craig (<i>left 11.25am</i>) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nancy Baker <input type="checkbox"/> John Sinclair (resigned) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Daniels <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Craig Hosmer (Observer) <u>Minute Secretary:</u> Sue Callaghan		Apologies: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kay Nixon <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peter Callaghan (Secretary) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rev George Woodward
2.	Welcome	PU	Liena opened in prayer. Peter U restated that all Council members are required to have a valid Blue Card.
3.	Devotions	NB	
4.	Toolbox Catchup – a short verbal report by each person on matters relating to their area of responsibility	All	PU - has had meeting with Murray Robertson re our future directions SC - is still thinking about discipleship. Rev L - Synod - Moderator Convention. Presbytery Chair, with a lot of time on finalisation of delegations DD - been working on reporting requirements Safe Ministry with Children and Persons of Concern. JD - attendance at Palmwoods church declining NB - talking with key person on Pastoral Care
5.	Task Group Recommendations	All	Presentation was made at the recent Congregation Meeting. Each recommendation was accepted. Bob P, John D, Helen U, Karl T, Kay N, Murray R, Peter C, Rev L are continuing on Future Directions Group

	<p>Church Council's response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vision & Mission <p>Future Directions Group</p> <p>Mission Development Fund</p>	<p>What is Church Council's role in implementing these recommendations –</p> <p>Vision & Mission - some members of Council have returned the worksheet.</p> <p>Do we need a facilitated congregation workshop to discuss vision?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Would probably not get good response. (3) . Some congregations though have had some good workshops and outcomes, especially with outside facilitator. . alternate – focus on a banner or tag line. <p>Suggestion of Yvonne McRostie from Toowoomba for facilitator. Rev L to approach her or Kate Fraser, for last quarter of this year, on a Sat afternoon.</p> <p>DD felt there was a danger we could be looking in at ourselves rather than outside. We want missional emphasis.</p> <p>That we proceed with facilitated Vision workshop. Agreed</p> <p>Future Directions Group (FDG) – give them free rein until they bring back recommendations, or do we give them some guidelines, especially regarding Mission Development Fund? Should the Future Directions Group canvas congregations for ideas?</p> <p>That the Future Directions Group -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Listen to and canvas congregations for input . Have tighter Timelines – interim reports to CC at least (to go to Pres by July 2023) <p>Agreed</p> <p>Suggested that interim reports be placed in Our Common Life. PU to talk with Murray.</p> <p>On the FDG recommendation relating to Sunday Services: Minister is primarily responsible for the service – any change to service/worship must be run past the minister first. Church Council will not get involved unless there is an issue.</p>
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	- Structure		<p>Church Models paper has been circulated prior to this meeting. Admin and compliance has become a burden. Should ministry issues be dealt with at whole council or at the particular site? Is Safe Church compliance an issue? Do we need two bodies.....Compliance and Governance, and Ministry and Mission?</p> <p>Proposed that we trial a split agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry/Governance – one member from each congregation. PU and Rev L to come up with 1 page position paper to be voted on next committee meeting. <p style="text-align: right;">Agreed</p> <p>DD expressed concern that any change to structure needs to be approved by Presbytery. Rev L will test the new proposal with Presbytery.</p>
6	Revised Budget Our Common Life updates	All	<p>Revised budget was handed out.</p> <p>Target is to break even over the 18 months to June 2023.</p> <p>There is a once only income item from Synod of \$9,900 for job support during covid. Offerings have increased. We cannot accommodate any extraordinary expenses.</p> <p>Palmwoods – building is registered with Sunshine Coast Council as Heritage. We need to explore benefits and restrictions. KN has advised, to our benefit, we could partner with wedding planners.</p> <p>Rev L expressed thanks for the work put in and asked for regular updates in Our Common Life. SC to talk with Roger with regard reporting offerings on a monthly basis.</p>
7.	Sharing Our Faith workshop Next Steps?	All	<p>It has been requested that there be a follow up.</p> <p>Suggested end of Sept, though two big occasions already – Church Picnic 18th, Harvest Festival 25th.</p> <p>To be held Saturday Oct 1st if Phil Smith is available.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Agreed</p> <p>Rev L will follow up with Phil Smith.</p>

8.	National Church Life Survey Articulating our VISION Increasing our CAPACITY Other results	All	
9.	Executive Meeting Matters arising	All	<p>A printout of what occupies Rev L and KN's week was handed out.</p> <p>What support should Council be giving them and how should we be giving that support?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . maintenance for KN with Palmwoods building, . maintenance at Manse for Rev L. <p>Do we ask Band of Brothers to coordinate this? SC to talk w Roger Smith.</p>
10.	Admin Support	All	<p>Jing has now resigned. PC did exit interview and will report next meeting.</p> <p>PC has stepped in to do most of the tasks. Ron Heitman has offered to manage the Blue Card system. This was unanimously endorsed by Council.</p> <p>What to do with this position? There is money available. Hall Hire and Our Common Life are a big part. We could contract someone for Hall Hire, though this would be difficult with sudden funerals etc.</p> <p>We go to the congregation and ask for volunteer(s) for Hall Hire and Our Common Life. Agreed</p> <p>PC to give feedback on how much time is required for other functions. There was no direct support from Jing for Rev L, except Our Common Life. Powerpoints are done by others or by Rev L.. Rev L does not use the Church as it is not private and not a safe place.</p>
11.	Role of Elders	All	<p>Bob Grice paper was previously sent out. The question of Elders has been dealt with at Synod with no resolution.</p> <p>Are we going to recognise the role of Elders (in principle)? These could then make up the Ministry Council. Are they appointed by the Congregation? Do they have to be on CC or just eligible?</p>

