



The Hibernian Catholic Benefit Society

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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE HIBERNIAN CATHOLIC BENEFIT SOCIETY HELD AT THE THORNDON HOTEL, HAWKESTONE STREET, WELLINGTON, ON SATURDAY 24TH JULY 2015 AT 11AM.

The President, Br Philip Horan, called the meeting to order at 11.05am and asked if there were any members of the Press present.

1) **WELCOME & OPENING:**

Br Horan welcomed delegates to the Meeting and introduced our Chaplin, His Eminence Cardinal John Dew. In doing so he also offered the Society's congratulation on his promotion to the position of Cardinal. He then invited the Cardinal to open the meeting.

Cardinal Dew thanked Br Horan and members for their welcome and after opening the meeting with a prayer he then addressed the meeting. He chose as his theme Pope Frances's encyclical *Laudato Si'*, on the environment. He summed up the main ideas in the encyclical and then spoke of the practical things that we can do to show our care for the environment. One of the things he stressed was the Pope's emphasis on the need for all people to be involved in networks of support. He affirmed the Hibernians for their work, and for being one of these much needed networks of support.

Br Frost then thanked the Cardinal for his wonderful words.

The President advised the delegates that he would be adhering to the Order Paper as published and as per Rule 6.3 and asked that the delegates cooperate by doing so as well.

2) **ROLL CALL:**

The President asked the Secretary to call the roll of the Board and Branch delegate.

Members of the Board of Management

President of the Society

Br P G Horan

Other Elected Board Members

Br WJB Brittenden

Br T W Cotter

Br P Delaney

Br G K Frost (VP)

Sr S M Healy

Br P E McGill

Br P J Sumby

In Attendance – Secretary

Mrs J A Delaney

Chaplin

Cardinal John Dew

Branch Delegates

St Patrick's Branch No 82, Christchurch	Br A Baker Sr B Baker
St Patrick's Branch No.82, Blenheim	Sr J McKee
St Joseph's Branch 172, Hastings	Sr M J Close Sr S Allen Br PG Horan Sr R Horan Br A Horan Br J Horan Sr C Horan Sr F Horan Sr C MacKay Br M Martin Sr M Martin Br F Nijssen Br B Urwin Br P Walden
St Aloysius Branch 399, Wellington	Br P Sumbly
St Patrick's Branch 400, Palmerston North	Br GK Frost Sr P Frost Br M McDonald Br K O'Leary Sr A Odogwu
St Peter Chanel Branch 828, Auckland	Br WJB Brittenden Br TW Cotter Sr SM Healy Br L Neal
St John's Branch 854, Onslow/J'ville, Wgtn	Br P Delaney Br PE McGill Br K Redmond Br G Sinnott
St Joseph's Branch 962, Wellington	Br P Joseph Br PM O'Brien Br G Stewart
Observing -	Mrs P McDonald

3) **PRELIMINARY;**

- (i) The Rules of the Society apply. They describe the delegate's voting rights.
- (ii) Voting will be on the voices unless the chair considers the outcome to be in doubt or if proxies are required, when a poll will be called. **Only voting delegates are to respond to votes taken on the voices. There should be one voting delegate per branch (Rule 6.5.2)**
- (iii) Adherence to the Society's Standing Orders (Rule 8)
Mover: 5mins plus extension 2mins; right of reply 5mins plus 2min extension.
Others: 3mins with extension at consent of meeting.
- (iv) Delegates wishing to speak should indicate by raising their hand and when recognised by the Chair, then introduce themselves by **name and branch**
- (v) Lunch break as per times shown in programme. 1pm reconvene 2 pm.
- (vi) **Notice of Meeting:** This has been duly given and can be taken as read.

