

TCBC CONSTITUTION MAIN CHANGES 2010

Dear Church Family,

Here is a summary of the constitutional changes recommended by the church council. Two versions of the constitution are available in the foyer or on the church website. (1)The revised constitution and (2) the existing constitution with the proposed changes. Contact Warren Midgley (Chair) or David Stranger (Secretary) for more information.

Thanks and God Bless,

Pastor Greg

1. Removal of the constitutional requirement that the Lord's Supper be conducted twice per month (2.2). Not considered necessary in a constitution.
2. Changes about baptism – allowance made for disabled persons (3.1.1)
3. Changes about baptism and membership (3.1.2)
4. Admission of members – by transfer removed (3.1.3)
5. Copy of the church constitution to be provided to those considering membership prior to the interview (3.2.2 and 3.2.5)
6. Church Council approval of membership applications no longer needs to be unanimous (3.2.3)
7. Acceptance of the constitution is included in the application form (3.2.4)
8. Inclusion of the right of appeal for applicants not approved by the Church Council (3.2.5)
9. Transfers of members to the absentee members' roll will be after three months absence rather than six (3.4.5)
10. The role of the Church Council is clarified in regard to church discipline (4.1 to 4.4)
11. Members under church discipline have the right of appeal (4.3)
12. The need for a "subcommittee of members" to consult with the Church Council about church discipline issues has been removed (4.2)
13. The purpose of special meetings has been further clarified (5.5.1 and 5.6)
14. The need to read the minutes prior to their acceptance in some circumstances has been removed (5.7)

15. The need for moving and seconding of motions has been removed (old 5.8)
16. Addition of statement about avoiding making decisions on matters raised at the meeting (5.8)
17. Voting “by proxy” has been renamed “absentee voting” (5.11)
18. Statements 5.11.2 and 5.11.3 not seen as necessary in a constitution.
19. The minimum quorum for all members’ meetings standardised at 20% of the voting membership (5.12.1)
20. The statement about the general role of a pastor in 6.1 not considered necessary in a constitution.
21. The statement of a pastor being designated as senior pastor not considered necessary (6.2)
22. In regard to voting for a pastor, the requirement of two-thirds of members present changed to two-thirds of ballots submitted (6.6.1)
23. The statement about the details of the pastor’s call not seen as necessary in the constitution (6.6.1)
24. The statement about requiring individual Church Council members to take special interest in specific areas of the church removed as unnecessary (7.8.1)
25. The term “audited” replaced with “reviewed” (7.8.5 and 8.4)
26. Members of the Pastoral Team (other than the senior pastor) cannot also be members of the Church Council (7.9.1)
27. Some changes to the election process for Church Council (7.9.4 and 7.9.5)
28. Members have the right of appeal if they are not recommended by the Church Council to membership of the Council (7.9.4)
29. The statement about voluntary proportionate giving removed (8.1)
30. Old 10.4.2 not considered necessary
31. In regard to affiliated organisations (11.4), the statements about annual appointments removed and also the final statement about the Council disallowing appointments.
32. Voting about changes to the constitution now requires two-thirds of ballots cast (12.1)