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MINUTES OF THE GRACEPOINT SPECIAL ANNUAL SOCIETY MEETING HELD ON 29 JANUARY 2026 AT 18H30 VIA ZOOM

IN ATTENDANCE

As per the Zoom Meeting Attendance List

APOLOGIES

Justin Hume

	ACTION
1. WELCOME & OPENING • Rev Linda welcomed all present at the meeting. • She started by informing the meeting that there is only one item on the agenda, namely, the appointment of the new Society Stewards.	

2. SCRIPTURE, DEVOTION & PRAYER
 	
• Rev Ian led the meeting in scripture, devotion and prayer.
• 1 Peter 5:1 – 4 - listen to what God's Word might be saying to each of us.
  ○ Peter talks to the leaders and locates himself in the story of Jesus. We are to ground our leadership roles in our own experiences of Jesus.
  ○ We are called to be like shepherds who serve with honesty and not for selfish gain. We are called to be people who serve and care for those we are leading
  ○ Peter writes about leaders who are eager to serve – being passionate, filled with zeal, with a burning desire to make a difference.
  ○ We are called to lead by example.	

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3. WHY ARE WE LOOKING FOR SOCIETY STEWARDS

Rev Linda took time to briefly explain why we are looking for new society stewards:

- With regards to governance in the Methodist Church of South Africa (MCSA), the Book of Order allows each society to have up to 10 society stewards.
- We currently we have 9 society stewards.
- 2 of the 9 have society stewards have stepped won – Poovern is relocating to Australia with his family and Richard has reached the end of his first 3-year term and is not available for re-appointment.
- That has created 3 vacancies in the Society Steward body.

4. INTRODUCTION OF OUR CURRENT SOCIETY STEWARDS

Rev Linda introduced the current Society Stewards and the ministry area commissions they are responsible for:

- Celeste Munro – Finance
- Syolo Mhluzana – Pastoral Care and Counselling
- Mokgadi Maleka – Gen Now
- Sonja Walls – Worship, Creative and Communication
- Mole Bokgwathile – Finance
- Grant Sheard – Local Trust Properties
- Lungelo Hadebe – Compassion and Justice

Rev Linda thanked the Society Stewards for their service to the Gracepoint community.

5. EXPLANATION OF THE NOMINATION PROCESS AND THE NOMINEES

Rev Linda explained the nomination process and introduced the nominees.

- Within the MCSA, societies are required to have a balance of 40% female, 40% male and 20% young people under 35 years as part of the Society Steward body.
- Currently, the 20% requirement of young people is met as there are 2 society stewards under the age of 35. However, there are only have 2 male Society Stewards, which does not meet the 40% of male requirement. There are 5 female society stewards, which exceeds the 40% female requirement.
- The nomination process was as follows:
    - Nominations opened at the end of Nov 2025 and were advertised extensively through Gracepoint communication channels.
    - The congregation was given sufficient time to submit nominations.

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○ Nominations are now closed. ○ Nominations are not taken from the floor of the meeting, as this would not allow time for discernment by those nominated, nor for Rev Ian and Rev Linda to meet with nominees to provide clarity on the role and responsibilities of a Society Steward • Rev Linda introduced the nominees, whose profiles were shared with the congregation via the Gracepoint WhatsApp platform: ○ Natasha John – nominated by Mole and seconded by Susan ○ Justin Hume – nominated by Ben and seconded by Jean • Gracepoint still does not meet the 40% male requirement and will continue to work towards filling this position during the course of the year. • Justin Hume submitted his apology for the meeting as he is travelling. • The meeting will not proceed with an election process.	
6. QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND OBSERVATIONS • Merle asked what portfolios the new Society Stewards would hold. Rev Linda explained that the Society Steward body would meet and decide on ministry area commissions based on individual skills, gifts, and passions. Rev Ian confirmed this and added that the process is done through consultation and consensus at an Executive meeting. • John expressed appreciation for the well-prepared CVs of the nominees and noted that both would be assets to the church and would add value to any portfolio assigned to them. • Ben added that Richard served with Mokgadi in the Gen Now ministry, while Poovern was responsible for Discipleship.	
7. PROPOSAL, SECONDING, AND APPOINTMENT OF THE NOMINEES AS SOCIETY STEWARDS • Rev Linda asked the meeting whether they accepted the nominations of Natasha John and Justin Hume as Society Stewards. • The nominations were accepted by the meeting.	
8. PRAYER FOR NEW AND CURRENT SOCIETY STEWARDS • Rev Linda invited Rev Ian to hold Natasha and Justin in prayer, along with the rest of the society steward body.	

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9. CLOSING & BENEDICTION	
• The meeting was closed following the benediction	

Signed as a true reflection of the meeting:

_____

REV LINDA MAGENGENENE-MOYAKE

DATE: _____

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