Proxies:

Following the Notice of Meeting proxies have been received from branches that have made appointments to vote on their behalf as follows:

- To: **Br PM O'Brien**
St Mary's Branch No 3, Wellington
- To: **The Society's President**
St Mary's Branch No 620, Nelson
St John's Branch No 93, Napier

Apologies

- | | |
|--|--|
| St Joseph's Branch No 073, Dunedin | Br K G Hurring |
| St Patrick's Branch No 82 | Br P Doody |
| St Joseph's Branch No 172, Hastings | Br K Stinson (NZ Life member)
Sr A Stinson
Sr A Brunton
Br B Brunton
Sr G Brunton
Br E Brunton |
| St Patrick's Branch No 400, Palmerston Nth | Sr E Lawn |
| St Mary's Branch No 620, Nelson | Br D Allen |

- (i) Motion the apologies be sustained:
Moved Br L Neal/Sr C Horan

Carried

Appointment of Meeting Officials:

The following meeting officials, as proposed by the Board, were **confirmed**.

Minute Secretary	The Society's Secretary:	Jocelyn Delaney
Returning Officer		Br K P O'Leary
Scrutineers		Br K Redmond
		Br G Sinnott
Timekeeper		Br WJB Brittenden

4) MINUTES OF 2014 ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 19 JULY 2014

It was **Moved**

- i. That the minutes of the annual meeting held on 19 July 2014 in Wellington, having been circulated, be taken as read
Br M Martin/Sr S Healy **Carried**
- ii. That the minutes of the annual meeting held on 19 July 2014 in Wellington be **confirmed** as a true and correct record of the meeting.
Br P Delaney/Sr S Healy **Carried**

5) MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES;

No matters were raised.

Notice of Items to be raised in General business

The President gave notice of two items and asked for any further items. None were given.

6) BOARD OF MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT:

a. Requiescant in Peace

Delegates and members stood in silent prayer for deceased members, wives, husbands, widows and widowers, who have passed away in the year, ended 31 March 2015.

b. **Moved** that the Annual Report of the Board of Management for 2015 be adopted.

Brs Horan/Brittenden

Speaking to the Report the President advised the meeting that last week Br L Neal had joined him in a meeting with the BNZ to discuss the possibility of the Bank making an ex Gratia payment which, would be used to assist those members who had suffered the most from the theft and ultimate collapse of the Credit Union. It is unlikely that a payment would be made, however, it is being discussed and no final decision has been made as yet. He went on to thank Br Neal for his work and support on this matter.

He confirmed that the Society is joining in Clubs NZ, as an associate member and this should be instigated over the next three months with a target of members receiving membership cards and how they are able to use this benefit, with their October dues notices.

Transitional Fund -He was pleased to announce that at yesterday's Board meeting it was approved that a distribution, the equivalent of 8% of members' balances as at 31 July 2015,

would be made from the surplus in the fund. Statements showing the new balances will be issued with the October Dues notices.

The President opened the Report for discussion.

Br T Horan, St Joseph's-172, Hastings thanked the Board for the mention of the gifts for new babies of members, positive feedback has been received. He also wanted to acknowledge Sr M Urwin and Sr J Griggs for their contribution to the baskets.

Br L Neal, St Peter Chanel-828, Auckland asked that we keep in our prayers members such as Br K Hurring, the Stinson's and any others who are unable to be at the meeting due to ill health.

Br P O'Brien, St Joseph's 962, Wellington was pleased re Clubs NZ but expressed his disappointment at the apparent lack of research into other benefits. He felt the Board did not appreciate that the Society has been driven out of its main line of business, which is Insurance. He felt there was insufficient focus on new businesses to replace the old. i.e. an annuity using the exemption in the Prudential Supervision Act 7 3e. There are also other exemptions in the Act that could be either sought or used, i.e. discretionary benefits. There seems to be no application to The Minister to have any projects or schemes approved. He sees no active research by the Board for new products. He suggested an arrangement could be made with a similar type of insurer like Fidelity, where the Society acts as a retailer of that insurers products and the Society uses its billing system to bill individual members for its premiums and acts as a wholesaler back to the insurer. Maybe even a discretionary Old Age benefit.

He feels that more research could have been done in looking for around the ways around the legislation that has otherwise driven the Society out of its legitimate business that the Society has been involved in for about 140 years.

Br P McGill, St John's 854, Onslow/Jville Assured Br O'Brien the meeting that the Board has done a lot of research. Extensive research has been done with some being discarded as impractical. He thanked Br O'Brien for his comments and said he looked forward to meeting with him and getting his ideas from him.

