

CHRIST CHURCH KENILWORTH AGM
6 November, 2019
Christ Church, Richmond Road, Kenilworth

1. WELCOME

Barry Jessop, church warden, welcomed everyone and opened in prayer.

2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Present: 196; Apologies: 14; Total: 210

3. CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Rob Taylor confirmed a quorum.

4. ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

David Curry proposed acceptance of the 2018 minutes and Jeremy Clampett seconded the motion. John McPetrie pointed out that some typographical errors had been corrected in the 2018 minutes, and some topics that were raised in them would be dealt with during the course of the current meeting.

5. WORSHIP AND MEDITATION

Worship and prayerful meditation were led by worship leader Tim Smith and warden Colleen Sturrock.

6. STORIES OF GOOD NEWS

Stories of good news from 2019 were shared on video. Barry expressed thanks to Taryn Galloway.

7. MINISTER IN CHARGE REPORT AND VISION FOR 2020

Rob Taylor gave his 2019 report and vision for 2020. It was warmly received with a protracted ovation. There were no questions. Barry Jessop thanked Rob for his service, noting that he carried an enormous burden without an assistant minister.

8. 2019 FINANCIAL REPORT AND PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2020 (See Appendix 1)

Richard Day, church treasurer, delivered the financial report for the nine months to the end of September 2019, and the proposed budget for 2020, but not before thanking Geoff Everingham, Arthur Bagley and Mike Kane for their counsel. He specifically thanked the Finance team of Linda Brown and Ingrid Heuwel for their efforts. He cited current economic circumstances as the background to CCK's finances, and committed to transparency. [Click here for the full presentation](#) and [click here for the treasurer's report background and underlying information](#) which can also be found in Appendix 1.

QUESTIONS

Dennis Henwood and Malcolm Russell: Why has the amount for maintenance decreased from R537K in 2019 to R425K in 2020, especially in light of the leaking roof?

- John McPetrie: We always under budget for maintenance; it's one of the areas we effectively 'sacrifice' so that we have funds for other areas. This is typical of churches simply because it is so expensive. Ordinarily it would be a percentage of the capital value of the property but if we did that we wouldn't be able to afford much else! Yes, when the wind blows at a certain angle the church roof leaks, but Graham Chater and Rod Palmer have checked it and agree that it doesn't need anything more than we're

doing at the moment. If the roof came off and insurance didn't pay for it, we'd have a special collection. Depending on how deeply this concern is felt, we could form a property committee to deal with these issues.

- Richard Day: 16 Summerley Road is 120 years old and still has its original roof which has also been checked and needs only repairs as necessary. A new roof is very expensive and we will prioritise as best to avoid that with preventative maintenance.

Jerry van Niekerk: I'm more worried about leaking staff than a leaking roof. Please talk about the staff increase.

- Richard: The extent of staff increases (the movement of the scales) is determined by the amount agreed for Associate Rectors which is determined at parish level. Each church decides on their percentage and that goes into a parish pot where it's averaged out to determine the top band (Associate Rector) with other staff below that. This filters down into the staff package scales and to the churches. In 2019 we didn't budget for an increase but this year its 4%. The 2019 CPI rate is just above 4%.

Shaun Chater: What is social transformation budget used for?

- Duncan Hobbs: We support a number of ministries and outreach programmes. 20-30% of the budgets goes to the WOTS ministry and we make regular monthly contributions to U-turn, Learn to Earn, Bettaway and Hope Link. A portion is given to supporting ad-hoc needs not only for ministries but for congregants, too. I'm satisfied that the budget is well allocated.

Jacqui Vowles: R700K goes to the parish and R460K goes to the Warehouse. How are these amounts spent?

- John: The amount which goes to the diocese is used by them to pay diocesan costs. The parish office amount is used to pay parish office costs including those of the parish rector/team leader. The amount is determined by a formula based on a percentage of revenue across the parish. The R460K is used to pay the Warehouse's salaries and running costs; every church in the parish contributes.
- Barrie Jack: The Warehouse also raises significant funds outside the parish - one organisation contributed R1.6M this year. These donors earmark their funds, such as for the Justice Conference, social research and the upliftment of about 400 churches.

