

Proposal to reclassify the provisional parish of Minto as a parish

(A report from the Wollongong Regional Council.)

Initiation of proposal

1. A proposal was made to the Archbishop by the Minister and Churchwardens of the provisional parish of Minto under clause 4(1)(b) of the Parishes Ordinance 1979.

Details of Meeting

2. A meeting of the Wollongong Regional Council ("WRC") was held on 8 June 2004 to consider among other things the proposal under clause 5 of the Ordinance.

3. The WRC certifies that all procedural requirements under clauses 4 and 6 of the Ordinance have been complied with.

Proposal

4. The proposal is to change the provisional parish to a parish.

Parish Information

5. Minto provisional parish was created in 1978 having previously been part of the parish of Campbelltown. The Ministers since 1978 have been the Rev Peter Clifford (1978-1982), Rev Eric Bird (1982- 1989), Rev Graham McKay (1990-1998), Rev Robert Happer (2000-current). Minto itself is located in Campbelltown City Council area and services an area of both public and private housing. It is in the main a significantly disadvantaged area with many social problems.

6. The population of the area is relatively static although some redevelopment/rejuvenation programs are currently being undertaken by the Dept of Housing. Some surrounding areas are showing growth.

7. The total population within the parish stands at approximately 11,787. Around 24.2% (NCL) of the people within the parish continue to show some allegiance to the Anglican Church.

8. The area serviced by the parish is becoming quite diverse. Those of a NESB background are growing and there have been significant numbers of refugees settled in the area in recent times. The diversity of the parishioners includes a mix of people from South Africa, India, South Korea, Finland, East Germany, South America, Fiji, New Zealand, Bangladesh, United Kingdom, Indigenous and second, third & fourth generation Australians.

9. The provisional parish employs a Curate in Charge, the Rev Robert Happer and a part time Youth Worker Mr James Grady. There is also a parish run Op Shop employing a part time Manager. Many lay folk actively lead ministries in the parish.

10. There are 5 Primary Schools in the parish and 2 High Schools. SRE is taught in all the Primary Schools.

11. The provisional parish currently has 182 regular attendees. Average attendances are as follows:

9.30 am	85 adults	40 children
11.15 am	54 adults	28 children (Chinese speaking congregation)
7.00 pm	43	

Particulars of church property

12. Details of property held by the Property Trust for the provisional parish are as follows:

St James's Minto	Value of Land & Improvements 31.12.03.	Condition of Building
Church Complex	927,000	Good
Hall (Old Church)	549,000	Fair/Good
Hall (New)	143,000	Excellent
Toilet Block	39,000	Fair
Rectory	250,000	Good
Garage	21,000	Good
TOTAL	3405,000	

Summary of consolidated receipts and payments

13. A summary of the financial position over the last 3 years and the budget for 2004 is set out below:

	2001	2002	2003	Budget 2004
Receipts	\$	\$		\$
Offeratories	65,770	68,124	73,608	86,537
Missions	7,294	7,728	6,563	7,500
Interest	93			
Donations	810	924		
Grants	7,000	17,110	21,000	19,000
Other	20,395	70,588	68,906	21,500
Totals	101,362	164,474	170,077	134,537

	2001	2002	2003	Budget 2004
Expenditure	\$	\$		\$
Stipends, Salaries	56,622	55,092	57,256	60,310
Cost Recovery	4,826	11,561	11,178	18,157
Ministry Expenses		9,660	9,393	9,197
Printing/Stationery	5,963	1,873	2,059	3,500
Repairs & Maintenance	1,311	4,140	3,007	3,500
Insurance	219	314	395	400
Electricity, Gas etc	6,130	6,259	6,083	6,300
Missions	7,294	7,728	6,563	7,500
Chinese Assistant			49,552	600
Other	21,373	65,861	18,105	22,064
Outreach		1,268	603	1500
Totals	103,738	163,756	164,194	133,028

14. A summary of the assets and liabilities of the provisional parish as at 31 December 2003 follows:

Assets	
Land & Buildings	3,405,000
Contents	
Investments	34,000
Total	3,439,000
Liabilities	
Current loan with Finance & Loans Board	63,496
Total	63,496
Net Assets	3,375,504

15. The Bishop of Wollongong and his Assistant strongly support the application.

Recommendation

16. The Wollongong Regional Council recommends that the provisional parish of Minto be reclassified as a parish with effect from 1 January 2005.

For and on behalf of the Wollongong Regional Council.

GEOFF KYNGDON

Assistant to the Bishop of Wollongong

30 August 2004