The **motion** to adopt the Annual Report of the Board of Management on being put to the meeting was **Carried**

7) ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND AUDITORS REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2015:

On behalf of the Board it was

Moved that the Annual Financial Statements and accompanying Auditors Report for the year ended 31 March 2015 be adopted. Brs P Sumby/T Cotter

The President then invited the Society's accountant Br P O'Brien to speak to the accounts,

In summary the Investment Income is \$123,000 for the year. The shortfall to meet Management Expenses is \$44,000 which is 36% of investment income. While management costs are steadily being reduced, so is the income. However the decrease in income should get less as fewer members are redeeming their transitional funds. The Management Income Account has gone from \$73,000 to \$59,000. Ordinary Administration costs have gone from \$160,000 to \$96,000 and the non-routine from \$202,000 to \$7,000 showing the

complete tail off of the costs of the extraordinary events of the Society in recent years. Profit to the Transitional Fund was \$75,000, which is investment income less expenses which would support the allocation to members. Looking at the size of the Society on the Balance Sheet (page 2) the assets have gone down \$1,000,000 which is a deceleration in the drop of the Society's assets.

Br L Neal, St Peter Chanel 828, Auckland said that back in 2012 the Board resolved that rather than try to recoup some of the money lost through the fraud they would concentrate our efforts on the Insurers and the former Auditors and while there was some discussion about this the Board resolved that this is what should be done. He is a little perplexed at the roll of Perpetual, he understood their role was to protect the interest of the people who had money in the Credit Union. In his view they were deficient in the support they gave to the depositors as they simply took the blind figures from the auditors and used them. He wondered if it would be of any value to write to Perpetual saying they had let our members down.

The President pointed out that the business of the Credit Union was taken over, at the Registrar's requirement, by the Liquidators; therefore the Society had no authority from that point in dealing with that. He then invited Br G Stewart to respond.

Br Stewart, St Joseph'-962, Wellington said he agreed entirely with Br Horan (President) that it was a matter for the liquidators of the Credit Union, however it was a great disappointment that the Trustee of the Credit Union **a)** failed in its duty and **b)** didn't stump up, but even worse than that, when we were trying to go through that restructure that came to an Annual Meeting three years ago the Trustee of the Credit Union charged very handsomely to prevent us from restructuring. However, this is a matter for the liquidators. It was discussed at the time and felt it was not worth pursuing the Trustee so just let it slide.

Br P O'Brien, St Joseph's-962. Said he wished to clarify that Br Stewart was referring to the Statutory Supervisor, not the Trustee of the Credit Union or the Society. The President thanked him for the clarification.

The President then put the motion to the vote.

Carried

8) APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS:

Moved that Crowe Horwath be appointed auditors for the year ended 31 March 2016.

Brs Horan (Chair)/Br Sumbly

Carried

9) NEW MEMBER REGISTER:

The President advised that the Past Officers Shield goes to St Joseph's-172, Hastings which recruited 4 new members during the financial year and advised an increase in membership in the following branches; St Patrick's-400, Palmerston North (3) St Joseph's-962, Wellington (2) and St John's-854, Onslow/Jville (1). He congratulated those branches on having increased their membership and expressed the wish that in the future it may be an even larger increase.

Br P O'Brien, St Joseph's Branch-962, Wellington queried the award of a shield by the National Body of the Society to branches who only recruit members for local benefits rather than national benefits as this has been a feature for some years. He then **moved** –

“That the Past Grand Officers i.e. National Shield ceases to be awarded for the time being, until further National benefits are acquired. Seconded Sr S Healy

Discussion then took place on various aspects and reasons as to why members had joined the Society and the reason they remain in it.

The President said that he took the point that a Member is a Member it makes no difference whether the benefit taken is at a local or national level, they are still a Member. He felt that the fact that we have 3 branches that had encouraged new people to become members should be recognised and congratulated.

Br Redmond, St John's, 854-Onslow said maybe a Fire & General Insurance could be looked at for the Society as a whole. Br P McGill- Board - replied that he is pursuing this initiative and has already approached an Insurance company about this.

There was some further discussion with members giving their reason for joining and with Br F Nijssen,-172 Hastings, expressing his disappointment at Br O'Brien's negative comments.

