



# Minutes of Annual General Meeting

NewHope Baptist Church

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**Date of meeting** 27 May 2024

**Time of meeting** 7.30 pm

**Location of meeting** NewHope Baptist Church, in person (Events Room 6, NewHope Community Centre) and online via Vimeo

**Present** 720 members on 27 May 2024 as per Planning Centre Data base.

Required quorum 72 - actual quorum 101.

As per attendance registers

(107 attendees - 61 members in person, 4 in-person observers, 40 online members, 2 online observers)

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**Apologies**

As per apology register

(13 apologies, 2 apologies in person, 11 apologies online)

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## 1. Welcome and worship (Tim)

- Lord I give You my heart

## 2. Opening comments & Approval of minutes of AGM 2023 (Steve)

- Confirmed quorum reached
- TE video
- Welcome and housekeeping (online, in person)
- Prayer

- Approval of Minutes from 2023 AGM
  - moved , seconded, passed (no votes against)

### 3. Church Council Nominees Introduction (Brett)

- Amanda Carruthers as Church Secretary
- Craig Neilson as Finance Director
- Darryn Hockley as ordinary Councillor

### 4. Auditors 2024 recommendation (Brett)

- Resolution read

### 5. Endorsement and voting process (in-person & online) (Surette)

- Endorsement of Church Council Executive
- Endorsement of Church Council Ordinary Members
- Voting on appointment of auditors
- Voting and endorsements online this year, with paper ballots for those who need

### 6. Presentations (Monique, Steve, Allan)

- Annual Report 2023
  - Foster unity, strengthen impact, and facilitate engagement
  - Volunteering time, treasure and talent - being the hands and feet of Jesus
  - Isaiah 6:8: "Then I heard the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here I am, Send me!"
  - Jesus is looking for our "YES!"
- Strategic Planning
  - We have a strong mission, vision, values, and strategic themes ([newhope.net.au/mission](http://newhope.net.au/mission))
  - In December Council held an offsite Strategic Planning Day where we discussed: What we Love about NewHope, SWOT and "in 5 Years Time".
  - We have been considering these discussions and working on developing our key focus areas moving forward as part of a longer term strategic planning process to help with future strategy.
  - Themes we are considering are:
    - Generational ministry
    - Prayer and Spirituality
    - Succession Planning

- Mission and evangelism (hub and a home)
  - Financial sustainability
- Discernment Groups for Ordination Candidates
  - Adam Southwood
    - Alicia Demond (Chair), Katrina Lambert, Tim Worsam, Jared Pittendrigh-Smith
  - Edmund Hu
    - Lance Blythe (Chair), Tim Spencer, James Tong, John Fearn-Wannan, Chui Sing
  - Question: KL not a member. Is that an issue?
    - Answer: no, seeking external input is encouraged. Serves to have some different angles of view. It's about the individual and their discernment journey and their process
  - Question: one has 4, one has five. Is there a number?
    - Answer: between 4 and 6.
  - Discernment groups affirmed by members.
  - Call for prayer for Adam and Edmund as they learn about the pathway, as they discern, and as they step into all that God is calling them to.

## 7. Result of endorsements (Steve)

- Endorsement of Church Council Executive (Secretary & Finance Director)
  - 96 AC
  - 97 CN
- Endorsement of Ordinary Members
  - 96 DH
- Appointment of Auditors
  - 94 RDL

## 8. Voting for Church Council Members (Surette)

- Nothing further needed - all endorsed.

## 9. Finance (Craig)

- Finance Report 2023 - Audited
  - Net Surplus (excl impairment/depreciation) of \$281k, favourable to Budget by \$227K
  - Income of \$2,931K
    - Up \$117K on budget, down \$67K on 2022
    - Offering in line with Budget and 2022
    - Strong events income of \$175K

- Most other income streams in line with Budget
    - Grants Income \$50k lower than budget, which aligns with grants related expenses
  - Expenses of \$2,650K
    - Down \$110K on Budget, \$295K on 2022
    - Wages \$77K below budget, and \$51K up on 2022
    - Maintenance \$11K below Budget, and \$67K below 2022
  - Other NewHope entities audited and signed off by the Finance Committee
  - AGMs for each entity occurred last week
  - Key callouts:
    - NewHope Community Care
      - Cafe income \$132k down on budget contributed to the \$205k deficit
    - NewHope Baptist Preschool
      - Strong income from free kinder funding and high enrolments
    - NewHope Medical
      - Tax deductible donations of \$130k contributed to the strong income
- Financial Update YTD 2024
  - Net Surplus (excl impairment/depreciation) of \$16K, favourable to Budget by \$22K
  - Income of \$1,018K
    - Down \$69K on budget, up \$153K on 2022
    - Offering down \$38K on Budget, up \$85K on 2022
    - Events income down \$19K on Budget with the loss of a regular customer
    - Global Income down \$14K on Budget
    - Other income streams relatively in line with Budget
  - Expenses of \$1,002K
    - Down \$91K on Budget, up \$234K on 2022
    - Wages \$39K below budget, and \$74K up on 2022
    - Mortgage slightly lower than budget (includes capital repayments for 2024, not 2023)
    - Maintenance up \$21K on budget (air con, 3 Dale Court, other)
    - Other \$46K below budget (delayed Family Camp, Capital purchases)

## 10. Results of votes for Church Council Members (Steve)

- Nothing further needed - all endorsed.

## 11. Input time/Ministry reports as time permits (Darryn)

- *Members are invited to share any matters for prayer or praise, and any concerns or issues for consideration by the Church or leadership bodies.*

- Paula & Jenn (Prayer team)
  - More people coming up for prayer, and seeing prayer answered
  - About 35 people in the prayer team - it's growing, have regular training, and they're so dedicated.
  - Lots of salvation, lots of healing, and lots of God doing what He loves to do.
- Ross
  - Some great training which equips us to be part of what God is doing, and how He is moving in the world
  - Connect team
  - Everyone introducing themselves to people - maybe they're new, maybe they've been here for 25 years, but embrace being part of the welcome process
- Carey
  - Encouragement for Counsel - YA Camp last weekend (nearly 100 people), generational ministries, listening to them pray is humbling. And seeing people emerging - the understanding that when they have been blessed through Kids' Church, they give back. Understanding purpose and embracing identity
- Tessa
  - Kids' Hope: has been very humbling, and a new way to serve. Only one hour a week, encourage others to join. Know that God is working in that space - would appreciate prayer.
- Pete
  - Kids' Hope: have increased the mentors, looking at around 15, might be 20 by the end of the year. The church in the world - there's a lot of push back, but we have this beautiful privilege of being able to be on campus, and loving these kids, being Christ in action, even if we cannot share our faith. Mentoring, serving the kids, and the school. Snack Attack program (running in June), volunteering for excursions, etc. A range of things happening, where we have been able to serve. And each mentor needs a prayer partner - a great way to get involved. Bathe it in prayer.
- Online
  - An all night worship and prayer event coming up 21-22 June 2024
- Allan
  - Church Centre app

## 12. Any other business (Steve)

- *By leave of Chairperson, and not requiring notice of motion*
- Nothing further.

## 13. Close & Prayer (Amanda)