

BLACKALL RANGE UNITING CHURCH

COUNCIL MINUTES

TIME: 9 am **DATE:** Monday 17th April 2023
VENUE: Maleny Community Centre Admin building

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"/> Peter Uhlmann (Chair) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stuart Craig <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kay Nixon <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nancy Baker <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Craig Hosmer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Daniels <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peter Callaghan (Secretary) <u>Minute Secretary:</u> Sue Callaghan		Apologies: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rev. Liena Hoffman <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rev. George Woodward <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Duncan Drew
2.	Welcome	PU	
3.	Devotions		PU led devotions
4.	Toolbox Catchup – a short verbal report by each person on matters relating to their area of responsibility	All	Each member gave a quick catch up on what has been happening in their particular area.
5.	Governance Structure Recommendation to congregation	All	Proposal will go to AGM that we downscale the Church Council, and upscale the Ministry Teams. The Ministry Team “Terms of Reference” has been sent out from the Executive. Each year, the terms of reference will be revisited to ensure that it is fitting to the particular congregation. Ministry Teams should now look at the terms of reference and customise it to be ready when and if the new structure is accepted at AGM. Activities are to be within the confines of Council responsibilities – Ministry Agents come under Presbytery responsibility.
5.	Future Directions Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendations Report – Murray R preparing for circulation to the Executive 	All	Final reports have been sent out to Council. Recommendation(s) from FDG were presented at the meeting.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Church Council response Congregational meeting Planning – April 30th 		<p>There are 6 proposals to be presented to combined church meeting 30th April. We now have costings for all 6 and additional information.</p> <p>How do we conduct the combined meeting? There is not enough money to fund all 6 proposals. The Executive agreed in principle to the use of the simple one page score sheet that the congregation will be asked to complete. The FDG has already scored using this, and results were presented at this meeting.</p> <p>What issues could arise on 30th April? Approval of community chaplain and family worker will cause problems as they would require too much funding.</p> <p>Proposed that feedback be sought on the day, a subsequent Council meeting be held to come up with a final proposal which will then be voted on by the congregation. Agreed</p>
6	Role of Elders Recommendation to congregation	All	The draft Position Description for role of Elders was accepted.
7.	Sharing Our Faith workshop Next Steps	All	On hold
8.	National Church Life Survey Articulating our VISION Increasing our CAPACITY Other results	All	On hold
9.	Executive Meeting Other matters arising	All	Minutes sent out previously
10.	Admin Support 1. Church Directory completed 2. The question of membership of the Church was raised – Pete C indicated that no up-to-date register or role was available and we relied on the Directory as a member, associate register. The Question was raised in relation to voting rights at an AGM. 3. A few hall hire requests this month for Montville and Maleny	PC	Question was raised as to who is a Member? Proposed that at the moment, Members and Members in Association are those listed in the Directory. Agreed

	4. A big 2 weeks around Palm Sunday and Easter – 2 funerals at Maleny		
11.	Ministry Teams Minutes of meetings	All	Palmwoods and Maleny meeting minutes previously sent out. From now, matters for direction from Council are to be listed at the bottom of MT Minutes. Agreed
12.	Approve Previous Minutes	All	Minutes of the previous meeting were approved, with the spelling correction for Xero.
13.	Action Register – Attached	All	
14.	Correspondence <u>Inward</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter from Bob Grice (to be tabled) seeking Council clarification on Child Safe Policy and Same Sex Marriage Policy for Blackall Range A lay representative needed for Synod this year. We have to provide a name and have presbytery approve the name. <u>Outward</u>	PC	Same Sex Marriage dealt with in General Business. Child Safe Policy - Executive decision is that Bob can conduct Sunday School with children, but it must be conducted in the same room as where the service is being held, and the parent will be advised that they are to toilet the child. Agreed To be advertised again in Our Common Life for a volunteer for Synod. Duncan Drew has advised of his resignation due to health issues. There was a unanimous vote of thanks from the Council for Duncan's many years of dedicated service. Inward correspondence was accepted.
15.	Ministers Report	LH	Rev Liena on leave in South Africa and Zimbabwe till 29 th April.
16.	Mission & Engagement	KN	
17.	Discipleship	SC	
18.	Pastoral Care	NB	

