

CSI TAMIL PARISH - DUBAI

Minutes of the 46th Annual General Body Meeting**Venue: St. Paul's Chapel****Date & Time: 1st June 2025, 08:00 am****Opening Prayer:**

Chairman Rev. K. Suthakar welcomed all members present and requested that our new assistant Presbyter, Rev. D. Joseph, lead the opening prayer.

Roll Call:

The Chairman announced the appointment of Mr. Bright Chella Kumar and Mr. Kingston Jose as recording secretaries and requested that they take their seats.

The Chairman appointed Chief Tellers, comprising Mr. David Thomas Alexander, Mr. Suresh Singh Sekar, Mr. John Solomon, Mr. John Christopher, Mr. Gnana Gandhi, Mr. V.C Suresh, and other Tellers (names listed below), to conduct the roll call and assisting in other matters as per the instructions of the Chief Tellers.

Sl. No.	Name	Sl. No.	Name
1	Livingston Israel	19	Ebenazar Prabhu
2	Inba Kumar	20	Jeffrey Agustus
3	Christin Solomon	21	Jayasingh B
4	Bener Kim Sam	22	Jenkins
5	Edwin Russel	23	John Wesley
6	Hilton Jose	24	Jeyakumar
7	Jeya Sekar	25	Paul Raj D
8	Roland	26	Pravin Jenio
9	Edwin Charles	27	Paul Yesudhas
10	Godson David	28	Alston Samuel
11	Allen Bruce	29	Bevin Chris
12	Joshua Arthur	30	Manoj Kumar
13	Jefferson R	31	Barnabas
14	Catherine Simson	32	Anish Rove – RAK
15	Kasi Rajan	33	Retna Singh - Fuj
16	Jebin Rajakumar		
17	Jeba Singh		
18	Jeya Prakash		

The appointed Tellers recorded the attendance of eligible members present in the AGM and handed over the following details to the Chairman.

Total eligible voters as per final voters list = 812

Quorum required to have an AGM = 203

Members present and attendance recorded = 277

As the total number of eligible members present exceeded the quorum, the Chairman declared the Annual General Meeting open and requested that the members conduct themselves cordially and peacefully. The Chairman also mentioned digital recording (Audio) of the proceedings.

Condolences to the bereaved families:

The Chairman called for a one-minute silence to be observed by all, followed by a remembrance prayer by Rev. Raj Kumar Johnwesley, our assistant presbyter, for the consolation of the bereaved family members who had passed away during the last year.

Appreciation to EC Members and Church Ministries for the past year:

The Chairman appreciated the Executive Committee for their commitment, contribution and unity within the team. He appreciated and thanked our Lord for the efforts made by the EC members in meticulously planning each program for the church, as well as other active ministries, such as Area Prayer Cells and Camp Ministry. He requested the cooperation of every member to run the AGM smoothly.

The Chairman initiated the discussions on the letters received for clarifications on the Annual Report 2024-2025, Minutes of the previous AGM, Audited Financial Statement for 2024-2025 and Forecast for 2025-2026 from Mr.Babu Jeyaseelan, Mr.Paul Prabhakar, Mr.Christin Solomon Walter, Mr.Singh Retnam, Mr.Satish Paul, and Mr.David Tilak Wilson.

Enhancing Inclusivity and Efficiency in AGM and SGM Decision-Making:

The Chairman explained the details of the “**New Web Application**” for enhancing inclusivity and efficiency in AGM and SGM decision-making, as detailed in the Secretary’s report and the previous week’s announcement during the Holy Worship Service. The EC decided to adopt a technology-based application after receiving several requests from members stating their inability to express their opinions during the AGM/SGM sessions. They had also requested some “means” through which they could register their opinion.

The Secretary and the Vice President explained that the EC discussed these requests and developed a technology solution, a “Web-based Application,” for the General Body members. The Chairman also explained that this abides by our constitutional system of making decisions through a “**Simple Majority**” by “**raising hand**” process.

The Secretary also confirmed that letters were received from Mr. Christopher Sargunaraj, Mr. Babu Jeyaseelan, Mr. Christin Walter Solomon, and Mr. Sathish Paul, who appreciated the information and requested clarifications. Dr. Paul Prabhakar and Mr. Singh Retnam had written letters seeking clarification on the web-based application.

