



DIOCESE OF ROCKHAMPTON

SYNOD
2010

SYNOD REPORTS

DIOCESE OF ROCKHAMPTON
SYNOD PAPERS AND REPORTS 2009
TABLE OF CONTENTS

Bishop-in-Council	1
Aboriginal & Islander Ministry	2
Anglican Gazette	3
Archives	4
Diocesan Web Site	5
Environmental Committee	6
Hospital Chaplain	7
Correctional Centre Chaplaincy	8
Kershaw House	9
Ministry with Children & Young People -	
Children's Ministry Committee	10
GFS An Anglican Ministry	11
Missions to Seafarers	12
MU Australia	13
St Mary's Senior Citizens Village – Mt Morgan	14
St Matthew's Cottages - Rockhampton	15
Tanyalla Board of Management	16

DIOCESE OF ROCKHAMPTON

SYNOD 2010

REPORT OF BISHOP-IN-COUNCIL

Attendances at meetings of the Bishop-in-Council from April 2009 to March 2010:

The Council met on the following dates –

28 April 2009	27 October 2009
30 June 2009	08 December 2009
25 August 2009	23 February 2010

N^o of meetings – Bishop-in-Council = 6.

Ex Officio

The Right Revd GC Fryar	6	His Honour Judge GT Britton	4
The Venerable JS McKim	5	Mr J Thurecht	6
Mr GT Strickland-In Attendance	5		
The Revd SP Schwarzrock	6	The Revd Canon JE Whitehead	5
The Revd Canon CD Venables	5	The Revd MP Donaldson	4
The Revd D Potter	3	The Revd Canon KW Raff	3
The Revd P Ward	6	The Very Revd CG Whittall	4
		The Revd RJ Gooden	0
Mrs VD Gribble	5	Mrs RM Webb	5
Mr HE St Pierre	4	Mrs LJM Jensen	5
Mr J Compton	5	Miss L Jones	1
Mrs M Purcell	3	Mr J Turner	0
Mr DH Rees	5		

RESOLUTIONS OF SYNOD 2009
Requiring action by Bishop-in-Council

MOTION 11 - ENERGY AUDIT

That this Synod request that the Bishop-in-Council arrange for energy and water audits of properties owned and managed by the Diocese. Further, that the results of this audit be available for discussion at the 2010 Synod.

Still in preparation

MOTION 14 - SALE OF PROPERTY CONTINUED DISCUSSION

That the issue of sale of property become a matter of discussion at the next meeting of Bishop-in-Council

A sub-committee of Bishop-in-Council prepared a paper and Motion which was approved by Bishop-in-Council, and forms one of the Motions to be debated at Synod 2010

MOTION 12 - REGROWTH CONTROL

That this Synod request the Bishop write to the Premier of Queensland to express this Synod's concern regarding the moratorium on re-growth control and the proposed legislation, in that:

1. it is discriminatory because it is limited to primary producers excluding mine owners and property developers, and has the potential to have adverse economic consequences in rural communities
2. the refusal to pay compensation to affected property owners raises extreme social justice concerns
3. that the resolution be communicated to Queensland based media outlets.

Bishop Godfrey Fryar has written to the Premier with a copy to relevant Ministers regarding the Motion of Synod concerning the moratorium on re-growth control and the proposed legislation. Responses were received from the Premier and Ministers

MOTION 13 - CREATIVE LITURGY

That a working party be established to develop creative forms of worship based on the occasional services of Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer for local use in the parishes of the diocese and an

educational process be offered to lay ministers to implement these forms of worship, the working party to comprise :
The Dean Chris Whittall, Canon Janne Whitehead, Capt Katherine Haynes and Mrs. Trish Miller with power to co-opt.

Booklets of forms of Morning and Evening Prayer have been distributed to all parishes lacking a resident priest.

MAJOR BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL IN 2009

Appointments to Committees, etc

Appointments to boards and committees are made from time to time by Bishop-in-Council. These are reported in the Year Book.

Minimum Recommended Stipends

Bishop-in-Council has continued the now established use of a formula, based on Average Weekly Earnings data published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, for setting minimum stipend rates. The same formula is being used by the Diocese of North Queensland.

For 2010, the recommended stipend is less than the calculated formulaic increase due to the size of the proposed increase. Bishop-in-Council has committed to a catch-up in 2011, as well as considering the proposed formulaic increase for 2011.

“Employer” Contributions to Superannuation

The level of employer contributions to superannuation continues at 15%, of which 12% is contributed by parishes and 3% by the diocese. Personal contributions over and above this percentage are a voluntary choice.

Guidelines for Ministry with Children and Youth

An ongoing responsibility under the provisions of the *Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian Act* is for volunteer organisations to establish and maintain an annual written risk management plan. Bishop-in-Council considers this matter in the later half of each year and approves a plan to cover the period 1 January to 31 December.

The risk management plan for 2010 is unchanged from that approved for 2009

Policy Development

The task of developing policies to guide decisions of Bishop-in-Council is an ongoing matter.

During the year the revised Investment of Diocesan Funds policy continued to be implemented, concentrating on maximising financial return, while protecting the capital base of investments.

Amendments to Diocesan Canons

Since the passing of amendments to the Tribunal Canon and the adopting of the Episcopal Standards Canon 2007, issued by General Synod, at the 2009 Synod, there have been further amendments to canons mooted, which are the Holy Orders (Reception into Ministry) Canon 2004, Professional Standards Canon 2004 and St. Paul's Cathedral Canon 2000.