19.	Policy & Compliance Matters - Whistleblower - Child Protection - Leave Applications - Blue Card (new arrangements) - Covid - WH&S - Registers - Hire agreements	DD	PC advised that we need to be aware of changes to WH&S in the Psycho Social area as well as Physical area.
20.	Other matters raised by Church Council members in advance:	All	
21.	Matters not already dealt with: 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	<p>Property - Jeff Spencer has agreed to take on the role of Property Coordinator for Palmwoods and Montville. Relying on key volunteers for property skills is not sustainable. All property needs to be assessed for 'fit for purpose'. Proposal to form a group to assess the future of property in the UC ministry on the Blackall Range. Agreed</p> <p>Date Projector - Montville has had issues, such as available personnel to use the data projector. Final decision now up to the local MT.</p> <p>Technology – what is our sense of who the technology is for? At the moment it only works for 50+ age group. Proposed that we have an audit of our internet and phone capabilities and whether it is appropriate or adequate. Stuart C to conduct. Agreed</p> <p>External Church signage - time to update, as it is looking out of date. Ministry Teams could decide what type of sign they would like and update. Agreed</p>
22.	General Business: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AGM date and preparation (including annual reporting format and process) 	All	Propose 27 th August, 2023. Do we want to continue with asking for annual reports from different groups. Proposed that reports are optional and are to be distributed by email. Agreed

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Church facility use for weddings 		<p>2018 was when the issue of marriage of same sex couples was raised in the UC. Church Council has the authority to determine who will, and won't, get married in the church building, but cannot direct the Minister.</p> <p>Decisions made by our local Church Councils in 2018 -</p> <p>Maleny church building not to be used. Palmwood church building can be used. Montville church building can be used.</p> <p>Proposal to ratify these decisions, with Montville to confirm their decision. Agreed</p>
	Communication to the congregation	PC	
24.	Next Executive Meeting: Next Church Council Meeting Meeting Closed:	Exec All	Monday 15 th May 2023, 8.30am Monday 19 th June 2023, 9.00am 11.05am

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
Apr 23	To conduct audit of our internet and phone capabilities and their appropriateness	SC	
Apr 23	To form a group to assess the future of property in the UC ministry on the Blackall Range	?	
Apr 23	Letter of thanks to Duncan Drew for his many years of service to the Council	PC	
Apr 23	To advertise in Our Common Life for a lay representative for Synod	PC	asap
Apr 23	'Council directions' to be listed at bottom of Ministry Teams' minutes when sent in to the Secretary for circulation before each Council Meeting	Ministry teams	Ongoing
Oct 22	To set up Suggestion Box at each location for answers to "0% wanting to be more involved in the local church"	Maleny – PC Montville – DD Palmwoods - KN	Ongoing
Oct 22	"0% wanting to be more involved in the local church" – to follow up within the FDG	KN	Ongoing
Oct 22	To speak with Phil Smith re the next step from Sharing our Faith workshops	LH will be following up on this after FDG proposal finalised.	On hold
Aug 22	To advertise in Our Common Life that if anyone wants to join a new Connect Group, to contact Rev L	Rev L Has been run in OCL. Now to set a date and time for a new connect group and advertise in OCL.	Ongoing
Aug 22	To speak with Roger re possibility of Band of Brothers coordinating maintenance at Manse and Palmwoods	SC John Park is coordinating this. A meeting is coming up.	Ongoing
Aug 22	To approach Yvonne or Kate to facilitate a Vision Workshop	Rev L	On hold
June 22	Summary of CC Minutes to congregation members	SC Exec to approve first	After each Exec meeting
June 22	Get 2 quotes for painting of exterior of Palmwoods church	KN 1 quote \$32,000	On hold

June 22	What we should be doing around Policy reporting and recording, and the present status of that	DD	On hold
June 22	Thoughts on how we get church members engaged in mission	All	Ongoing
June	Come up with a Vision statement	All	On hold
June 22	Thoughts on how to move forward as one united church	All	On hold
June 22	To consider new name for our church	All	On hold