Claire Hulme: The amount for bank charges under general admin seems high. Also, is anything being invested?

- Richard: We've increased bank charge from R33K to R36K for 2010. Banking is expensive. And no, we don't have funds to invest. Some donations, like the organ repair, are specified and don't come through the income statement, they stay on the balance sheet until they've been used.

There being no further questions the budget was accepted by a show of hands but subsequently regarded as proposed by the congregation at large, seconded by Jim Harris, and accepted. Barry Jessop thanked Richard Day and the team for their work.

9. THANKING OUTGOING WARDEN

Rob said that in all his time in ministry he had never encountered a church as diligent and God-seeking as CCK. He mentioned that pastorate meets every fortnight and led the church on a voluntary basis. In paying tribute to outgoing warden Jeremy Clampett, he said Jeremy had been a consistent leader for six years during a very busy and demanding time for CCK. He also paid

tribute to the largely unseen support of Jen Clampett. The Clampetts were given a wholehearted standing ovation.

Rob also thanked Barrie Jack, outgoing trustee of CCK's relationship with the Warehouse.

10. ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSED CHURCH WARDEN

and

11. ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSED PASTORATE MEMBERS

Rob invited Dave Curry, Nikki Pinder, Ruan de Wet and Barry Jessop to leave the building. He then asked the church to accept the proposal of Dave Curry as new church warden, Nikki Pinder and Ruan de Wet as new members of pastorate, and Barry Jessop for his second three-year term as parish warden. All four were enthusiastically accepted in these positions

12. CHRIST CHURCH'S RESPONSE TO THE ACSA SYNOD STATEMENT ON ISRAEL

Rob discussed the letter of dissent that he, wardens and pastorate had sent in response to the Provincial Synod Resolution on Sanctions against Israel. He said he would create a forum where we could inform ourselves more fully and hold a worthwhile debate about CCK's position.

13. STATEMENT ON THE FUTURE OF 16 SUMMERLEY ROAD AND VOTE

Barry Jessop read the statement on the future of 16 Summerley Road (See Appendix 2)

BACKGROUND: Through many hours of prayerful assessment and discernment, pastorate considered the proposals of the working group (comprising Geoff Everingham, Sheila Clow, Dave Curry, Laura Richter, Barrie Jack and Gareth Mellon).

Pastorate's decision was to support the proposal for participation with the U-turn project for the following reasons:

- Proven systems and infrastructure
- Clear plans for use of the building
- Financially stable and sustainable
- Expertise in helping people move from life on the streets to gainful employment
- Christian values and conviction
- Potential offered for engagement with CCK
- Mission opportunities
- Provides the possibilities for intentional Christian living

Pastorate heartily resonated with a vision that combines worship, ministry, community, discipleship and mission into society, which both this proposal and the other CCK-based/intentional community proposal offered. The wish was expressed that as many components of the second option as possible should be developed across the remainder of our campus and for this to be pursued as a separate programme.

VOTE: By a show of hands, those present overwhelmingly agreed with the proposal, with 16 people voting against it and 5 abstentions. The proposal was carried. A management team will be put in place to interact with U-turn and plans will be made to re-house and take care of current residents of 16 Summerley Road.

14. CLOSURE OF MEETING

Rob paid tribute to the team that had put together the proposal for the CCK-based intentional community and said it would be pursued through the development of projects making use of other buildings and land on the CCK campus. He invited anyone who was disappointed at the

decision to hand their feeling to the Lord and feel His peace. Describing this moment as a watershed for CCK, he said it offered a massive adventure as we courageously walk with God in uncharted territory.

Dave Curry closed the meeting in prayer.

