

**The Catholic Parish of Hastings**  
*Te Parihi Katorika ki Heretaunga*

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Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at St Joseph's Hall,  
Heretaunga Street, March 24, 2019.

1. Opening Prayer:

The meeting opened at 11.15 with a call by Fr Vince 'Onesi for silent reflection on the Holy Spirit to guide the proceedings. Communal prayer: Hail Mary.

2. Welcome and Attendance:

Mike Flynn (Chair). Attendance registers circulated show present:

Jenny Cumberbeach	Alma del Rosario	Krizza del Rosario
Sr Mary Graham DOLC	Mike Martin	Rangi Donnelly
David Donnelly	Terry Grieg	Charles Ropitini
Patricia Weebly	Lyn Hill	Felicity Kelly
Patricia Johns	Moira Begley	Eileen von Dadelszen
Mark von Dadelszen	Janet van Hooijdonk	Doreen Lynn
Christine Dekker	Ken Thornton	Nicola Green
Diana Jennings	Richard Jennings	Paul Bailey
Catherine Bailey	Lorraine Stratton Sutherland	Leslie Sutherland
Krystyna Fennessy	Alan Stanley	Reg Corbett
Natalie Corbett	Susan Doohan	Dan Doohan
Bill Pepping	Lee Pepping	Faaki Tuanaki
Bernadette Avison	Connor Bolton	Hugh McKay
Deacon Tevita Faka'osi	Bev Durney	Terry Durney
Harry McCann	Joan Thompson	Elizabeth Crowley
Teresa Neilson	Patricia Hutchins	Jean-Ann Ferguson

Vipin Thomas	John S. Huggins	Corrie Hughes
Hera Ferris	Judy Brocklehurst	Patricia Prescott
Mike Flynn	Marie Russell	Fr Brian Carmine
Deb Lucy	A. Brady	J. Leogreen
M. Leogreen	L. Nicol	Ron Allen
Sue Allen		

### 3. Apologies received:

Stephanie Allen	Teresa Hutchinson	Mary Fama
Peter Fama	Patricia Bot	Paul Malloy
Diana Kennedy	Janice Huggins	Brian Kelly
Hedda Ferris	Mary Jo Close	John McCormack
Des Kavanagh	Kathy Kavanagh	Trish Sharp
Steve Bot	Heather Davis	Peter Culloty
Julie McCracken	Cathy McGrath	Lee Russell
Carol Wall	Brian Kelly	

Acceptance of apologies: Moved: Connor Bolton  
Seconded: Terry Durney  
Motion carried

### 4. School Reports

4.1 St Mary's School Report presented by Principal Liz Crowley.

The 3 key values of the school were outlined; a review of capital works on site given; significant contribution of priests, SVP and seminarian Trung acknowledged. (*Full report attached*). Report tabled.

Acceptance of report: Moved: Liz Crowley  
Seconded: Ron Allen  
Motion Carried

#### 4.2 St Joseph's School Report presented by Principal Aaron O'Neil

The report highlighted the strong family-oriented character and demonstration of catholic values of the school; the role of staff in embracing the new principal was acknowledged. (*Full report attached.*) Report tabled.

Acceptance of report:                Moved: Reg Corbett  
  Seconded: Charles Ropitini  
  Motion Carried

#### 4.3 St John's College Report presented by Director of Religious Studies Connor Bolton.

Theme for school year is Faith in Action. Excellent academic results, including 8 scholarships; strong sporting activity including planned rugby trip to Chile; Arts Institute engaged in production with Sacred Heart College; Culinary Institute strong. Students involved in community activities: People in Prisons, and W.I.T. Trust. Also focussing on obesity as a social issue. Challenges: falling role (currently 370-380) and getting boys to attend Mass outside of school. (*Full report attached.*) Report tabled.

Acceptance of report:                Moved: Vipin Thomas  
  Seconded: Charles Ropitini  
  Motion Carried

### 5. Pastoral Council Report

Council Chair Mike Flynn presented the 3<sup>rd</sup> Pastoral report for the Parish of Hastings. The leadership of Fr Vince as parish priest was acknowledged; we have a loving, caring parish, focused on the theme "Living as Christ". This theme arose from the process of determining the Vision and Mission statement and the strategic plan for the parish. The council is happy with the consultation process and outcomes of the discussions. Major events of past year outlined: Deacon Tevita's ordination; welcoming Trung into parish; farewelling Fr Nathaniel; civic awards honouring 3 parishioners; a retreat, a

pilgrimage, and the refurbishment of St Peter Chanel. The struggle is to involve more people in parish ministries. Resignations from parish council: Mary Fama, Judith Drabble, Gloria O'Reilly. (*Full report attached.*) Report tabled.