Mr.Sathish Paul, Mr.Sam Leslie, Mr.Sam Issac Rajan, Mr.Christin Solomon Walter, Mr.Ramesh Ponraj, Mr.Alwyn Jayakumar, Dr.Paul Prabhakar, Mr.Caldwel, Mr.Babu Jeyaseelan, Mr.Singh Retnam, Mrs.Manjula Samson, Mr.Noah Samson, Dr.Benjamin shared their views. It has been agreed to submit this proposal as a constitutional amendment, following the process outlined in the constitution.

The Chairman approved and requested that the Chief Tellers initiate a secret ballot for the above proposal. Mr.David Alexander explained the voting procedures and commenced the process. The Teller checked the ballot boxes to ensure they were empty, and the voting commenced.

After the votes had been cast by all the eligible voters who were present, the counting of votes began immediately by the Tellers. The result was presented to the Chairman.

Total votes received = 261

Votes registered as “YES” = 221

Votes registered as “NO” = 40

The Chairman declared that the total votes in “favour” of the Web-based application were above 50% of the total votes received and declared the Constitution amendment approved by the AGM.

The constitution amendment for adopting the use of a web application system through the mobile device to record member’s opinions during AGMs and SGMs, in place of the hand-raising method in the decision-making process approved by the AGM was duly proposed by Mr.Leslie and seconded by Mr.Caldwel.

Below is an amendment to the Constitution Chapter 5 Clause I – Decisions:

Existing Clause:

“All matters at the AGM / SGM will be decided by a simple majority of the eligible voting members present. The Chairman of AGM shall decide on the mode of voting either by show of hands or by secret

ballots, except in the case of amendments to the constitution where voting requirement shall be as per Chapter XII-B.”

Amendment:

“All matters at the AGM / SGM will be decided by a simple majority of the eligible voting members present. The Chairman of AGM shall decide on the mode of voting either by using the web application system through their mobile device or by secret ballots, except in the case of amendments to the constitution where voting requirement shall be as per Chapter XII-B.”

New Project Proposals for AGM Approval:

I. Fujairah Church Construction:

The Secretary briefed on the land allotment in Fujairah in the annual report. He stated that we have already received approval for the “CSI Tamil Church” from the Emiri Court of Fujairah. Necessary approvals for the land allotment, with the possibility of issuing a worship license, are expected as soon as possible. The benefits would be that we will have Our Own Land (only the lease amount to be paid), a bank account possibility, and Dubai and RAK churches can be added as Associate Churches and can function legally. He requested approval from the AGM for the EC to proceed further on receipt of the approvals from the authorities.

Mr. Prince explained the details to the AGM, and Mr. Singh Retnam, Dr. Paul Prabhakar, Mr. Alwyn Jayakumar, Mr. Leslie, and Mr. Caldwell shared their views. They appreciated the efforts so far taken and requested the formation of a “**Joint Sub-Committee for Fujairah Church Construction**”.

The AGM unanimously approved the following team to form the **Joint Sub-Committee** for Fujairah Church Construction for the FY 2025-2026.

Name of the Member	Church
Mr.Ben Selva Sunil	Vice President
Mr.Moses Vijayaumar	EC Secretary
Mr.Johnson	EC Treasurer
Mr.Leslie	Member – Dubai
Mr.Alwyn Jayakumar	Member – Dubai
Mr.Babu Jeyaseelan	Member – Dubai
Dr.Paul Prabhakar	Member – Dubai

Mr.Singh Retnam	Member – Dubai
Mr.Prince	Member – Fujairah
Dr.T. Kishore Jebasingh	EC Member - Fujairah
Mr.Kannan	EC Member - RAK

The Chairman confirmed that the validity of this committee is limited to one year (FY 2025-2026).

The above discussions, with clarifications presented to the AGM for the proposed amount of AED 300,000, were approved by the AGM duly proposed by Mr. Leslie and seconded by Mr. Caldwell.

II. Diocese of Madurai Ramnad Church Project:

The Secretary clarified the proposal given in the annual report for constructing a church in **Angalan Kottai** village. Our previous RAK assistant presbyter submitted this request. The total amount requested for the full construction is valued at Rs. 12 lakhs.

Mr. Singh Retnam, Mr. Leslie, Dr. Paul Prabhakar, Mr. Christin Walter, Mr. David Tilak Wilson, Mr. Enoch Jebaraj, and Mr. Alwyn Jayakumar shared their views. The EC Treasurer also emphasised the need to approve projects based on the forecast budget carefully. Mr. Singh Retnam suggested that the other reserves and surplus funds available can be utilised if required. The AGM approved proceeding with the project, provided that proper documents and verification from the EC were duly proposed by Mr. Leslie and seconded by Mr. Hemant.

