

REPORT TO THE 2012 SYNOD FROM THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE PERIOD COMMENCING MAY 2011 AND ENDING JULY 2012

MEMBERSHIP

The Right Reverend David Rice
The Vicar General the Reverend Brian Hamilton
The Reverend Jo Crosse
The Reverend Alex Czerwonka
The Reverend Ron Elder
Reverend Joan Edmundson
Reverend Erice Fairbrother

Mrs Shirley Armstrong
Ms Susanna Shelton
Mr Graeme Elvin (resigned October 2011)
Mr Hugh McBain (President)
Mr Brian Watkins

MEETINGS

Meetings were held at the Titoki Centre, Whakatane (17/18 November, 2011), Napier (23 February 2012), (3 May 2012), (26 July 2012).

PRESIDENT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE

Graeme Elvin resigned from membership of the Standing Committee and subsequently in February, 2012 Hugh McBain was elected to the position.

CLERGY CAR LOANS FUND

The lending limit, for clergy purchase of vehicles, was increased to \$15,000 from the previous \$9,000.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

The Diocesan Missional Ministry subcommittee developed a policy for consideration by the Standing Committee which was amended and approved for implementation.

FLAXMERE PARISH

Funds amounting to \$350,000 are on hand from the sale of the St Clare's complex. The committee decided that these should be held for the provision of future ministry in Flaxmere.

ANGLICAN COVENANT & ORDINATION ISSUES

The committee spent a considerable amount of time and effort in dealing with the resolutions passed at the 2011 and formulating appropriate remits to be discussed at the 2012 General Synod. The detail and outcomes flowing from these resolutions will be the subject of discussion elsewhere in the Synod agenda but the committee records its deep appreciation of those who did so much research and work to make effective presentations at General Synod.

PROPERTY INSURANCE

During the year both the Committee and The Waiapu Board of Diocesan Trustees had to deal with the complex and urgent question on how to configure our property insurances. Even with the switch to a new insurance provider in April 2012 it became apparent that full replacement value insurance including earthquake cover was either not affordable and or not appropriate for all parish properties.

A mechanism has been put in place whereby parishes can apply to insure for lesser amounts of cover. Whilst the determination of an appropriate level of cover is ultimately the responsibility of the Standing Committee and the WBDT every effort will be made to ensure that realistic packages for parishes are put into place.

WAIAPU ANGLICAN SOCIAL SERVICES TRUST BOARD

In late 2012 the Board commissioned a review on governance issues to be carried out by our auditor's, Grant Thornton. Consequently it was decided to have one board to exercise governance over both the Board and its subsidiary Anglican Care (Waiapu) Ltd. A new Board comprising of 6 members was constituted to take office as from 1st June, 2012.

A change to Canon 18 is being put before Synod to confirm the linkage between the boards of WASSTB and AC (W) Ltd.

During the coming year Canon 18 will be thoroughly reviewed with the intention of presenting a rewrite to Synod in 2013.

DIOCESAN STAFFING PRINCIPLES

Whilst considering the implications of a new governance structure for social services the Committee also addressed the issue of core staff and contracted services across the spectrum of the Anglican entities working out of the Diocesan Office. To date each entity has employed its own core staff and had its own infrastructure, largely without regard to the needs of the Diocese as a whole.

The Committee has determined that all core services are to be provided by the Diocese in order to obtain the best possible usage of resources. It is currently taking up this matter with WASSTB to progress the issue as expeditiously as possible.

The Committee decided that the Minutes of Synod should primarily contain the decisions made and that individual commentaries were not desirable. Appropriate instructions will be given to the 2011 Synod Secretaries.

SINGLE BISHOP MODEL FOR WAIAPU

When this matter was considered by Synod in 2010 Synod affirmed the single bishop model and asked the Bishop and Standing Committee to develop this as a sustainable model reviewable every two years.

In agreeing that the current model was appropriate the committee noted:-

- Improvements in communications technology
- Development of new ministry models
- Extension of the role of the Vicar General

Were of assistance with the Bishop's workload but all would have to be more fully implemented to achieve long-term sustainability. It was decided to keep the model under constant review to ensure that support systems were fully developed.

CLERGY STIPENDS

An increase of 2.3% to stipends was approved from 1st May, 2012.

MEETINGS BETWEEN STANDING COMMITTEE AND HUI AMORANGI

The Committee had a fruitful meeting with representatives from Manawa O Te Wheke and Tairawhiti at Titoki. There was a cordial exchange of views on resource sharing and other issues and some deep reflections on the history of the Diocese and the subsequent creation of the Amorangi in Tikanga Maori.

All agreed that the meeting was very worthwhile and should be repeated on an annual basis.

MINUTES

Extracts from the business of the Committee are now being published on an ongoing basis in 'Current News' on the website. In accordance with the Diocesan Canons the minutes of the Committee are tabled at each Synod and are available for perusal.

Hugh McBain
President
14 August 2012