

Welcome

Bp Keith welcomed Councillors in what was the first face-to-face meeting of 2020 because of previous COVID-19 restrictions. He commented that there has been some hope with the lifting of certain restrictions in SA, but warned that we cannot be complacent and must continue to abide by the rules. Bp Keith is heartened to see the churches open again, albeit with some issues abounding, and is very grateful to the clergy and the laity for their exemplary behaviour during these last few months.

Guest Presentation

A leadership development strategist joined Council members via video conferencing facilities to give an interactive social styles assessment presentation. The exercise was welcomed by members and helped them to determine which of the following preferences they are most compatible with; Expressive, Analytical, Driver or Amiable.

The Infinite Game

Bp Keith stepped Councillors through his thought process on taking the Diocese forward. Simon Sinek, author of *The Infinite Game*, claims that leaders who embrace an infinite mindset aligned with infinite play will build stronger, more innovative, inspiring, resilient organisations. Sinek's earlier book *Start With Why* articulates how people are inspired by a sense of purpose (or "Why") and that this should come first in all planning. Bp Keith has been working on a "Why" statement and shared his result with Council.

Property Report

There is only one transaction currently pending regarding the sale of property. Two rectories are in the process of being renovated and two other improvement projects are also in progress around the Diocese.

Diocesan Financial Report

Council expressed its thanks to those instrumental in securing the JobKeeper Subsidy and the SA Small Business Grant from both federal and state governments as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, namely the Finance Committee members, the Diocesan Accountant and the Registrar. It was further noted that it's been a team involvement and that the cooperation of the local parish treasurers remains essential and appreciated.

2021 Rates

Council voted that the rates for Minimum Stipend, Clergy Travel, Notional Housing Allowance, Occasional Fees and the MTF and HMF Voluntary Mission Targets all remain unchanged for 2021.

Distribution Rate

Council accepted the recommendation of the FAI Committee that the interest distribution rate for the six month period 1 April to 30 September 2020, to be paid on parish/diocesan investments be 1.00%.

Safe Church Environment

Fr David Patterson advised that the Registry is in communication with the diocesan trainer in order to agree some dates for face-to-face training sessions in the remainder of 2020. These will be advertised as soon as they are finalised.

It was also noted that the Registry has been compiling data associated with the parish/pastoral district safe ministry records for both clergy and volunteers. It was noted that Registry records are fully dependent upon being informed by the local in the first instance so the importance of local management and audit of safe ministry records cannot be understated.

V interact Proposal

An integrated communication platform proposal was circulated to members prior to the meeting and an interactive discussion was led by the Bishop. V interact helps Churches to power all their digital communications from one place to manage websites, apps and social media platforms, streamlining communication whilst creating a cutting edge digital presence.

Parish of the South Coast

Following on from its last meeting, Council reaffirmed its approval of the proposal in principle of the creation of the Parish of the South Coast in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the Bishop and the centres of Mount Compass, Victor Harbor, Port Elliot and Goolwa.

2020 Synod Dates

27th & 28th November

Tyndale Christian School, Murray Bridge

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