

Professional Standards Director

Council ratified the decision of the Diocesan Council Executive that Paula Davies be appointed as Professional Standards Director for the Diocese of The Murray. The Registrar advised that the appointment is effective from 1st December 2020.

Risk Management Committee

Ted Sandercock advised that the Risk Management Committee will be in a position to roll out information early next year, however they intend to try some of the activities within the process on the six faith based communities within the Western Fleurieu to see what reaction is received. The Bishop asked if the WHS Policy and its procedures could be added to the Risk Management Committee brief for implementing during 2021.

Governance Officer

A proposal for the creation of a Governance Officer for the Diocese prepared by Jenetta Russell was circulated to members prior to the meeting. The Bishop expressed his desire for Council to appoint Ms Russell as the interim Governance Officer, to implement the governance document and to guide the diocese through the auditing process, and to potentially guide a handover to someone locally. It was agreed that the Council would approve Jenetta Russell as interim Governance Officer and consider this further at the February meeting.

Chairman of Committees

Council was informed that the Synod's Chairman of Committees is the Chancellor, however there was a vacancy in the position of Deputy Chairman of Committees. Council moved that David Fleming be appointed as Deputy Chairman of Committees in order to fill the current vacancy.

Reports from Synod Observers

The Reports for the Adelaide Synod and Willochra Synod were circulated to Council prior to the meeting. It was noted that Adelaide held their Synod via circular motion this year, whereas Willochra held their Synod over a single day because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Property Report

There is only one transaction currently pending regarding the sale of property. Two rectory renovations and other improvement projects are progressing around the Diocese.

Safe Church Environment

Fr David Patterson advised that whilst the Registry was in communication with the diocesan trainer in order to agree some dates for face to face training sessions, no response has been forthcoming. The Covid-19 pandemic and resulting restrictions have caused many challenges this year, but it is hoped that new avenues can be explored in 2021. It is pleasing that some people have been able to utilise the online version of the Safe Ministry Training course.

It was noted at the last meeting that the safe ministry records for clergy and volunteers has been collated at the Registry, however it was further noted that records held at the Registry are only as reliable as advised.

Synod Items from Extraordinary Meeting

Due to the return of stricter restrictions following a Covid-19 outbreak, it became necessary to cancel Synod for 2020. As an Incorporated Association, it is necessary for the Diocese to meet certain regulatory requirements and as such, in order to deal with Synod business, of which notice had been given and papers distributed, the Diocesan Council met to receive and adopt the following;

- * The Report of the Synod Auditor of the Synod Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2019
- * The draft budget of Synod Expenses for the year 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021 (with Assessment on all income to be 16% until 31 December 2022)
- * The Report of Diocesan Council
- * The Report of Anglican Community Care

Registry Office Holidays

Closing Wednesday 23rd December 2020
Re-opening Monday 11th January 2021

Proposed 2021 Synod

14th & 15th May
Murray Bridge

Website

www.murray.anglican.org

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www.facebook.com/pages/The-Diocese-of-The-Murray

