

MINUTES OF THE 3RD MEETING OF THE HIGHVELD DEACONS – 30TH NOVEMBER, 2013. DIOCESAN OFFICES 11H00 – 12H30.

Bishop David Bannerman opened the meeting in prayer.

Attendance register:

Bishop David Bannerman (in the chair)

Deacons: Barbara Morrison (Boksburg), Phillip Laurings (Cathedral, Benoni), Pieter Wesseloo (Springs), Robert Rajagaupaul (St Mary Magdalene (Actonville), Gwynne Lawlor (St Mary's Parish, Daggakraal).

Apologies accepted : Deacon Sonya (family bereavement).

Absent: Deacons Manentsa and Lulama

1. Order of Deacons

Will become a reality!

It was agreed that the deacons of the Highveld would form an association to join DRAE and DIAKONIA.

Minimum amount of members required = 8.

Currently membership consists of 6 vocational deacons (Morrison, Laurings, Wesseloo, Lawlor, Dunstan Manentsa and Lulama).

A decision was taken to co-opt the Bishop of the Highveld and Deacon Robert Rajagaupaul (soon to be ordained priest) as members.

Those deacons (3) to be ordained on 16th December to be invited to join. This will bring membership up to 9 vocational deacons, plus two co-opted members :the Bishop and Fr Rajagaupaul.

Membership to cost approx. R50 per annum or R150 per three year period. It is more cost effective to pay for three years in terms of international money transfers. (Note: cost might have gone up with foreign exchange fluctuations).

Members are requested to approach the Bishop if the membership fee is beyond their current means.

The Diocesan Administrator has a special fund for the Order of Deacons, which currently holds sufficient funds to send at least one deacon to the next Diakonia worldwide in 2017.

Deacons to be sent in order of seniority, if not already retired (age 66). Currently Dunstan Manentsa and Lulama Ndebele are the most senior deacons, and would therefore be eligible for selection, if still licensed, and if willing to undertake the task.

Association (order?) of deacons to be open to all Deacons, transitional and vocational, but only vocational deacons to be sent as Bishop's representatives of the Highveld Deacons to DIAKONIA.