Br O'Brien then replied that there was some merit in what members had said and he had always enjoyed the friendly competition but couldn't help but feel that it was a National Shield and that it seems now that it just for local benefits.

The Motion was then put to the meeting. **Lost**

Br. L Neal then pointed out that we still belong to the Southern Cross and that the Society does get commission from them.

10) CORRESPONDENCE:

The President advised that there was one item of correspondence from Life Member Br K Stinson and invited the Secretary to read the letter, which she duly did.

Moved that the correspondence be accepted. Brs K Frost/T Cotter **Carried**

11) NOTICES OF MOTION

Motion 1.

The President asked Br Kevin Frost, on behalf of the Board to move and speak to the Motion.

Moved that

Current Rule 5 is deleted and replaced with the following:

5. MEMBERSHIP

5.1 Terms of Membership

5.1.1 The Society shall consist of members as per sub rule 5.2.2.

5.1.2 Members shall belong to a branch of the Society.

5.2 Admission of Members

- 5.2.1 Except as otherwise provided under this membership rule, any person wishing to join the Society shall be proposed and seconded by two existing members of a branch at a regular meeting of that branch.
- 5.2.2 Any candidate for membership, unless he or she is proposed as a Limited Member as provided for in this membership rule, must be:
- a) A Catholic;
 - b) Otherwise prepared to acknowledge and uphold the Catholic character of the Society; or
 - c) The non-Catholic spouse of a member or a deceased member.
- 5.2.3 The Catholic character of the Society is expressed in its reflection and prayer at meetings, and celebration of the Eucharist, along with the willingness of its members to uphold Gospel values and the social teachings of the Catholic Church.
- 5.2.4 The qualification of a candidate for admission shall be enquired into at a branch meeting subsequent to that at which the candidate is proposed. The question of admission shall be decided by ballot. If one-third of the members present object the candidate is rejected and cannot be again proposed for six months.
- 5.2.5 Any person making a false declaration to gain admittance to the Society shall be expelled therefrom and forfeit all claims on it and its funds.

5.3 Classification of Members

- 5.3.1 The Society shall consist of Ordinary Members, Life Members and Limited Members. Except in so far as otherwise provided in these Rules, a Life Member shall be deemed to be an Ordinary Member.
- 5.3.2 All members shall pay contributions as are from time to time levied by the Branch.

- a) On Admission a member shall be designated as an Ordinary Member or Limited Member of the Society and shall remain so unless his or her membership ceases in accordance with this membership rule. The number of Ordinary Members in each Branch shall be used to assess both the Branch's liability for the Society's Management Fund Levy (rule 32.1) and the Branch's voting entitlement (rule 6.6.1)

- b) Life Membership

- i. Life membership of the Society may be conferred on any member who has given extraordinary service to the Society. Such membership may be conferred by an annual or special meeting on the recommendation by the Board after nomination by a Branch or the Board.

That as a consequence of the conferring of life membership, the member shall be presented with a framed life membership certificate. The preparation and cost of such certificate will be borne by District Office.

5.4 Limited Members

The classification of Limited Member, as provided in this rule, shall expire on 29 July

2017.

5.4.1 Any branch which, due to particular special circumstances specific to it, considers that it is necessary or very desirable to admit members who do not meet the requirements of rule 5.2.2, may seek permission of the Board to enroll such persons as Limited Members. Application shall include proposed benefits for Limited Members.

5.4.2 The Board may deny or defer such request, or accede to it with or without conditions.

5.4.3 No branch may admit Limited Members without the prior written consent of the Board as per this rule.

5.4.4 No Limited Member is eligible for Society benefits except on terms that the Board from time to time decides.

5.5 Conditions of Membership

5.5.1 All members shall be subject to the rules of the Society.

5.5.2 Members shall pay promptly all contributions due and shall receive such benefits to which they are entitled.

5.5.3 Members failing to pay contributions due may forfeit privileges of membership.

5.5.4 Any member more than one quarter in arrears without good or sufficient reason, shall be liable to meet any additional costs incurred through non-payment of dues.