APPENDIX 1

TREASURER'S REPORT ACCOMPANYING 2019 FINANCIAL REPORT AND PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2020 By Richard Day

At the start of the year the cumulative surplus brought forward from 2018 was R235,217. This was R302,809 down from the R538,026 brought forward at the start of 2017. In July 2019 the cumulative surplus turned into a cumulative loss, on the back of net loss months in February, March, May, June and August. As a result of renewed calls for pledging, we were blessed with a R92,808 (R235,217 – R142,409) surplus at the end of the nine months to September.

1. Pledges include all monies received through regular, largely electronic giving, whether monthly, quarterly, bi-annually etc. Pledging accounts for around 92 – 95% of total income received in any period. Pledging commitments stem from 'Pledge Sunday', and are essential in helping to set the following years income budget. Whilst faithful pledging is consistently evident in 2019, the number and value of pledges has declined marginally from 2017 to 2018. The 2019 full year pledging forecast, which is largely an extrapolation of the year to date trend, taking into account seasonal fluctuations, sees pledging revenue settle at just over R8.5m for the year. If this number can be achieved, this will be a 1% positive variance to the original 2019 pledging budget of R8.43m, and a wonderful achievement for the Church.

2. Collections include all monies given in the Sunday services or otherwise received outside of electronic gifting. Being predominantly cash, appropriate financial controls exist to ensure it is accurately recorded and banked. The trend over the last few years has seen collections reduce from R315,701 in 2017 to R280,813 in 2018, and we are forecasting to finish the year with R256,000 of collected cash. This trend is unfortunately, likely to continue, as tough economic conditions prevail, the convenience of plastic cards grows, and the fact that some of this giving is spontaneous and indeed, unplanned.

3. Property income is derived from the hire of church premises for events and occasions. There have been noticeably fewer bookings in 2019, with June being the best income generating month at just under R8,000. Hall hire proceeds in 2017 were R89,205 and in 2018 they were R56,648. Forecast revenue from this activity for 2019 is expected to be around R45,000.

4. Unspecified donations are one-off amounts received during a period, that are not necessarily earmarked for any particular ministry or expense, leaving it up to the discretion of the church staff to allocate the donation as they see fit. Many years of consistent significant faithful donations has seen Christ Church Kenilworth including these donations in its budgeting process, as they can make up a sizeable portion of total income. The trend in unspecified donations has seen these amounts dramatically decrease from the R1.1m received in 2017, to the R1m received in 2018, down almost R1m to the R52,932 received thus far this year. On the back of this substantial decrease in unspecified donations we are forecasting to end the year on R243,000. This dramatic decrease remains an area of concern and will potentially have a significant impact on both our closing surplus or loss in 2019, and our budgeting process in 2020.

5. Call account interest is closely correlated with the surplus carried forward in any particular year, as this surplus is placed on deposit with the bank to earn a return. As our surplus has been reducing, so has our call account interest, and we hope to end the year with around R35,000 of interest earned.

6. Staff expenses are made up of: Staff salaries; Staff Development and the St. John's Leadership academy. Staff salaries account for most of this expense line. Public Benefit Organisations (PBO's) in particular churches, CCK included, typically try to limit their salaries spend to around 45% - 55% of their total income as a prudent measure of expenditure. That's not to say that all do, and some pay no heed to this benchmark. Salaries remain marginally above budget for the year and can be explained by staff movements and changes. They are forecast to be R4.6m by the end of the year which is marginally below the original 2019 budget of R4.7m.

7. Congregational expenses are made up of: Ambies; Worship Resources; Publications; Courses & Retreats; House Church Ministries; Children's Church; Resource Centre and Young Adults. Around 50% of the total R121,568 spend to-date is based on Worship Resources, which is in turn made up of: Church Catering; Flowers; Sound Equipment repairs; Communion; Copyright Licenses and visiting preachers. Expenditure on all of the above is closely monitored and controlled, particularly in light of our reduced surplus, to the extent that we are now forecasting to finish the year on around R135,000, which will be a staggering R120,000 below the 2019 budget of R250,000.

8. Administration is made up of: General Admin; Computer expenses; Office Expenses; Printing & Stationery; Security and Telephone. Of the R355,781 spend to date, R91,212 was spent on I.T.; R67,872 was spent on Printing and Stationery, R37,027 on Telephones and R109,548 was spent on Security, of which R81,000 was spent on car guards.