Various canons of General Synod which have been assented to, still need to be adopted by Ordinance of Diocesan Synod, being: Long Service Leave Canon 2007; Canon Concerning Holy Orders 2004; and Protection of the Environment Canon 2007. Synod has also to adopt by Ordinance the Canons Interpretation Canon (Provincial Synod)

Trust Accounts – Interest Rates

The interest rate paid by the Diocese on those funds of parishes and other diocesan organisations that are deposited in what is commonly known as the Trust Accounts was increased by Bishop-in-Council from 3.75% to 3.96% with effect from 1 January 2010. This is in line with increasing interest rates in Australia and in line with rates achievable by the Diocese on funds invested.

Parishes are encouraged to deposit trust and other funds that are surplus to immediate needs with the Diocese and take advantage of the higher interest rate that comes from aggregation. All funds are held "at call" and are available simply on request from the Parish Council (or equivalent governing body of the organisation).

Diocesan Property

"Kershaw House" Function Centre

Since February 2009 the Diocese has run the function centre itself with the capable hands of Ms Liz Taylor, and assisted by an energetic and enthusiastic team of staff. The Treasurer's Report shows that Kershaw House returned a small profit for 2009. From February 2010

the management team has been restructured with the appointment of a new Chef/Catering Manager to ease the load on the Marketing/Functions Manager, and both managers report through the Registrar. The volume of bookings is increasing, and the reputation of Kershaw House as THE functions and conference centre in Rockhampton is being enhanced.

Housden Place, Lammermoor Beach

The former Youth and Conference Centre at Lammermoor Beach which was leased to the Government since 1989 as a TAFE Campus ceased in that role at the end of June 2007.

The Parish of Keppel relocated its church and rectory from Mary Street, Yeppoon to 18 Housden Place, Lammermoor Beach, in February 2010. A new rectory has been built on the land. Negotiations with the Diocese on the quantum of the difference in the value of the respective properties were finalised in June 2009, with the funds transfer to the parish being completed in December 2009.

Land at Parkhurst

Sale of the Parkhurst land (less 2.71 hectares encompassing St John's Church and the residence) was substantially completed in June 2007. There still remains the formal subdivision of our 2.71 hectares, which is waiting on various legal processes. Regular services are still held at St John's church, and the adjacent house is currently rented to an Anglican clergy family, the Joyce's having moved to Canning Street, Allenstown, nearer to the Base Hospital.

Purchase of 170-174 Musgrave Street, North Rockhampton

This property was fully leased during 2009. Diocesan property now covers the entire eastern Musgrave Street block between Elphinstone and Burnett Streets with good street frontages. Star Studios at 160 Musgrave Street was vacated at the end of December 2009, and is being marketed for new tenants.

Parish Property and Financial Matters

Parish Proposals Requiring Bishop-in-Council Approval

The following Parish property and financial matters were considered by Bishop-in-Council during the past year:

<i>Parish/Organisation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Action</i>
Keppel	\$460,000 offered to Keppel Parish, being differential between St. James, Yeppoon, and 18 Housden Place valuations.	Approved
Woorabinda	Funding of \$5,000 towards carpeting of church, and \$2,000 for structural repairs to church.	Approved
Callide Valley	Sale of 79 Kariboe St, Biloela to Anglicare	Approved
Emerald	Loan of \$7,000 over 30 months for various capital works.	Approved
St Paul's Cathedral	Loan of \$18,000 over 30 months to replace air conditioning in Parish Hall	Approved

Asbestos

The presence of asbestos in workplaces had been subject to the provisions of Regulations under the Workplace Health and Safety Act. Audits were conducted in 2002/03 throughout the Diocese on all property irrespective of it being a "workplace" but out of concern for those using and undertaking maintenance on our buildings.

The legislation changed in April 2005 with asbestos now being covered by a Code of Practice issued by the National Health and Safety Commission. Definitions within the Code make it clear that virtually all our buildings that were built prior to 1990, including all churches, are subject to the Code.

In May 2007 Synod approved expenditure in the form of a subsidy to encourage parishes to remove all asbestos from our buildings. The need to clearly establish the situations where asbestos exists, and its condition and hence its priority for removal, together with requirements under the Code – all supported the decision made by Bishop-in-Council in late 2009 to commission Quality Building Management to carry out a further round of inspections. The Diocese has made an allocation of \$26,700 for 2010 to assist in the costs of asbestos removal. In terms

of the Code, annual inspections are required to monitor the condition of asbestos materials yet to be removed from buildings. This will remain a significant annual cost to all parishes and Diocesan entities with buildings to maintain.

Parish Contributions – Amounts Outstanding

It is pleasing to report that the only Parish with arrears of Parish Contributions, which relate to prior years, has cleared its account.

Staff

The Diocesan Office

The activities of Bishop-in-Council are assisted by a number of people who give generously of their time and talents. In particular, past Diocesan Registrars - Canon Ken Raff and Archdeacon Rob Philp - have been regular helpers at the Diocesan Office, assisting in the updating of property records and the Diocesan Archives respectively. Peter Hallinan continued to improve the records and stock of publications in the Diocesan Library, and has largely completed listing surplus materials which will be offered for sale. Another “regular” is Mr Aaron Rendell who keeps an eye on our computer systems and whose advice on technology matters is invaluable.

We acknowledge with thanks the professional services provided by:

Auditors:

Renshaw Dawson Lang; and

Solicitors:

Messrs Rees R and Sydney Jones;
South & Geldard Solicitors

To our long serving Office Staff –

Mrs Tharini Atchison – Receptionist-DBM/R’s Secretary

Miss Tara Cowen – Accountant

Mrs Dawn Wheeler – Bishop’s Secretary

Mr Ralph Atchison – Landscape Maintenance

sincere thanks are extended once again.

To those who have volunteered their services in a variety of capacities – our thanks and appreciation.

Mr Gordon Strickland
Diocesan Business Manager/Registrar