5.5.5 Members admitted to the Society shall be eligible for election to any office subject to the limitations of age and membership (as provided elsewhere in these rules) but at no time shall non-Catholic members form more than one-third of the officers of a branch or the Board.

5.6 Payment of Contributions

5.6.1 Contributions shall be paid within the quarter they fall due under such arrangement as the branch shall decide upon from time to time.

5.6.2 A penalty for late payment of contributions may be charged.

5.6.3 Contributions shall be paid to District Office except that Limited Members shall pay contributions direct to their branch.

5.6.4 Throughout these Rules, "contribution" and "contributions" shall include "premium" and "premiums" respectively payable in respect of benefit funds and "subscription" and "subscriptions" respectively payable in respect of Branch membership dues, as may be required in each particular case

5.7 Expulsion of Members

5.7.1 A branch may where it considers circumstances warrant expel a member from the Society after notifying that member of the grounds for his/her expulsion and shall give that member the opportunity of stating his/her case at a summoned meeting of the branch, against such action being taken. Provided that a member so expelled shall have a right of appeal as provided under Rule 22.

5.7.2 If any member is proved guilty of having made a false declaration or giving a false certificate, or any other false evidence of health or age, in order to

enter the Society that member may be expelled.

- 5.7.3 In the event of a member suffering expulsion under any clauses of this Rule, and appealing therefrom as provided under Rule 22 such expulsion shall not take effect until the result of such appeal is known. Any benefit accruing to a member during the interim shall be postponed.
- 5.7.4 If any member is expelled the secretary of the branch shall send notice thereof to the General Manager.
- 5.7.5 An expelled member shall not be re-admitted to membership of the Society by another branch.

5.8 Transfers

Any member except a Limited Member who has paid his/her dues to the end of the current quarter may request his/her transfer from one branch to another, either through the branch secretary or direct to District Office.

5.9 Members Benefits May Cease

Any member owing his/her branch for dues a sum exceeding one quarter's contribution; or allowing goods, accounts, and levies to remain unpaid for a longer period than one quarter, may forfeit privileges of membership.

5.10 When Membership Ceases and Re-Admission

- 5.10.1 When any member allows arrears of dues to exceed the amount of two quarters contributions, membership of the Society shall cease, and he/she shall forfeit all claims to benefits; but may be re-admitted to the Society by paying up all arrears'
- 5.10.2 Any member at any time may resign from a branch by delivering to the branch secretary a written notice of his/her intention to do so, and by paying all sums due by him/her at the date of resignation.

5.11 Member's Rights on Closure and Suspension

- 5.11.1 When a branch is suspended, closed or is dissolved, any member thereof shall be entitled to a transfer by the Board, which shall be considered similar to and shall have every privilege of a branch transfer. Any such member or members shall become a charge on the funds of the Society.
- 5.11.2 In the event of a branch being suspended, closed or dissolved for not complying with these Rules, any member thereof not having caused or assisted such closure, dissolution or suspension, shall become a charge on the funds of the Society.
- 5.11.3 Any member claiming the benefit of the Society's funds under clauses 5.10.1 & 5.10.2 of this Rule must give notice to the Board within one month of the time of his/her becoming aware of the closure, dissolution or suspension of his/her branch and such application shall be laid before the Board at its next meeting. When proper inquiry has been made into the case, and if the Board is satisfied, his/her claim shall be recognised.
- 5.11.4 Any such member shall pay the same rate of contribution as was paid by him/her to the branch of which he/her was previously a member. Such contributions shall be forwarded direct to the General Manager, or, if the member so desires, through any branch.
- 5.11.5 A Central Body member may join any branch on transfer issued by the Board.

5.11.6 This rule does not apply to Limited Members

In doing this Br Frost said it was his privilege as the Chair of the Working Group which was set up after the last Annual General Meeting to acknowledge and thank his fellow working group members who made a significant contribution of time and input of work that has resulted in the Remit in front of them. They are Sr Susan Healy, Brs. Gordon Stewart and Leo Neal. He said they were conscious of the mandate received in 2014 which was to look at the definition of catholic as it pertains to our Society and particularly our Rules of Membership to the Society and he stressed that it is not what our Catholic Church defines as being catholic, it is what we define in our rules as being Catholic, in our Society, for purposes of membership. He then went on to explain the various changes and amendments and reasoning behind these.

