

Proposal to change the status of the provisional parish of Pitt Town to a parish

(A report of the Western Sydney Regional Council.)

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to propose that the Provisional Parish of Pitt Town be classified as the Parish of Pitt Town.

Recommendation

2. The Western Sydney Regional Council recommends that the Provisional Parish of Pitt Town become a Parish from 1 January 2020.

Details of Meeting

3. A meeting of the Western Sydney Regional Council held on 30 May 2019 considered the proposal under clause 5 of the *Parishes Ordinance 1979*.
4. The Western Sydney Regional Council certifies that all procedural requirements under clauses 4 and 6 of the *Parishes Ordinance* have been complied with, and recommends that Synod raise the status of the provisional parish to parish.

Parish Information

5. The Pitt Town Parish was formed in the 1820s and the iconic St James stone church was built in 1857. The Provisional Parish of Pitt Town covers a large area stretching from the outskirts of Windsor in the south to Wisemans Ferry in the north. The western boundary is the majestic Hawkesbury River and to the east its boundary follows natural creek lines and surveyed points through rural farmland and forests. The Parish remains largely rural in nature, however in recent years has experienced rapid urban growth, particularly in its southern regions. The historic township of Pitt Town originally established by Governor Macquarie remains the dominant urban centre, however the parish includes more than fifteen suburbs with many new suburbs being added as residential estates expand. The Parish includes lands straddling three local government areas.
6. At Easter 2000 a small Church plant of 15 adults & 15 Children commenced in Arndell Anglican College with church planter the Rev. Greg Peisley, and grew to 67 people by the end of the year, and to 159 people by 2008.
7. In early 2008 the regional bishop commenced discussions with the Pitt Town parish, the rector the Rev. John Gaunt, and the Arndell church plant to work together for more effective mission in the area. In late 2008 Pitt Town and Arndell churches amalgamated, and the Rev. Greg Peisley was appointed Rector. At Easter 2012 they came together on the St James site to become the central focus of a growing community. The amalgamation was named the Pitt Town Anglican Community Church (**PACC**), and the goal was to reach as many of the people living in our region as possible with the good news of Jesus and to build Christ's Church by prayerfully proclaiming the word of God with love, passion and praise.

Attendance and Activities

8. Currently in 2019 the church is averaging 206 adults and 112 children.
9. Ministries include: Pre School, Playgroup, Children, Youth, Men, Young Adults, Women, Prime Timers, Families, Café Ministry, Welfare Ministry (Healthy Families Health Communities), Global Missions, 22 Growth Groups, PTC, Pitt Town Community News Magazine Ministry, Evangelism and One to One Discipling, Pastoral Care and Visitation, Prayer Ministry, SRE, Gideons, Hospitality, Marriage and Parenting, Support Groups (Divorce, Dementia, Addiction, Depression, etc).

10. In 2019 the Provisional Parish of Pitt Town employs the following staff –

Senior Minister	Part Time Ministry Café Coordinator
Youth Minister	Part Time Administrator
Associate Lay Minister	Part Time Treasurer
Student Minister	
Children’s Minister	

Summary of receipts and payments

11. A summary of the financial position over the past three years.

Income	2018	2017	2016
Congregation Offerories	465,401	502,454	484,354
Grants	36,720	13,910	17,740
Rental Income	55,666	52,595	23,450
Finance Income(interest)	21	720	1,091
Income From Ministry Activities	97,039	50,155	65,677
Fundraising	5,613	5,853	1,734
Total Income	660,460	625,687	594,046

Expenses	2018	2017	2016
Ministry Staffing	316,940	29,9136	307,422
PCR	54,029	48,665	60,218
Resources for ministry	35,899	10,936	24,121
Parish Donations	15,978	19,300	16,550
Parish Admin	85,257	86,505	53,970
Rental Property expenses	21,239	9,236	4,519
Ministry Property expenses	42,167	29,659	16,053
Ministry Activity expenses	77,000	71,051	37,900
Total Expenses	648,509	574,488	520,753

Particulars of Church Property Held in Trust:

12. The following properties and facilities are held by the church.

- Lot 1 No 112 Bathurst Street Pitt Town - St James Church and Rectory
- Lot 2 No 110 Bathurst Street Pitt Town - Church Hall
- Lot 1 No 108 Bathurst Street Pitt Town - Residential Cottage
- Lot B No 7 Grenville Street Pitt Town - Residential Cottage
- 3025 River Road Wisemans Ferry - St Mary Magdalene Church and Cottage
- 60 Old Pitt Town Road – Cemetery

13. As at 31st December 2018 the total value of land, buildings and contents was \$9,651,092.00.

14. The Pitt Town Anglican Community Church (**PACC**) has an outstanding loan as at 30/4/2019 of \$52,784 repayable in monthly instalments of \$1,350.00 to Sydney Anglican Loans. The repayments are fully serviced by congregational offertories.

For and on behalf of the Western Sydney Regional Council.

IVAN LEE
Bishop of Western Sydney

30 May 2019