

St Margaret's Anglican Church Eltham

the Parish Matters

Celebrates parish life and reports important items from the most recent Parish Council meeting
 Find us on the web at www.stmargaretseltham.org.au/ Facebook at www.facebook.com/stmargaretseltham

God of Power and love,
 who raised your Son Jesus from death to life,
 resplendent in glory to rule over all creation:
 free the world to rejoice in his peace,
 to glory in his justice, and to live his love.
 Unite the human race in Jesus Christ your Son,
 who lives and reigns with you in the Holy Spirit,
 one God, for ever and ever. **Amen..**

© Broughton Publishing, 1995

Our Busy Schedule

Joining/Checking the Electoral Roll
Reports for AGM from Parish Council Committees
 Church Groups
 CAVE, LinC etc

TODAY Oct 30 in Foyer
) **Fri 4 Nov** to Office
] **Or Sat 5 Nov** to Sally
)

Nominations for Parish Council (4 Members 2 Wardens)

Wed 16 Nov to Keren by 5 pm

St Margaret's Day Joint Service 10 am
 followed by Lunch in the Hall

Sunday 20 Nov
 . **Sign up for lunch**

AGM notice of items for Agenda
Annual General Meeting

Wed 23 Nov to Wardens
Sat 26 Nov 4 pm

A Major Issue for the AGM

Since the change to Parish Governance in 2013, there was a planned retirement of Parish Councillors, as any Councillor who has served for 6 continuous years may not stand for re-election but must take a sabbatical year off. This plan for progressive retirements was not followed, owing to the need for continuity during the building completion and then Libby's retirement followed by a long inter-regnum. Harry, John Humann, Kathleen and Sally must retire under this rule. Of the remainder of the Council two others have indicated they will not be renominating.

Therefore we must find six new members of Council compared with one to three new nominees in a typical year.

PLEASE earnestly consider (including yourself) who might contribute to assisting in the running of the Parish, and nominate them on a form from the foyer.



Another successful Blessing the Animals Service on October 9. More pics at back

Census

Have you returned your Census form??

It's not too late. And as it is a paper return we can all do it. With luck there will be no melt down in the return box, unlike our government's recent system.

Council Appreciations

A regular item on Parish Council's agenda is to recognise and express our appreciation to specific people:

- **Geoff Oliver** for designing and making the new flower stands...
- **Pam Ahern from Edgar's Mission** for being our Guest Speaker at the Blessing of the Animals Service and for
- **Websters Farm and Garden** for sponsoring the pet food at the service

Communications

This is a repeated message from the last issue and will appear again.

It has been the custom to take photos at special events and upload them to the parish website and Facebook page. Care is taken with children's pictures and approval is normally sought from leaders and or parents. This means that congregation member's photos (and visitors) will likely appear there. The last page photos are an example of demonstrating the Blessing the Animals Day Welcome. Please advise the office if you are not happy with this practice.

Parish Council October Summary

- **Revd Keren** Opened the meeting with prayer at 7.47 pm
- **Present:** Revd Keren Terpstra (Chair), Harry Watson (Sec), John Humann, John Winkett, Kathleen Toal, Melissa Laidlay, Robin Wembridge, Sally Petty, Sarah Toomey.
- **Apologies:** John Winkett and Kathryn Smith.
- **Keren Opened the meeting with prayer and then welcomed everyone**
- **Minutes of Previous Meeting were approved**
- **Discussion of from the list of Action Items** from the July meeting attached to the Agenda
 - Contact Church Groups for Communications
 - Cathedral Choir needing discussion with Philip Nichols
 - Need to have a way to deal with fund raising carried Wardens report below.
 - Nominate Planned Giving Coordinator Graham Carew is willing to analyse census data.
 - Lodge WW1 Heritage grants application Still work in progress.
 - Putting Discovering Spirituality more prominently on Website in process.

