

# Annual Church Meeting

## Thursday 30 November 2023

**Chair:** Peter Fazio

**Scribe:** Sophie Brodie

**Partner count:** 88 - Quorum established at 7:48 pm

**Present in Person:** 54

**Present via Proxy:** 8

**Present on Zoom:** 26 Partners, 3 non partners

### 1. Welcome

### 2. Worship

### 3. Appointment of Meeting Officers and Meeting Admin

Introduced by Margaret Thompson (CLT Chair) who explained the process of voting and how to do proxy.

Peter Fazio appointed as Chair

Sophie Brodie appointed as scribe

Drew Coulson, Lisa Coulson and Sarah Gray were scrutineers appointed.

*All approved, none against.*

Quorum established by 7:58pm

### 4. Review Minutes of 2022 Annual Church Meeting

#### 2022 Minutes – Item to be addressed

No comments

#### Questions?

No

#### Voting Process- Accepting the Minutes

Alison Dye affirmed the record of last meeting notes were true.

Matt Gray seconded.

No comments or questions.

None against, motion approved.

### 5. 2023 Looking Back – Church Reports

**Ben shared on the church reports and summarised as:**

- Please see the attach [church reports](#)

- There are lots of things worth celebrating

- 10 baptisms

- Kids Connect and the way it creates peak experiences, but also the way it helps mobilise our kids and families in missional action

- Youth Camp and demonstrated commitment to the generations encountering Jesus
- Alpha at Chipping Norton and demonstrated in our heart for the gospel
- Mission Month and the way it demonstrates the generosity and the collective effort to partner in mission
- Arrow Rise Leadership and it way it demonstrates the commitment to leadership
- Over 50 new people join our church family and how this demonstrates the way we want to include others
- Community connect and how it demonstrates our desire to see Jesus in what He is doing in others and the power of being with and wanting to do real relationships with one another
- Stories of those stepping into closer commitment, with Jesus practices.
- It's not just about what we are doing, but who we are becoming and how it affects all of Life
- A new CEO at Life Care with new partnerships through Life Care in Chipping Norton
- Our most effective Sleeping rough ever
- 75 new volunteers and how it demonstrates people's desire to serve sacrificially and be part of this community

#### **Katharine shared on [Property Update](#):**

- Unit 2 signed a new three year lease we are happy about, our others remain on a month to month, and a new month to month tenant in our shed
- Cementing of the fire escape path on the left of the building was done this year
- Certificate of our new awning construction happening in Dec/Jan which was gained through Life Care grants
- A new girls dormitory is being constructed at Sunshine Hostel at a cost of \$90,000. We have \$50,000 held in mission funds, and the remaining amount will be repaid through future May Mission giving.

#### **Questions for Property:**

*No comments or questions*

#### **Katharine shared on [Financial Reports](#):**

- [Auditors report](#) mentioned – no comments.
- Referring to the [finance report](#)
- There was an explanation around the types of accounts we have to assist the finance and budget reports: income, expense, asset, liability, equity
- We are in strong position, we will spend more then we have gotten, but our deficit is not debt, but that we are going into the reserves that we have.

#### **Questions for Finance reports:**

*Nik – What is other liabilities?*

*GST and money in the pastors reimbursement reserves but there are more that Kath said she can share with Nik.*

#### **Voting Process- Church Reports**

Karen Power affirmed the 2022 church reports

Malcolm Campbell seconded.

None against, motion approved.

## 6. CLT Nomination

- Matt Gray, Sarah Gray, Andrei Mocanu, Lara Watson thanked Braddon Wheeler for his service at CLT as Chair since 2017
- Margaret shared about the new [CLT nominations](#) of Peter Abrahams, Karen Hewitt, Nik Karanikas and Jan Reardon.

### Voting Process- Collection of pages

All CLT nominations, new and continuing, passed with majority

## 7. 2024 Plans

### Scott shared on Looking Forward:

- Our mission is about the central commission that God has called us as the global church to do: to follow Jesus with our whole lives, together, inviting others to join us
- Our vision is a little different, in that we seek to create communities that are multiplying, which has some complexity to it but we feel deeply committed to the call of carrying that multiplication of vision.
- We are growing and learning in leadership, structures, organisation to help us to continue to launch into that multiplication. What are we multiplying? We heard what we multiplied in the stories from this year – lives changed by Jesus, and for Jesus. There is a DNA here, a culture, to keep multiplying for the sake of Jesus and for this world
- 2024 - What it means to be wholehearted discipleship in all of life. We are consumed not consumers, we are connected, we are a family.
- Discipleship is for God's glory, the abundance of our own lives and for the sake of others
- We want to keep becoming.

### A snapshot on some 2024 focuses

- Keep fostering health and sustainability in our core ministries in kids, youth and small groups
- fostering community and relationships
- encouraging people to find their place in serving and place in the body at Georges River
- keep looking out missionally
- called into prayer for intimacy and expectancy of Holy Spirit
- host opt in opportunities for people to step into a deepening discipleship
- 3-5 yr plan on what it might look like to start another site and this year we had restructured organisationally to better set ourselves for being a church of multiple sites
- Our vision is about discipleship and about multi-site and that is what we will continue to pursue
- Looking forward there are some staffing constraints (lots of staff having good leave!) and financial constraints

### CLT Member on prefacing 2024 Budget

- We have been in a sustained pattern of giving that is below of means of running at GRLC
- We are continuing to work on a deficit and CLT is saying this is okay in this season as we pull on the resources we have had in the past
- We believe the best stewardship is to keep our staff as long as possible
- This means we will not be funding again a maintenance budget
- This is a faith filled budget
- We are encouraging the church to give generously and collectively move out of deficit budget together

- CLT will continue to monitor the 2024 budget monthly

**Katharine shared on 2024 Budget**

- Referring to the [proposed 2024 budget](#)

- Kath shared personally the encouragement of the story of Joseph, and the 7 years of abundance and 7 years of famine and seeing God's provision in this place and encouragement in this

- We don't know how long we have to keep relying on our reserves, but we do have that and thankful for Jesus' provision on that

**Questions for 2024 Budget:**

*No comments or questions*

**Voting Process- Accepting the 2024 Budget**

Margaret Thompson affirmed the 2024 Budget.

Peter Abrahams seconded.

No comments or questions.

None against, motion approved.

**8. Any other business?**

No comments or questions.

**9. Prayer and Close**

***Meeting closed at 9:24pm***