



South Yarra Community Baptist Church

Decisions and Questions from the Host Group Meeting

3 February 2022

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 via Zoom were Eliz Cook, Ian Cook, Shelley Taylor, Samara Pitt, Dennis Fisher, Liesl Filippi and Nathan Nettleton.

Summary of the Decisions and Questions

1. The manse has had a lot of work done to prepare for tenants to move in in mid-February as part of BaptCare's **Houses of Hope asylum seeker housing project**, including furnishing bedrooms to suit 4 single people, electrical and gas safety inspections, removing some trees that were damaging the building and plumbing, and fixing broken roof tiles. The general building standards checklist and smoke detector maintenance contract are being organised. We are waiting on the BUV to sign the lease agreement if they are required to do this instead of us. Car parking will not be provided as part of the tenancy.
2. **Nathan took 1.3 weeks of leave** in the first half of January, except for the Sunday and Epiphany services. He appreciates the flexibility of being able to take leave around services, although he is still working towards training up people to be able to run the Sunday service - contact him if you are willing to participate in this training. Nathan will also work on a simple emergency backup liturgy that could be run by any of the daily prayer hosts if required at short notice.
3. Since government Covid-safe guidelines no longer require the cleaning of touch surfaces or deep cleans after a positive Covid case, we no longer need feedback from Baptist Insurance on the **hall hire section of our Covid safe plan** regarding public liability insurance and cleaning requirements for hall hire clients.
4. We have had nine **congregational activities** in the past 2 months: a CS Lewis afternoon tea, a non-alcoholic beerfest, Advent climate crisis prayers during Advent, Christmas New Year and Epiphany liturgies, a Christmas Day picnic and two events focussed on January 26 run by Common Grace and Uncle Den. Thanks to all the organisers and attendees! We look forward to future events.
5. We have published the **2022 church events calendar**, but all events can also be found on the online calendar on our website, and regular reminders about upcoming events are in the weekly bulletin.
6. We have been approached by the Australian Electoral Commission to explore the possibility of hiring our hall for three weeks as a **pre-polling centre** for this year's federal election in May.

Eliz has been authorised to negotiate as to feasibility and detail including what they would pay and parking requirements.

7. We have heard no further ideas emerging about the **future of the Surrey Road property** at this stage.
8. Anyone is welcome to **attend a host meeting**, please let Nathan know if you wish to do so. The hosts may also invite a congregation member to attend a meeting if we feel they have insights into a particular issue on the agenda.

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 2 March: Ash Wednesday service

Thursday 3 March: Host meeting, 7pm