



2023 Plentylife Annual General Meeting

Sunday 29th October 2023
Meeting held at Mernda Central College

Minutes

1. Opening Prayer
2. Apologies

Paul Tunley, Jenny Tunley, Sandy Burden, Fiona Stokes, John Metcalfe, Andrea Metcalfe, Nola Young, Alan Young, Ben Smith, Wendy Smith

Attendees:

Nick Beattie, Stan Burden, Sandy Carroll, Anne Fairweather, Glen Fairweather, Jo Flynn, Tom Flynn, Lucas Garth, Katrina Horst, Stephen Horst, Carol Jack, David Jack, Melanie Moore, Russell Moore, Matthew Stokes, John Towt, Kylie Towt, Melissa Ugalde, Hannah Whiting, Leigh Whiting, Colin Wood, Leonie Wood

3. Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting

Motion: That the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting is accepted.

Moved – Colin Wood

Seconded – John Towt

Carried motion unanimously.

4. Business arising from the previous Annual General Meeting

No formal business arising from previous meeting.

5. Receipt of the Electoral Roll of the Parish

Kirk Mackenzie (Vicar) acknowledged receipt of the Electoral Roll of the Parish.

Moved – Glen Fairweather

Seconded – Tom Flynn

Carried motion unanimously.

6. Senior Pastor's Annual Report

Kirk Mackenzie (Vicar) spoke to his 2023 Vicar's report.

- He acknowledged that this was his first report.
- He referred to the Missional Community Review Day.
- Kirk shared about the local area walking surveys and other information gathering, coverage in prayer and how this led to the development of the church vision by the vision team.

- He presented the draft version of the
 - Mission Statement – what our church does
 - Vision Statement - where we are going (forward to 2029)
 - Values – guidance for our behaviour and culture (still to come)
 - Strategy – practical steps to take to achieve the vision (still to come)

The draft was presented:

- Mission – Inviting all people to follow Jesus together.
- Vision – By 2029, with God’s help we will be a multi-ethnic church, accessible to our local community, growing with new believers, connecting across generations and known for bringing hope and help.

Main ways to review across 4 weeks:

- 1) Online survey
- 2) Approach vision team
- 3) Focus groups

Kirk appreciated his warm welcome from the church community, however also acknowledged the fact that the church community had become tired and had a difficult time during transition. An offer was made to approach church leadership and help to handle transitions between senior ministers better into the future.

He discussed the property, the re-formation of a building committee and the impact of recent land tax rule changes.

Questions related to current plans and land tax financial implications – N Beattie, T Flynn and were addressed by Kirk and Matthew Stokes.

Motion: 2023 Vicar’s Report is accepted.

Moved: Kylie Towt

Seconded: Jo Flynn

Motion is Carried unanimously.

7. Receipt of the Financial Report and Parish Accounts

Presented by Matthew Stokes

Acknowledged issue with the cost of living. We are a part of God’s church and God will sustain it.

Explained funds and transfers throughout 2023:

Building, LTN (Love Thy Neighbour), SMF (Strategic Ministry – not building), Children & Youth, General

John Towt – Question about provision of time related to the grant for Children and Youth work. Matthew indicated that the position did not need a formal start date.

Tom Flynn – Question: Is use of SMF advised? – Matthew indicated that this already would have been spent without JobKeeper. It is good to be used as a backup but will be used as required.

Russell Moore noted it is in both our spiritual and financial interests to grow as a church. Matthew indicates that we need to grow, or changes will need to be made. Matthew shared that it is important to be faithful to what God is calling us towards.

Updates of actual to budget will be provided in future weekly communications.

Colin Wood acknowledged thanks for the presentation in such a clear manner.

Motion: Parish accounts and financial reports be received:

Moved: John Towt

Seconded: Melanie Moore

Carried

Budget be received.

Moved: Matthew Stokes

Seconded: Glen Fairweather

Carried

8. Parish Council Report on other Parish matters

8.1. Parish Council Report

8.2. Warden's Report

8.3. Love Thy Neighbour Report

Motion: Accept reports as written

Moved: Sandy Carroll

Seconded: Leonie Wood

Carried

9. Report from the Senior Pastor on the Parish Statistics

Kirk mentioned that the orange highlighting was from best estimates.

Russell Moore asked whether the average attendance included Zoom attendees and if it was possible to create a breakdown. Leonie and Kirk indicated the attendance does include the numbers of people watching. A breakdown of numbers is possible with some changes to Elvanto.

Motion: That the statistics are accepted

Colin Wood

Stan Burden

Carried

10. Election of the Church Wardens and Parish Council members

No requirement for an election because the number of nominees matched the number of positions to be filled.

Kirk acknowledged the efforts of Jo Flynn and her contribution to Parish Council.

Jenny Tunley is unable to serve as part of Parish Council again in the next term as she has served for 6 years concurrently. Her contributions are honoured.

Wardens were elected unopposed:

Colin Wood

Glen Fairweather

Vicar's appointee – Katrina Horst

Other members of Parish Council:

Matthew Stokes

Sandy Burden

Leigh Whiting

Incumbency committee:

Kylie Towt

Hannah Whiting

The hope was expressed that this would not be required.

No other business was tabled

11. Close