

Proposal to reclassify the provisional parish of Shellharbour City Centre as a parish

(A report from the Wollongong Regional Council.)

Initiation of proposal

1. A proposal was made to the Archbishop by the Minister and Churchwardens of the provisional parish of Shellharbour City Centre under clause 4 (1)(b) of the Parishes Ordinance 1979.

Details of Meeting

2. A meeting of the Wollongong Regional Council ("WRC") was held on 9 September 2003 to consider among other things the proposal under clause 5 of the Ordinance.

3. The WRC certifies that all procedural requirements under clauses 4 and 6 have been complied with.

Proposal

4. The proposal is to change the provisional parish to a parish.

Parish Information

5. The provisional parish is generally known as City Anglican Church and was initially a branch Church of the long established Shellharbour parish based in Shellharbour Village (St Paul's).

6. It is not proposed to comment on the Shellharbour Village history other than where it relates to City Anglican Church.

7. In the late 1980s the Diocese under Vision for Growth funding, purchased a large site in what was then basically open country with a view to establishing a new Church close to the site allocated for the commercial development of Shellharbour City. Initially the parish of Shellharbour was not enamoured with the decision and nor were some of the adjoining parishes.

8. In May 1997 the Church, then known as Lake View Anglican Church, commenced services initially in the Balarang Primary School.

9. The new Church building commenced in 1996 and was opened officially in 1997. The name of the Church was changed to Shellharbour City Anglican Church in 1999.

10. On October 1 2001 after lengthy deliberations and much prayer it was agreed to divide Shellharbour parish and the new Shellharbour City Centre Anglican Church was approved.

11. The Church has grown in line with growth in the area, which is one of the fastest growing regions of NSW - 9.6% population growth (1996 to 2001 census).

12. Shellharbour City has an estimated 8,800 households within its boundaries representing around 24,000 people. Shellharbour City Council as a whole has approximately 22,000 households and a population of approximately 63,000 people with approximately 17,000 professing to be Anglican.

13. The City covers four Anglican parishes namely Shellharbour, Shellharbour City, Oak Flats and Albion Park.

14. Further development of the area is planned within the current parish and beyond, which will impact on all the parishes.

15. A new Sydney Anglican Schools Corporation School opened at the commencement of 2004 (Shellharbour Anglican College) within the provisional parish boundaries and again will impact not only on the parishes mentioned, but on the whole community.

16. There are 5 State Primary Schools and 1 State High School within the provisional parish, together with the Anglican College referred to earlier (covering Kinder to Year 8 in 2005). SRE is taught in all the Public Schools.

17. The provisional parish employs a Curate in Charge, the Rev Michael Williamson, together with a part time Youth Worker, part time Children's worker, YouthWorks Trainee and part time office secretary. There is also a very strong Lay participation in all ministries.

18. The provisional parish currently has 232 regular (monthly) worshipers with average weekly attendances as follows:

8 am	30
10 am	103
7 pm	55

Particulars of church property

19. Details of property held by the Property Trust upon trust for the provisional parish are as follows:

	Value of Land & Improvements 31.12.2003	Condition of Building
Church	\$1,052,000	Good
Rectory	\$416,000	Good
Total	\$1,468,000	

Summary of consolidated receipts and payments

20. A summary of the financial position over the last 3 years and budget for 2004 are set out below:

	2001	2002	2003	Budget 2004
Receipts	\$	\$	\$	\$
Offerories	97,690	143,211	157,548	173,000
Missions	2,739	1,793	2,137	0
Rent/Interest	331	60	71	0
Donations	35,739	39,713	33,074	52,000
Investments	16,606	16,260	0	0
Other	11,246	12,581	19,538	0
Totals	164,351	213,618	212,368	225,000

	2001	2002	2003	Budget 2004
Expenditure	\$	\$	\$	\$
Stipends, Salaries	89,268	132,174	148,867	160,000
Cost Recovery	0	12,870	22,808	24,000
Ministry Expenses	11,072	12,742	15,310	11,000
Printing/Stationery	4,865	9,386	6,472	8,000
Repairs & Maintenance	0	9,737	3,665	5,000
Electricity, Gas etc	0	8,824	10,580	12,500
Missions	2,159	2,243	2,883	0
Property Improvements	7,064	6,244	34,687	3,000
Other	50,489	6,494	768	1,500
Totals	164,917	200,714	246,040	225,000

21. A summary of the assets and liabilities of the provisional parish as at 31 December 2003 follows:

Assets	\$
Land, buildings and contents	1,670,000
Current	24,048
Total	1,694,048
Liabilities	
Current	24,420
Non Current	6,000
Total	30,420
Net Assets	1,663,628

22. The Bishop of Wollongong and his Assistant strongly support the application.

Recommendation

23. The Wollongong Regional Council recommends that the provisional parish of Shellharbour City Centre be reclassified as a parish with effect from the 1 January 2005.

For and on behalf of the Wollongong Regional Council.

GEOFF KYNGDON

Assistant to the Bishop of Wollongong

30 August 2004