9. Whilst Almost R8,000 below the year to date budget of R405,000, property expenditure is on track and forecast to finish the year below the original budget of R542,800. As the future of 16 Summerly Road is decided, the extent to which costs are included in the 2020 budget has yet to be determined.

10. The Diocesan contribution is formulaic and expenditure to date is as per budget and expectation.

11. Mission support spend is marginally above budget for the year, and is expected to end R12,500 above the R752,000 budget.

12. The R160,000 appropriation was cash ear marked for the staff move earlier this year, from 16 Summerly road to the Annex.

We have now commenced the 2020 budget process and are well under way to finalisation thereof. This budget will be a draft budget until the future use of Summerly Road has been agreed. The summary 2020 budget and associated graphs will be put on the Church Web site during the course of the following week.

APPENDIX 2

PASTORATE PROPOSAL FOR THE FUTURE USE OF CHRIST CHURCH CENTRE

As we are all aware, there has been an enormous amount of prayer, hard work and careful thought put into the future use of Christ Church Centre. It comes as the outworking of a longer process of shared deliberation and imagination stretching back through our meetings in November 2017. Earlier this year we invited people to submit succinct ideas and more detailed proposals and over the past six months or so the Working Group under the chairmanship of Geoff Everingham has helped proposers to shape and polish their suggestions according to a common template. We owe Geoff and his team our sincere thanks.

At the end of that process they had two very good proposals. Because there were considerable merits to each of these proposals, they presented Pastorate with both, while, at the same time indicating their preference. Pastorate has, in turn, felt it is important for the wider church to be informed about the two proposals, hence our information meeting two weeks ago. It has been really hard making the choice, but the intention always was that Pastorate would give thorough consideration to all suggestions and bring to this Church Meeting the one they felt would be the best option for CCK.

The task of Pastorate as the leadership team of Christ Church is to ensure responsible stewardship of our money and buildings on the one hand, and, on the other hand, to pay heed to the Lord's vision for CCK and to call this church into a bold commitment to grasp the potentials of that future. We are assured that we have kept faith with both these tasks and come to a true consensus of what we believe is an exciting way forward.

Firstly, the clear majority of the Pastorate stands in favour of keeping the building, rather than selling it, with a commitment to using it in such a way that it gives powerful expression to the presence of the Kingdom of God in our suburb.

The two proposals both accord with the vision and values that we articulated through the four weeks of November 2017 and our desire is to hold the best of both as far as possible.

We are really excited by the prospect of an active partnership with U-Turn with its proven systems and infrastructure, its plans for the use of the building and its expertise in helping people move from life on the streets to restoration through gainful and productive employment. We resonate with the stated Christian convictions of U-Turn and we can see great possibilities in developing this partnership. We are against any notion of simple outsourcing of this task to U-Turn and acting merely as landlords. The value we see in this proposal lies in intentionally finding ways for members of our congregation to be engaged with the lives of those in the U-Turn programme. With that proviso, we recommend the housing of the U-Turn project at 16 Summerley Road.

At the same time, we are fully committed to exploring the establishment of community living, with an intentional redemptive theme gathering together a mixed group of people from various sectors of our congregation and with a close connection to both the WOTS ministry and our refugee community. We also resonate with a vision that combines worship, ministry, community, discipleship and mission into society. We believe we can still pursue this vision through the development of projects making use of other buildings and land on our campus. The proposal built around this focus excited us, but we feel that there is still work to be done in this regard and are committed to undertaking it. Just as building close links with U-Turn will involve purposeful action on our part, so will the pursuit of this model of redemptive community.

We believe this combination of initiatives best accords with the picture that emerged from our prior visioning process and opens really exciting and stretching horizons for Christ Church as we step into the future with the Lord. We commit ourselves to keeping the CCK congregation informed on plans we make to pursue this vision on all fronts so that it continues to be a shared pursuit.