

District Chapter 2008

First Session - 26th January

Morning Session

Opening of the Chapter

Sean welcomed the capitulants to the Opening Session of the District Chapter 2008.

Opening Prayer Aidan led the assembly in prayer.

Attendance Check and Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Anton de Roeper and Emmanuel Sciberras.

It was confirmed that there were 31 capitulants present.

Approval of the Agenda for the Day

Bernard Hayward drew attention to a minor change to the published agenda. The revised agenda was accepted.

Morning Session

Discussion on the role of the Visitor. Chaired by Benedict Foy

A proposition "that capitulants only should be present for the Chapter session at which votes for the new Provincial were taken" was voted on. (For 10, against 20, abstentions 1).

Sean spoke on the role of the Visitor, and then thoughts and comments were invited from the floor. A wide ranging discussion took place, at the end of which Aidan spoke to clarify his own position with regard to the appointment of the new Visitor.

After coffee, there was a further period of prayer led by Owen.

Introduction of the first ballot

Bernard Hayward summarised the procedure and results so far and then explained the method behind the two ballots of the day. This was followed by time for reflection and voting, with ballot papers being returned by 12.30.

Damian Roe and Bernard Conroy, appointed by Br Visitor as tellers, drew up the list of results, which were made available to all the delegates at 13.30.

Afternoon Session

Further discussion on the role of the Visitor. Chaired by Benedict Foy

Introduction of the second ballot.

At 14.15 the tellers counted all the ballot papers from the second ballot into a prepared envelope, which was then sealed in front of the capitulants

and handed to David Scarpa who was delegated to take it to the Superior General in Rome.

Arrangements for the Chapter

Dates for the Second Session of the District Chapter:

It was proposed that the dates and venue suggested for the second session of the Chapter, (26-30 May 2008 in St Cassians) be accepted. The motion was carried unanimously.

Steering Committee:

It was proposed that the Steering Committee comprise: Terence Collins, Benedict Foy, William Rafferty and David Scarpa. The motion was carried unanimously.

Chapter Secretary:

It was proposed that Bernard Hayward be appointed Chapter Secretary. The motion was carried, (for 30, against 0, abstentions 1). He would join the Steering Committee.

The Chapter Agenda:

The list of items for the agenda proposed by the District Council formed the basis of a discussion on the programme for the second session of the Chapter. After discussion, some additions to this document were agreed on. A revised version of the agenda would be drawn up by Terence Collins and circulated.

The Steering Committee would be responsible for drawing up the timetable of the second session so as to ensure it would include the approved agenda.

People were reminded that there was still scope for Notes to the Chapter from Communities and individuals

The involvement of lay colleagues in the Chapter:

The motion "that our lay partners be invited to the Second Session of the Chapter as appropriate" was carried (for 27, against 2, abstentions 2).

Closure of the First Session

Sean closed the session by thanking the Capitulants for attending. He thanked those who had prepared the day, those who had provided refreshment and the tellers.