

**New Zealand Lay Preachers Association
Minutes of AGM Tuesday 29 October 2024 7.30pm by Zoom**

Present: Joshua Robertson, (Acting President), Viv Whimster, Peter Lane, Marissa Alix, Richard Small (minutes), Linda Hall, Margaret Woodcock, Allen Little, Doreen Sunman, Robyn Bridge, Laiza Dowding, Pam Davis, Allen Little

Apologies: Lute Taufalele – Vute (leave of absence) , Rachael Masterton, Matila Amani, Judy McFall-McCaffery, Jan Pazrilla, Dianne Sundberg

Devotions: Laiza Dowding , lay preacher in training. Focused on our call as Lay Preachers taken from Matthew 28: 20.

“Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”¹

This passage gives us the assurance that Jesus is with us in our preaching.

Minutes:

The Minutes from the 31 October 2023 AGM had been emailed to those who had registered. They were taken as read and received.

Moved: Linda/ Seconded: Joshua

Matters arising:

“After much discussion, it was agreed that NZLPA write a letter to Methodist Mission Alliance to see if they can raise this matter with central government.”

The issue has proven less clear cut than we thought with varied local situations the letter has not been sent at this stage but it could be sent if this is an ongoing concern.

Reports

President: Joshua as acting president:

Coral Malcom and Diane Claughton passed away since last AGM. Greetings have been sent.

- Rosalie Gwilliam has resigned from the executive.
- Rachael Masterton is resigning as treasurer.
- Linda Hall will be resigning in early 2025 as correspondence secretary

We thanked all of the above for their service.

Replacements have been found as discussed below under election of offices.

Lute has needed to take a leave of absence until early next year to complete her master's thesis.

Aside from replacing office holders the main focus of the executive has been on building relationships and developing the website.

Report received.

Finance – (Joshua)

Matila could not be present but she had provided a profit and loss and balance sheet by email. We have net assets of \$23,981.83.

Some funds have been gifted by the Canterbury Lay Preachers Network.

Some funds are earmarked for website development.

There are currently no subscriptions.

Report received.

Registrar/membership (Marissa)

Marissa has not yet the information from Rachael. Membership at last AGM was 268. We have since lost 2 members but have gained 2 more. The data based needs to migrate to the new website (with appropriate data protections). We need to include a privacy statement in our membership registration.

Report received.

Website report (Peter)

Migration from the old website to the new one is progressing well. Positive feedback on the look of the new website. Both are live at present. Peter is keen to receive material that can be placed on our website that would be of assistance to lay preachers. We could also put obituaries for members who have passed away on the website. It is important that we maintain our archives.

Report received.

Election of officers

It was noted that the executive has the power to co-opt members and to confirm this at the next AGM. The following co-opted appointments to the executive were confirmed unanimously.

- Marissa Alix, registrar
- Richard Small, minutes secretary
- Matila Amani, treasurer

The following continue on the executive in other roles

- Lute Taufalele – Vute, President
- Joshua Robertson- Acting President,
- Viv Whimster, Member
- Peter Lane, Member and Webmaster

There are still other vacancies on the executive. There is a need to ensure a balance of culture, geography, age,/Methodist CV/ other denominations on the executive if possible.

Linda is resigning as Correspondence Secretary. The executive is grateful for her contribution since 2016. This role has reduced from what it has been in the past. No Word and Worship and most communication comes by email.

Kirstie Prangle, lay preacher and Office Administrator, Parish Secretary at Birkenhead Methodist Parish. She is computer-savy and has been nominated by Linda and Richard to pick up the correspondence secretary role. She has family commitments at present, and she could not attend the AGM, but she will be available from early 2025. Linda will continue until then.

Moved Linda and Richard.
Agreed Unanimously.

Joshua was thanked for his efficient running of the meeting and his contribution in Lute's absence

The meeting closed with the grace at 8.28pm.