



News From Diocesan Council

April 2026

Appointments - Diocesan Council made the following appointments: Jeff McHugh as a Sealholder, Rev Daniel Irvine and Mr Brian McMillan to the Diocesan Cemeteries Committee. The Administrator appointed Mrs Margaret Cale as Chair of the Diocesan Cemeteries Committee.

Administrator's Report - It is important to work with each parish and faith community according to their situation, rather than assuming the same approach will work across the board. There is a significant pastoral component to much of this work.

Work is underway on Synod preparations, including proposed workshop content.

Anglican Mutual - Neil Bull, CEO of Anglican Insurance and Risk Services (AIRS) gave a presentation for information purposes regarding Anglican Mutual, a newly created Discretionary Mutual Fund to support the Anglican community across Australia. Members were given opportunity to ask questions. Following Neil's departure from the meeting, the matter was discussed and referred to the FAI Committee to provide a recommendation to Diocesan Council in due course.

Property Report

St Francis of Assisi, Christies Beach - Seven tenders were received, and interview conducted with four shortlisted builders. Financial data provided on the cost estimates demonstrated the rebuild project is possible to fund. Diocesan Council approved that the Christies Beach redevelopment project moves forward towards contract stage.

St Augustine's Victor Harbor - Parish has undertaken hall refurbishment. Commercial lease is being negotiated for use of two rooms in the hall.

St Jude's Port Elliot - The toilet block construction is nearing completion.

St Peter's Morgan - Diocesan Council approved the sale of the church and hall property.

St George's Meadows - Diocesan Council approved the sale of the church and cemetery property.

Christ Church Strathalbyn—Diocesan Council approved the sale of the church and hall property, subject to Tyndale Christian School Strathalbyn being the purchaser and a licence being issued to enable continuing access for use by the Strathalbyn parish.

Diocesan Digital Mission Action - The working group are planning to provide a visual presentation of the proposed website available at the next Diocesan Council meeting.

Project applications above \$5,000

Mount Barker—Blakiston Cemetery: Approval for removal from the St James's Blakiston Cemetery of 11 trees which are a hazard.

Mount Gambier—Christ Church: Approval to restore the heritage lych gate, noting Heritage SA has offered a grant of \$7,500 towards this project.

Finance Audit and Investment (FAI) Committee Report - Financial reports to 28 February 2026 were tabled and reviewed. Still awaiting draft audited financial reports for 2025 from Auditors.

Diocesan Council accepted the FAI Committee recommendations that the interest rate for distribution on parish trust funds be 3.5% for the period 1 October 2025 to 31 March 2026.

ac.care update - CEO of ac.care Shane Maddocks is retiring in November 2026. CEO recruitment process is underway. ac.care will celebrate its 40th anniversary on 12-13 June. Focus will be on 40 years of impact and taking the next steps together. This will include redeveloping the Mount Gambier Community Centre, for which ac.care has obtained a long term lease. There will be a dinner and church services as part of the celebrations.

Next 2026 Diocesan Council meeting dates - 22 May, 10 July, 10-11 September, 26-27 November.

Synod—19-21 June, Christ the King, Mount Barker.

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