

CHRISTIAN LAWYERS SOCIETY INC

minutes
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
28 February 2002

Minutes of the First Annual General Meeting of Christian Lawyers Society Inc held in the Banco Court, Supreme Court Building, George Street, Brisbane.

The President, The Honourable Mr Justice McPherson CBE, presided over the meeting declaring it open at 5.35pm.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from the following persons:

- His Honour Judge Botting
- Richard Copp
- Alex Crawford
- Graham Gibson QC
- Elizabeth Gill
- John Golinelli
- Ross Grainger-Smith
- Kay Lauchland
- Norman Lopez
- Rowena McNally
- Kelli Stallard
- Lindsay Statham
- Barbara Tynan
- Michael White QC

The President noted that this was the first Annual General Meeting conducted on behalf of the Society.

2. Past and Future Events

The President called upon Miss Elenne Ford (Member of the Management Committee) to give a short summary of the events that had been held during the past year and those upcoming in the current year.

- Miss Ford described to the meeting the major events held in the Banco Court where well known guest speakers had attended and also the breakfasts which had been held.
- She went on to discuss the Short Course on Theology being taken by Dr Ford at St Francis' Theological College. She advised that there were 36 attendees and it would probably be the Society's first profitable event.

- Miss Ford discussed the printing of the Society's first Journal and also the production of the Quarterly Newsletter.
- The subject of the forthcoming Christian Lawyers' Convention was also discussed at some length highlighting the consequent drain on the Society's funds. The meeting was advised that any shortfall calculated after the Convention had concluded had been underwritten up to a certain level by Miss Ford and Mr Paul McQuade. At this point, the President noted the generosity of these two people.

3. Adoption of Financial Reports

The President called upon the Treasurer, Mr Andrew Lyons, to table the financial reports for two years ie 1 January 2000-31 December 2000 and 1 January 2001-31 December 2001. This situation had occurred because the Society had only been running for 18 months and this was the first occasion a general meeting had been held. It was also noted that this was entirely within the Rules of Incorporation of the Society.

The motion was moved by Mr Lyons and seconded by Mr Graham Robinson that the reports for the financial years 2000 and 2001 be adopted.

Carried

4. Appointment of Auditors

It was moved by Mr Lyons and seconded by Mr Robinson that Williams & Partners Pty Ltd be appointed as the auditors for the year ending 31 December 2002.

Carried

Mr Lyons also drew to the attention of the meeting the excellent work which had been undertaken by Williams & Partners Pty Ltd over the past 18 months and also to the fact that no fee had been charged.

It was moved by Miss Ford and seconded by Mr Robinson that a motion of thanks for the work undertaken over the past period and for the future period be expressed to Williams & Partners Pty Ltd.

Carried

At this point, the President raised the subject of membership fees and donations and discussed ways in which the Society might "extract" more money from members. The President offered the suggestion of including in yearly membership renewal forms a suggestion to members to include a donation with their membership fee.

The manner in which publication and marketing of the Society was conducted was also discussed with several suggestions and options being placed before the meeting in the hope of curbing some of the cash outlays involved.

5. Election of Officers for the Forthcoming Term

The President advised the meeting of the following positions to be filled:

- Mr Graham Robinson - Vice President;
- Mr Richard Copp - Secretary;
- Mr Andrew Lyons - Treasurer;

The Management Committee is to consist of the following:

- Mr David Cole;
- Ms Karyn Cullen;
- Mr Rowan Evans;
- Miss Elenne Ford;
- Ms Sue Ganasan;
- Ms Lauren Grieve;
- Mr Tristan Skousgaard; and
- Mrs Richelle Snell.

All of the above persons were declared elected to the positions.

Carried

The President raised the subject of the size of the Management Committee which currently had eight members. It was decided to discuss this topic when the Management Committee next met.

It was also decided to forward the Minutes of the First Annual General Meeting out to members as quickly as possible.

6. General Business

- Miss Ford discussed the Christian Lawyers Web Site. Currently this is maintained by the Supreme Court Library but it was hoped that a person would be provided to assist in the updating of this medium. The meeting was asked to seek the assistance of some IT person if one could be prevailed upon to undertake the work. For its part, the Supreme Court Library is quite willing to train anyone who may be able to assist.
- At this point, Rod Brydon spoke to the meeting regarding his current interest of Accountability Groups. Certain information had been emailed to members and he brought this topic again to the attention of those in attendance.
- The President then raised the issue of the numbers of formal meetings the Society was planning for the forthcoming year. The discussion focussed on the low attendances which had been experienced in the past in respect of some meetings with one particular evening being cancelled through lack of interest.
- It was put to the meeting to decide whether we should hold the formal evenings either four times per year or whether it should be either six or eight. Miss Ford stated that currently

most emphasis was being placed on the forthcoming Convention and she thought that perhaps only two meetings would be considered this year.

- Miss Ford also called for assistance in organising the functions in the Banco Court. She inquired of the meeting whether anyone was prepared to undertake this task. Unfortunately, the room was silent on this point.

A gentleman from the meeting took the floor and suggested means by which we might attract more people to the Society. Mr Robinson responded to this.

There being no further business, the President declared the meeting closed at 6.20pm and invited Pastor Ron Allen to do so with prayer.

**The Honourable Mr Justice McPherson CBE
President**