- Linc details and prayer on Website On hold
- Letter to Geoff Oliver thanking him for making the new flower stands

➤ Correspondence

Collection of \$110 from Diamond Valley Big Band donated to Anglicare

➤ Finance and Resources inc Finance report.

- The Terms of Reference for this activity were approved.
- Finance committee report was reviewed and approved

➤ Pastoral Care

- **Recommendation on pre-paid phone.** Keren summarised the benefits as she saw them including having the 'phone answered or message received when she was away or at meetings (Or having her own time) Agreed on trial for 6 months pre payed

• PCT 2016/7 Seminars

Spiritual Health Australia presentation and Team Training. This will now be in February. 11 an 18

➤ Worship and Spirituality From Discovering Spirituality

- Kathleen reported The Ann Greenwood display has been visited. More follow up is needed. Proposed date is 18 th March and will form part of Parish Quiet Day to culminate in labyrinth walk and evening prayer.
- April 23rd will be Dadirri Day 2017

➤ Internal and External Communications

Christmas Notices St Megs and AGM need to be posted on website.

➤ Progress Property Development and Maintenance

- **Report from** the previous day was tabled and discussed .
- **Next step is the safe design of the play area. Play area plan to be circulated.**

➤ MAP Update

- **St Margaret's Day November 20th** Format for a lunch similar to Ruwan's farewell but tea and coffee should be served in the foyer.

One service at 10 am Parishioners asked to bring salad or sweets charge of \$5 per head or max \$10 per family to cover the costs of meat etc.

- **AGM Sat Nov 26th at 4 pm Finishing with evening prayer**

Sally offered to compile AGM reports. An index at front would help the reader.

➤ Vicar's Report:

The Vicar's report was received and contained the following major headings:

- Parish Governance issues
- Parish Staff supervision
- Parish activity engagement
- Parish Meetings
- Pastoral visits
- Pastoral services including preparation
- Presence in the community
- Preaching and worship
- Professional engagement

- Personal care and commitment
 - Priorities to be addressed in the next month
 - Then Keren was congratulated by PC that so much had been done in seven weeks since taking up the position and particularly in the last month as covered in this report...
 - Child safe standards. Keren is going to a training session on this topic.
 - Working with children records to be checked
 - Vicar's report for AGM might be a quite short.
- **PC Financial Report**
- **The draft annual** reports which were tabled
 - The annual income and expenditure report came with a written commentary.
 - Finance Committee to review this again. Audited accounts will be ready and auditor invited to its next meeting
 - **The Draft Financial Report for the year was accepted**
- **Wardens Meeting Report**
- The verbal report covered:
- Charges for Weddings and funerals
 - Kirsten Winkett's supervision by Keren
 - Review of office operation
 - Managing staff annual leave
 - Review of hire terms of church. Particularly those hiring where charging or fund raising was involved. The document should include mention of procedures for charging admission or by donations
 - Consecrations of Extension of Dendy House and Bible and Gospels on St Margaret's Day
 - Labyrinth safety

- **Other Business.**
- Parish Council hand-over dinner celebration on Friday December 9. Details to be finalised next meeting
 - Keren would like a brief history of participation from all retiring Councillors
- **The meeting closed** with prayers led by John Winkett **at 10.05 pm**