Acceptance of report:

Moved: Mike Flynn

Seconded: Mike Martin

Motion Carried

#### 6. Liturgy Report

Liz Frizzell presented the Liturgy report. "Liturgy" carried with it the notion of "public service". A combination of people nominated from each community of the parish formed the liturgy team. Currently working through the Guidelines for Liturgy prepared by Auckland working group. (*Full report attached.*) Report tabled.

Acceptance of report:

Moved: Jill Frizzell

Seconded: Bernadette Avison

Motion Carried

#### 7. Finance Report

The Finance Report was presented by Marie Russell, Finance committee member, on behalf of Brian Kelly, Finance Chair. The refurbishment of St Peter Chanel incurred more expense than anticipated. Accounts have been reviewed by Diocesan Auditor. Currently showing loss of \$93,000, but this includes depreciation of buildings. Need to be mindful of situation of too many buildings for the number of people in the parish. Future of Maria Madonna still under discussion. (*Full report attached.*) Report tabled.

Acceptance of report:

Moved: Connor Bolton

Seconded: Sue Allen

Motion Carried

#### 8. Youth Ministry Report

Faaki Tuanaki, parish Youth Minister and School Chaplin, presented the report on the extensive activities of the youth ministry in the parish. These included 30 youth-led masses, 14 confirmations, hosting Napier parish youth, fortnightly youth gatherings. Highlights were the Lifeteen Camp and the Jesus 4 Real Camp. The role of Fr Nathaniel was particularly acknowledged with regard to these. Courses attended by Faaki as part of youth ministry development were summarised. Challenges outlined: more volunteers needed to meet Health and Safety regulations adult/child ratio; transport for those youth without; need to go into schools to seek out youth; need for more cultures in youth band. Faaki expressed concern for healing amongst young people and offered a Holy Companions basket for prayer for parish youth. (*Full report attached.*) Report tabled.

Acceptance of report:           Moved: Lynn Holt  
  Seconded: Ken Thornton  
  Motion Carried

#### 9. Pastoral Assistant Report

Deb Lucy presented the Pastoral Assistant's report, beginning with acknowledgement of leadership of Fr Vince, and the contributions of Fr Brian and Fr Nathaniel. The 2018 Audit received positive feedback: Jean-Ann Fergusson was employed as Financial Administrator. Wonderful welcoming office staff. Interaction with classrooms has resulted in increased numbers of children receiving sacraments. The work of Lee Russell in RCIA acknowledged. The NZ Catholic Education Conference highlighted the need for better connection between parish and schools. Mental Health and Lifeteen workshops attended. Thanks to various parish bodies for excellent contributions to welfare of parish; 'overworked volunteers' noted and call for more people to become active. (*Full report attached.*) Report tabled.

Acceptance of report:           Moved: Susan Doohan  
  Seconded: Sue Allen  
  Motion Carried



very useful. 2) Acknowledged that communication can be improved. This can be through the parish website which needs updating, and through a parish app (phone link). 3) Ideas are valuable. We will consider more ways in which they can be aired and shared.

11.4. Diana Jennings: Vision and Mission Statement. How can one respond to an element in the Vision and Mission statement which one questions?

In response, Mike Flynn: 1) The points which constitute the V&M statement arose from the focus days. 2) there were 4 opportunities for parishioners to have input to the formation of the V&M statement. 3) The process was rigorous, and the pastoral council stands by it, but there had to be an end point. It would be impossible to satisfy everyone on every point.

11.5 Nicola Green: As the priests and the parish staff sound to be overworked, it's useful to keep in mind that there are people here who would willingly help where they can to reduce the workload.

In response, Deb Lucy: Thank you. We value ideas that come into the office. But we need people to put them into action. Note: Ecumenical Christmas Carol service.

11.6 Janet van Hooijdonk

1. A focus meeting came up with a "Mission Hub" idea, a board to show various ministries so people could have a specific contact to offer their help to. (A ministry chart).

2. Newsletter: re-word the message for volunteers to make it a more positive, more creative call.

3. My heart was set on a parish vision; to it's credit, the parish council has brought vision back. But who has put it together? Is "Living as Christ" a vision for the future, or is it the way we live now?

4. Communication: many do not know where to go when they need advice, help etc. Everything falls into place when communication is working well. We don't know who the parish council is. Could we get to know them?

In response: Mike Flynn. 1) Thanks for input. Re-iterated opportunities given for parishioners to have input into parish planning.

2) Photos of councillors have been taken for display in churches so parishioners can know whom to contact.

In response: Alma del Rosario : the Commissioning of the Pastoral Council was advertised in the newsletter.

In response: Lyn Hill (P.C.) we adopted the focus “Living as Christ” which encompasses all that we do and mean in the parish.

## 12. Other Business

Printed copies of reports from these groups were made available to meeting:

1. Society of St Vincent de Paul, Hastings Area
2. Knights of the Southern Cross, Hastings
3. Environmental and Social Justice Group

13 Closing Prayer was led by Fr Vince. The meeting closed at 13. 25.