



South Yarra Community Baptist Church
Decisions and Questions from the Host
Group Meeting
5 October 2016

Listed below are the main decisions and questions from our recent Host Group meeting. This is not the full minutes, but a summary of the main decisions and questions. In line with our church policy, these are circulated not only for your information, but to allow you to consider the decisions and ponder the questions and, if you have any concerns about any of them, to seek more information or ask for them to be reconsidered. Where possible, we will not implement the decisions for at least seven days, in order to allow time for people to respond. Questions or concerns can be raised with any member of the Host Group, or by emailing all of them at once at hosts@southyarrabaptist.church

Those in attendance at the recent meeting were Eliz Cook, Nathan Nettleton, Sylvia Sandeman, Shelley Taylor, Ian Cook and Samara Pitt.

Summary of the Decisions and Questions

1. Our **Advent Retreat Day** will be on Sunday 27 November, 10am to 3:30pm. Maria McCormack (who led a good retreat day for us in 2012) from the WellSpring Centre will lead. Venue will probably be the Centre for Theology and Ministry, 29 College Cres, Parkville.
2. At the **BUV Delegates** dinner, there is often a **topic for discussion** in which delegates from each church are meant to represent the views of their congregation. We will make the discussion topics available to the congregation for comment before the gathering to assist our delegates (currently Shelley and Ian) to do this!
3. The company was good but the food disappointing (or completely absent!) at our **pre-AGM lunch**, so we will change venue next year. The **AGM** went well with the new format of receiving reports with minimal discussion, to leave time for more in-depth discussion of key topics.
4. Thanks to all who attended **Tony Mathew's funeral** to support Jill. We were very impressed with Bereavement Assistance which is a non-profit organisation for people who may have no or few funds for funeral expenses.
5. Nathan will keep a detailed record of **hours worked** over the next 3 months to analyse which activities are contributing to his average overtime of 10 hours per week. We may need to have a broader conversation about which activities we want him to complete in his paid work for the church, and whether his current paid hours are sufficient.
6. **John who was sleeping at the church** has moved on. He cleaned up the space well before he left.
7. Ian is investigating whether we could **refurbish the chairs** by replacing the foam and the side areas only, which could be cheaper. Stay tuned!

8. We will **change to Powershop** as our electricity provider with **100% green energy** once we have found out some final details about off-peak rates and contracts.
9. In response to our congregational listening circle on **solar panels and air conditioning**, Nathan and Ian will research proposals to present to the congregation.
10. Given the range of reflections and questions about **how we use social media as a church**, we will refer this to a congregational meeting for discernment.
11. This month, the **lectionary illustrations for the news sheet** will be by local artist Chris Booth (also Samara's housemate!) They are being made available free for October with a range of other lectionary resources through VCCE (Victorian Council for Christian Education), but there will be some subscription charge after that if we want to continue using them. Feedback welcome.