Children's Natural Play Space

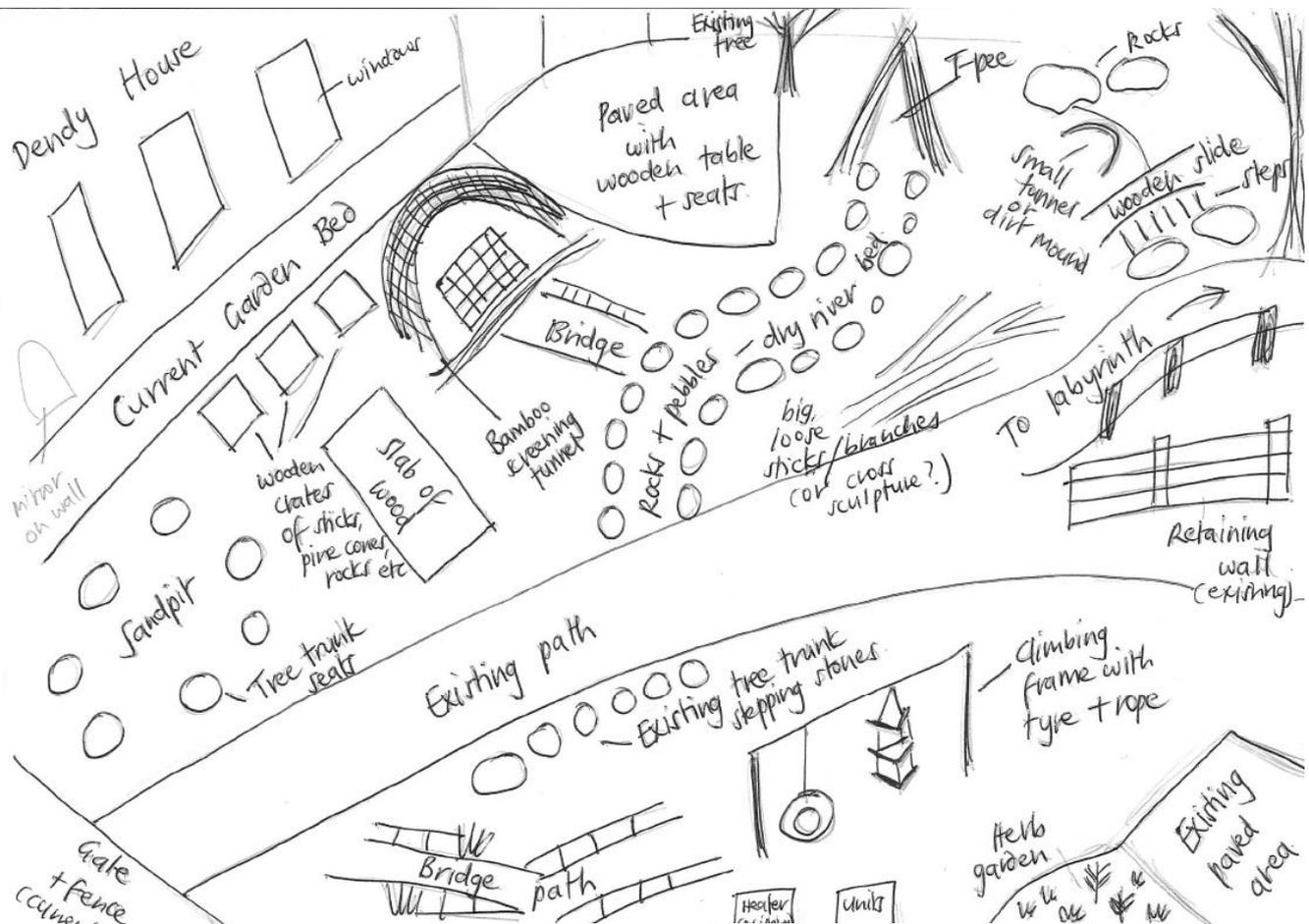
A draft sketch of the proposed space is shown below

The Children's Ministry team expects that a natural play space would create more opportunities for reflective and contemplative practices such as prayer, candle lighting or simple rituals using natural materials. These types of spaces allow children an opportunity to engage in active play but also to slow down and find space to be present to the Spirit.

In addition, the natural playspace could serve as a drawcard for the wider community and especially those who hire the hall. It may for example, encourage new playgroups to choose St Margaret's as a playgroup venue or create opportunities for groups to link in with the use of the labyrinth. Other parish groups such as the Discovering Spirituality Group or the Piece of Peace days may also be able to utilise such a space

Adapted from Mandy Steven's approved Proposal

Ed This Edition Harry Watson



Draft Plan of Children's Natural Play Space



Blessing of the Animals 2016

