



DIOCESE OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE

DIOCESAN PASTORAL COUNCIL

BRIEF REPORT ON THE 107TH MEETING

HELD ON SATURDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER 2011

Present: **Bishop Bill Wright, Fr Barry Tunks, VG, Mr Paul Gleeson, Mrs Ruth Trappel, Mr Lawrie Hallinan, Mrs Louise Russell, Mr Kevin Thornton, Mrs Bev Hincks, Sr Patricia Healion, Mr Ian Ross-Gowan, Mrs Alyson Segrott**

Reporting back to diocesan community from the Deanery Gathering Preparation

The Chancery/DPC Annual Stewardship Plan was tabled and discussion took place around the signs of progress for the year based on the Five Foundations. Many of the identified strategies have been actioned and there was a sense of achievement for all Foundations except Leadership and Structure. The reason for this was put down to the change of Bishop.

The members of the Council had been asked to review the reports from each deanery gathering and collate the recommendations from each deanery. Bishop Bill will be presented with a report outlining the recommendations for his consideration as to how the DPC advise him to proceed as a result of this deanery consultation. Some of the emerging recommendations may require financing so Teresa Brierley was asked to consult with Finance and Administrative Services (FAS). This report will be presented to Bishop Bill and the DPC at the meeting to be held on 10th December 2011.

Matters Arising from Minutes of the Previous Meeting

A recommendation by Pat Healion that in the future the council report should be named Faith Development and Tension Woods Education Centre (TWEC) because the decision about the Faith Development Council is still to be made.

Reports to the DPC

Regional Reports were tabled from Northern, Port Stephens, and East Lakes Regions. Council Report was tabled from the Ecumenical & Interfaith Council

DPC Membership

At the last meeting of the Stewardship Committee the following recommendation was made: In order to maintain the ownership of the Stewardship Plan 2010 – 2014 *Moving Forward Together*, it was recommended that a Catholic School's representative (CSO) and a CatholicCare (CCSS) representative be included on the DPC. This would allow the Stewardship Committee to be dissolved because the DPC can now be the custodian of this Plan. The CSO and CatholicCare representatives would need to be appointed by the Bishop. These would be the Bishop's appointees in accordance with the Diocesan Pastoral Plan. Some concern was raised that we check the statutes regarding the membership of the DPC. At this stage DPC representation is coming from

the Diocesan Councils if any anomaly is noted this would need to be addressed at the next Diocesan Assembly.

Information Communication

Aurora

This communication is progressing well. Aurora recently received a number of prestigious awards at the Australian Catholic Press Association Awards night. The awards were based on both the old and new Aurora.

E-News

The Dio updates are progressing well. The update reached more than 3000 people each week.

Website

The Diocese has advertised for a Web Designer to update the Diocesan and Schools web site and implement a number of social media initiatives.

WYD

31 Pilgrim's attended WYD but it did not appear to be supported by parishes on the diocese.

Overseas speakers

Fr Nicholas King

Fr. Nicholas was a wonderful presenter, but the numbers in attendance were disappointing. It was suggested that maybe the information on Fr Nicholas King sessions was not circulated to parishes or put on the bulletin for parishioners to know when and where the sessions were being held.

Ed and April Laughlin – Stewardship

The stewardship workshops have been held. Each DPC representative was provided with a stewardship package. These have also been sent to parishes.

Other Business

The Order of Mass Cards

There have been 32,000 copies sent out to parishes.

Pink Diamond Ball

The ball will be held on Friday 7th October 2011 at West Leagues Club.

Invitation to Ministry – Being Good News in State Schools

An information kit including DVD featuring Bishop Bill has been distributed to all parishes.

Social Justice Sunday

Social Justice Statement has been reviewed and is called “Building bridges, not walls”. It is hoped that at a later date that there will be a Diocesan launch of this Statement, as it has great relevance to us because we have two prisons in our Diocese

Date of Next DPC Meeting 2011

The next meeting of the DPC is Saturday 10th December 2011 in the St Laurence Centre Training Room, 125 Broadmeadow Rd, Broadmeadow, commencing at 9.00am.

To contact the DPC phone 4979 1117 or e-mail

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