Seconded Br G Stewart.

Br M Martin St Joseph's 172-asked if we should define catholic or does the Church define catholic for us. Br Frost said he thought that had been covered where the church defines catholic; we define catholic in terms of our rules as per the mandate given to the working group. He then **Moved** the following amendment
That Clause 5.2.2a read '*as defined by the Hibernian Society*' Seconded Sr C Horan.

After further clarification from Sr S Healy on what the remit is trying to achieve Br Martin then, with the agreement of his seconder **withdrew** the amendment.

Amendment withdrawn and the Motion as printed in the papers remain.

Br Tony Horan, St Joseph's-172. Said he was uneasy about the remit on several levels. He felt we were clutching at straws in trying to make the Society more attractive to members but could see nothing in the remit that does this. He feels 5.2.2b is the critical aspect of this. We have an example in our parishes of our schools that have that catholic character but the catholic character is safe-guarded because the majority in the schools is always catholic. They are opened up to other members but there is a limit capped on that. He then **Moved** an amendment that

Clause 5.1.1 read as follows '*the Society shall consist of a minimum of 70% members who are catholic.*' Seconded Br B Urwin

After further discussion the following was amendment was put

The motion be altered by inserting 5.1.3 Branch membership shall be a minimum of 70% catholic. **Lost**

The motion remains as presented in the paper.

After further brief discussion

The President then put the following Motion

The motion being -*That current Rule 5 and Rule 5a is deleted and replaced with the following Rule 5 as printed in the Order Paper.* **Carried**

The Meeting adjourned for lunch at 12.58 with the President thanking Cardinal Dew for being with us this morning and invited him to say Grace.
The meeting reconvened at 2.00pm

The President presented retiring Board member Sr S Healy with her medal and said she had been a much valued member of the Board for the last four years and thanked her for the work she has done and as well as the counsel she has provided to her fellow Board members during her time on the Board.

Motion 2.

The President then **Moved** the following Motion.

That the Board of the Hibernian Catholic Benefit Society take the necessary steps to wind up the National Body.

In doing so the Board is required to:

- a. Assist all Branches to adopt whatever structure they may wish to, whether it be as a Friendly Society, other incorporated Body or closure.**
- b. Work with those Branches who may wish to be involved, to establish a Council of Branch representatives to meet on a regular basis.**

The President then advised the meeting that this is a Motion of Intent and not a final Motion to close and while this means it would only require a simple majority, your Board would seek to have the decision made with a larger majority to provide a definitive mandate. If the Remit is passed, part of the process will involve us, either at next year's Annual Meeting or at a Special Meeting voting on a Motion which has the prior approval of the Registrar as required by the Act. This final Motion, both under our rules and under the Act will require a 75% majority.

If passed the Board will over the next 12 to 18 months, with a definitive set date of December 2016, work alongside and seek the views of branches on the establishment of a body something in the nature of a Council of Representatives which would effectively replace the Board without the costs that have been involved. The balance of our rationale is contained in the explanation which is shown in the accompanying papers.

He then asked for a seconder of the Motion.

A point of Order was raised by Br G Stewart St Joseph's-962, Wellington who pointed out that at the bottom of the page there was a note as follows:-

In the event of Motion 1 is passed, Motion 2 would be withdrawn. He pointed out that Motion 1 had been passed.

The President replied that he took Br. Stewart's comment on board and said that it was an error in printing and that note referred to Remits 2 and 3 not 1 and 2.

Br Stewart then pointed out that a lot of the branches would have taken the paper on its face value and wondered if it was appropriate to put Motion 2.

The President replied that he was ruling that it was appropriate. He then called for a seconder.

Seconded Br P McGill.

Sr J McKee St Patrick's, 115 Blenheim said that she would now find it difficult to vote on behalf of the branch as she agreed with the previous speaker.

The President advised the Motion was on the floor for discussion.

Br Martin, St Joseph's-172 Hastings, said he was rather shocked to see that that line had been in the papers for some considerable weeks and now finds that that's not what it means.

