Whyalla Baptist Church

Building Bridges of Hope

Whyalla Baptist Church
157 Nicolson Avenue
Whyalla Norrie SA 5608

Partner's Meeting Minutes

Sunday, June 14, 2026

1.0 Gathering Together

1.1 Welcome and Attendance

Attendance:

Riley & Leah Aspey, Joanne Borda, Kevin Boyle, Melinda Coad, Jennigje Collins, Margaret Halyburton, Glenda Hodgkinson, Aurora Introna, Richard & Karol Jansen, Matt Middleton, Brett & Cynthia Spangenberg, Phil Sweeney, Steve & Jan Young.

Apologies:

Peter Borda, Elizabeth Boyle, Judy Dreschler, Leanne Middleton.

Visitors:

Jerry Richter-Nguyen, John Richter-Nguyen.

1.2 Opening Prayer

The meeting was opened in prayer by Richard Jansen at 1.18pm.

1.3 Acceptance of Previous Minutes

1.3.1 That the minutes from the Partner's Meeting held on March 01, 2026 as circulated to partners prior to the meeting be accepted as a true and correct record.

Moved: Richard Jansen, seconded: Brett Spangenberg CARRIED

1.3.2 That the minutes from the Special Partner's Meeting held on March 22, 2026 as circulated to partners prior to the meeting be accepted as a true and correct record.

Moved: Richard Jansen, seconded: Leah Aspey CARRIED

2.0 Reports

2.1 Quarterly Financial Statements

Motion:

That the financial statements for the January – March 2026 quarter as presented be accepted.

Moved: Richard Jansen, seconded: Steve Young

Discussion:

There was no discussion regarding the financial statements.

Partners voted on the above motion: CARRIED

3.0 Business

3.1 Budget for 2026/2027

Motion:

That the budget for the 2026/2027 financial year, as presented, be accepted.

Moved: Richard Jansen, seconded: Cynthia Spangenberg

Discussion:

- Richard Jansen highlighted some points from the presented budget:
  - The current financial year's annual income has exceeded the projected 2025/2026 budget.
  - The 2026/2027 budget has an increase in expenditure – the biggest increase is for an increase to the Pastor's time from 0.8FTE to 0.9FTE. This means an increase of over $10,000 in expenditure. The 0.8FTE was planned to be a temporary arrangement, and that the Pastor would return to 1.0FTE when circumstances permit.
- The amount budgeted for insurance is for current WBC property ownership only. This includes a share of the insurance costs for the shared Nicolson Avenue car park, which is common property between WBC and the medical clinic.
- Richard Jansen briefly presented the financial implications of Pastor's staffing at 0.8FTE, 0.9FTE and 1.0FTE.

Partners voted on the above motion: CARRIED

3.2 Goals and Things like that

Information:

Each ministry with a team leader produces a budget for that ministry and some goals looking forward into the next year. They are available for your perusal.

Discussion:

- The Ministry Goals document was distributed to each partner prior to the meeting. Printed copies were also made available on the Information Table.

3.3 Redress

Information:

I have good news. Part of our discussion regarding redress was, "What if the unthinkable happens and there is a third claim?" BCSANT have told me there are no further claims against us that they have received, or that are in the "pipeline". We know, however, that people can put in for a claim up until the end of 2028, so we are still prayerful for our capacity and for any who might have experienced such horror in their lives.

Discussion:

- WBC are not named in any current claims known to BCSANT.
- However, the windows for accessing the National Redress Scheme is still open.

3.4 Building Updates

Information:

Brett Spangenberg is in contact with those businesses contracted to do our signs and concreting.

Discussion:

- Brett Spangenberg reported that the signs will be installed in the near future, after some preparation work has been completed by WBC.
- Recent inclement weather has delayed the concrete works. We have asked the contractor for some notice to allow WBC to complete the preparation works that is required prior to the concrete pour.

3.5 Eldership and ENC

Information:

Our current Elders Nominating committee is made up of Margaret Halyburton and Matthew Middleton. They will serve in this role unto next year. Along with myself, we would be happy to accept nomination for eldership to help lead this church into all that God has for us.

Both of our current Elders are due for renomination and are praying about their continuing role in that position. They are both excellent leaders and have served Whyalla Baptist Church very well, but we cannot take their leadership for granted. In addition, there may be other partners who you believe would make good elders in this community. I would encourage you to nominate them for the role.

The requirements for eldership are found in the scriptures. Both 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 3 outline the qualifications for an elder. We expect people not to tick every box, but for them to be growing in those traits. An elder must be a partner. Eldership nomination forms have been forwarded to the partners. They have the process for nomination outlined on them. But just so you know, please do not ask the nominee if they want to be an elder. Leave that to the ENC and the discernment process.

While we will receive nominations for eldership at any time, the easiest time is now, because we want them in place at our AGM. So please get your nominations in by the end of July. This will give the ENC time to review nominations and make recommendations in time for our AGM. Their role is to prayerfully consider and discuss all elder nominations, giving special attention to what the scriptures say, and present the names to the Partners for voting

Partners were reminded that now is the best time to nominate a person for eldership. This allows the ENC to consider nominations prior to the AGM, and then for partners to vote at the AGM. The current elders are due for renomination, they are praying about where God would like them to serve. Other partners may also be good elders.

3.6 Leading and volunteering at WBC

Information:

A part of being a Baptist is the joy of being able to speak into the life of the Church and her direction. A part of all that is volunteering and leading ministries. Getting involved is a response to the relationship you have with Jesus. Yes skills matter; yes ability is important; but equally, listening to God and what He might want you to be involved in is also important. If you want to a part of an existing ministry or lead in an area we don't have leaders for, please see our pastor or one of the elders.

Partners were encouraged to volunteer where they felt God leading them. Contact Richard Jansen or one of the elders for more information.

3.7 Work Health and Safety

Information:

Alec has been encouraging in his role of WHS officer, ensuring those who work at our building have safe work systems in place. Should you notice anything that could compromise our safety or health, please let Alec or your pastor know.

Thank you to Alec Jackson for ensuring the safety and health of those attending or visiting WBC, and ensuring the contractors who have been completing work on site have safe work systems in place.

3.8 Any Other Business?

3.8.1 **Church Website**

Flywheel Media have been creating a new website for WBC, which is almost ready to be published. Richard will have some online training with Apollo from Flywheel Media, which will be recorded, to allow WBC to upload information as necessary.

3.8.2 **Playground Installation**

There is a team ready to begin installing the Funky Monkey play equipment. The installation instructions need to be accessed, so the team can commence work on the installation.

4.0 Meeting Close

The meeting was closed in prayer at 1.46pm by Richard Jansen.