			Preferred position? Rev L would welcome the support, direction and vision, though it would be a part of Council to avoid having too many groups. Role of elder would be an important consideration in ongoing discussions on structure.
12.	Approve Previous Minutes	All	Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
13.	Action Register – Attached	All	
14.	<p>Correspondence <u>Inward</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Sinclair’s letter of resignation • Details of the change to MDF • Letter • Church Council reports from Kay • MAF fundraising letter and pack (Maleny) • Mary Burnett Presbytery Newsletter • Ron Heitman – offer to manage Blue Cards for the BRUC seeking Council endorsement • Advice from Roger “Redress for abuse recovery”: \$851.67 • \$3,029 received from Maleny IGA Community Benefit funds <p>Hall Hire agreements –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acting Up Youth Theatre (agreement for Montville hall) • Morrie’s Seafood – use of Maleny car park for sales <p><u>Outward</u></p>	PC	<p>To be addressed at Executive</p> <p>Inwards correspondence accepted.</p>
15.	Ministers Report	LH	Quick verbal report – Synod : Moderator’s Convention 7/8 Sept. Writing script for Domestic Violence. Presbytery : preached at Nambour UC, working on delegations of powers and functions, induction new Minister Buderim 20 th Aug. BlueCare : still doing 2 Tues services a month at Erowal. RCLN : Christmas Carols in Maleny and Montville. Chaplains : new ones for primary schools in area Have invited Chris to speak with us at MUC.

			<p>Pastoral Care: quite a few care issues at the moment in Maleny.</p> <p>Kay: Palmwoods did deeper community exercise, and she has taken some leave.</p>
16.	Mission & Engagement	KN	Next meeting
17.	Discipleship	SC	<p>Connect Groups – these are very personal, so difficult to break up and add people to. Maybe have groups of similar interest? Car club, book club for example. Still a work in progress.</p> <p>If anyone interested in starting a new Connect Group, contact Rev L as she is interested in being part of one. To be advertised in Our Common Life.</p> <p>Getting people to volunteer in the community is difficult. And if someone is interested in volunteering, how do they know where they could go? Is there a way to create a volunteer register for people who want to volunteer from our congregation. Brilliant idea! To check out back of Apex book.</p>
18.	Pastoral Care	NB	Looking at names on the Pastoral Care list (Maleny) and making contact with non-attendees to ask why they are not attending. No list in Montville but they keep contact. Kay has list for Palmwoods.
19.	<p>Policy & Compliance Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Whistleblower - Child Protection - Leave Applications - Blue Card - Covid - WH&S - Registers - Hire agreements 	DD	<p>Synod's Safe Ministry with Children – new reporting laws from July 2021. DD updated the meeting.</p> <p>Person of Concern policy – recognises that forgiveness is not unconditional. DD read through the Policy.</p>
20.	Other matters raised by Church Council members in advance:	All	Report from Kay – the garden is conducted by the Palmwoods Community Assoc on church property, at no cost, but they do raise money for insurance and some water costs. This Association may come to an end as they can't find volunteers, which could then add to our costs. We need to be aware.

21.	Matters not already dealt with: Elders role Property matters Expenditure approval Administration matters Hire charge review Palmwoods – exterior painting Palmwoods – PCBA matters Palmwoods - sale of land Grant applications Technology Social media	All	
22.	General Business:	All	
23.	Communication to the congregation	PC	
24.	Next Meeting: Venue: Meeting Closed:	All	9am, Monday 17 th October, 2022 Maleny Community Centre, Bicentennial Lane 11.32am

Signed:

Date:

Actions Register

* Status is underway, ongoing or completed. When 'Completed' add date.

**Last Action at top of page

Date	Details of Action	By Whom/By When/Result	Status Date
Aug 22	To advertise in Our Common Life that if anyone wants to join a new Connect Group, to contact Rev L	Rev L	
Aug 22	To ask for volunteers from the congregations, through Our Common Life, to manage Hall Hire and Our Common Life	PC	asap
Aug 22	Advise Ron Heitman of acceptance of his offer to manage Blue Cards	PC	Completed
Aug 22	Give CC feedback on how much time is required for other Admin functions.	PC	Sept Exec.
Aug 22	To speak with Roger re possibility of Band of Brothers coordinating maintenance at Manse and Palmwoods	SC	asap
Aug 22	To speak with Phil Smith re follow up Sharing our Faith workshop on Sat 1 st Oct	Rev L	asap
Aug 22	To speak with Roger about updates on offerings each month in Our Common Life	SC	asap
Aug 22	To come up with one page position paper on trial split Council agenda – Governance/Ministry	PU & Rev L	Next meeting
Aug 22	To speak with Murray re interim Future Directions Group reports being placed in Our Common Life	PU	Before next Exec.
Aug 22	To approach Yvonne or Kate to facilitate a Vision Workshop	Rev L	asap
June 22	Summary of CC Minutes to congregation members	PC	After each meeting
June 22	Update Hall Hire rates	PC	Earliest available date
June 22	Get 2 quotes for painting of exterior of Palmwoods church	KN	deferred
June 22	What we should be doing around Policy reporting and recording, and the present status of that	DD	Ongoing
June 22	2 things to do in Mission and Engagement, and report back	KN	17 Oct meeting

June 22	Thoughts on how we get church members engaged in mission	All	Ongoing
June	Come up with a Vision statement	All	Ongoing
June 22	Thoughts on how to move forward as one united church	All	Ongoing
June 22	To consider new name for our church	All	Ongoing
Aug 21	To discuss Property Coordinator PD with Liena before taking to next meeting	PC	Ongoing
June 2021	To display summary of Whistleblower Policy at church locations	PC	Awaiting resources from Synod