Br G Sinnott, St John's-854 Onslow/Jville said that his branch had an advantage as they had access and involvement to Board members and knew what was meant and their branch fully supported the Remit.

The President said in answer to Br Martin that he had addresses the matter at the Branch meeting.

Br Brittenden-Board-said he could see where Br Stewart was coming from and although he very much agreed with what is printed in Remit 2 that maybe we, the Board, have erred and although it may be alright to still discuss he thought maybe it should be withdrawn at this stage.

Br P O'Brien St.Joseph's-962, Wellington, speaking to the Point of Order said that if we were looking to admit non-Catholics and expand the Society that you would not want the Central Body to close and feels the wording in the papers misleading as he had read it as it was worded.

Br Frost-Board. In response to Br P O'Brien, his comment about the last Remit which was passed, it was an intention regardless of what happened in regard to whether the National Body closed or not that this provision would allow branches to then use that change of the Rules to suit themselves going forward.

Br Cotter- Board/St Peter Chanel-828, Auckland **Moved** that the Motion Lie on the Table Seconded Br.Stewart.

The question was asked if the Motion No 2 lies on the table does it precluded the Board from further investigating and what would need to be done so it was further advanced for when it was it was next brought up. The President replied that the Board would not have the authority to undertake that work. It was then asked if the Board needs the authority to investigate. Than answer was yes as there were a number of matters the Board would need to facilitate and they would need a mandate to do that. Br Brittenden asked if they were happy for it to be discussed.

The President then said he would be happy to take general discussion on the Remit but that the final vote would be for it to 'Lie on the Table.'

Further discussion took place in which the some of the following items were covered.

- a. Branch accounting systems.
- b. Transitional Fund pay-outs.
- c. Whether the members want the Board to continue its investigations so it will be further advanced for the next meeting.
- d. The Society to hire a Secretary/Bookkeeper to run it from 'Home'
- e. Financial.

Discussion being complete the President the put the Motion that the matter '*lie on the table*'

Carried

MOTION NO.3

As there was no mover the motion lapsed.

12.) ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

i. Board of Management

The President said that there were two nominations for the two vacancies created on the board of management

The eligible candidates were Br Bede Brittenden of Auckland and Br Peter Delaney of Wellington.

As the number of candidates equalled the number of vacancies the President declared them both **elected**.

ii. Trustees

The President said that the Board was pleased to nominate Brs. Peter Delaney, Patrick McGill and Tom Cotter to be the Trustees of the Society. As there were no further nominations, the President declared them **elected**.

iii. President

Br Horan vacated the chair and Br Frost assumed control of the meeting.

Br Frost on behalf of the Board nominated Br Phillip Horan as President. As there were no further nominations Br Frost declared Br Horan **elected**.

Br Horan resumed chairing the meeting.

iv. Vice President

The President nominated Br Kevin Frost as Vice President. As there were no further nominations the President declared Br Frost **elected**.

13). MANAGEMENT CHARGE REVIEW

On behalf of the Board it was

Moved that the management charge remain at \$7.50. Brs Delaney/Cotter.

Carried

14). GENERAL BUSINESS

Hastings Hibernian Catholic Education Trust

Br P Walden St Joseph's Branch 172 – Hastings. On behalf of the Education Trust said they had met and reviewed the applications for Grants. There had been 26 applications approved, totalling approximately three and a half thousand dollars. St Joseph's Branch, Hastings, made a donation to the Trust of \$4,000. These types of donations enable the

grants to be made. Br P Horan added that the Trust, following the liquidation pay-out has a nett capital base of around \$29,000

15). 2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The President asked the meeting if there was any branch willing to host the 2016 Annual Meeting. There being none he advised that the meeting will be held in Wellington as per the rules.

The President then presented retiring Board member Br Peter Sumby with his medal and thanked him for the extensive work he had done as a member of the Board and also as a Trustee and the various subcommittees.

Br Peter Delaney advised the delegates and members the arrangements for Mass and this evening's dinner.

Br Mike Martin, Branch 172 – Hastings congratulated the President on his chairmanship.

The meeting closed with a prayer at 3.20pm.