III. Thoothukudi Nazareth Diocese School for the Hearing Impaired:

The Secretary clarified that a request has been received from the Thoothukudi Nazareth Diocese to support the School for the Hearing Impaired with a grant of Rs. 1,00,000 per year. Mrs. Ramya Jebastine proposed that the project's yearly grant can be supported by Junior Church Missionary Support, which is collected from the Junior Church Missionary Offertory. This proposal to support the school through the Junior Church Missionary Offertory was unanimously approved by the AGM, duly proposed by Mr. Sathish Paul and seconded by Mr. Hemant.

IV. Support to CSI Telugu Church at HTC Dubai Campus:

CSI Telugu Church, which worships on the HTC campus, has requested that CSI Tamil Parish – Dubai support a portion of the expenses towards the Assistant Pastor, as arranged by the CSI Synod. The Secretary clarified the proposal request from CSI Telugu Church, Dubai, for financial support over 2 to 3 years. Mr. Babu Jeyaseelan shared his opinion, and the AGM unanimously approved AED 30,000 per

year for the next three years, duly proposed by Dr. Paul Prabhakar and seconded by Mr. David Tilak Wilson.

V. Budget Provision for Church Construction Projects in India in every Financial Year:

Every financial year, we receive requests from various organisations in India for the construction of a Church. We are obliged to support at least one Church construction every year where there is no Church. It was requested that the AGM approve the yearly budget provision in the Annual Forecast, and the Secretary provided a briefing on the proposal. Mr. Sathish Paul shared his views, and the AGM suggested drawing up the required guidelines for this procedure, requesting that they be proposed at the next AGM for approval.

VI. Reconsideration of the proposal to support 10 missionaries from Vellore Diocese:

The Secretary clarified that the reconsideration of the proposal (from last year's AGM minutes) to support 10 missionaries from the Vellore Diocese was not processed, as sufficient details were not provided, and the Diocese made no follow-ups. This proposal was approved in the AGM, subject to further scrutiny and verification by the EC.

VII. Other proposals:

The Secretary requested approvals for the following proposals;

1. Support 5 missionaries from the Newman Missionary Ministries.
2. Kanyakumari Diocese - Theological College, Muttom Boys' Hostel room construction.
3. Tirunelveli Diocese – Sara Tucker Convention Centre building construction.

Mr. Caldwell, Mr. Leslie, Mr. Sathish Paul, Mr. Singh Retnam, Mr. Alwyn Jayakumar, and Mr. Hemant, shared their views on the above proposals and the tight budget this year. Hence, the above project proposals were kept on HOLD.

Other Businesses:

The Chairman explained that the CDA committee is working, and the update is provided in the Secretary's report. The CDA committee will continue to work towards obtaining CDA approval soon.

The Chairman confirmed that the constitution revision committee, formed in 2023 by the AGM, was unable to complete its tasks within the given six-month timeframe. Also the secretary stated that the constitution revision was not completed as per the AGM decision. Furthermore, no guidelines were recorded at the 45th AGM. Therefore, this committee was no longer valid, which was agreed upon by the AGM.

Annual Report 2024 - 2025, Minutes of previous AGM, Audited Financial Statement for the year 2024 - 2025 and Forecast for the year 2025 - 2026:

The Chairman requested that the AGM approve the Annual Report for 2024 -2025, the Minutes of the previous AGM, the Audited Financial Statement for 2024-2025, and the Forecast for 2025–2026.

The **Annual Report** for the year 2024 - 2025, which was unanimously approved with clarification by the AGM, was duly proposed by Dr. Benjamin and seconded by Mr. Singh Retnam.

The **minutes of the 45th AGM 2023-2024** were proposed by Mr. David Tilak Wilson and seconded by Mr. Singh Retnam.

The audited **Financial Statements** for the year 2024-2025 were unanimously approved by the AGM with clarification, duly proposed by Mr. Singh Retnam and seconded by Mr. David Rajan.

The **budget forecast** for the year 2025-2026 was unanimously approved with clarification, as duly proposed by Mr. David Tilak Wilson and seconded by Dr. Paul Prabhakar.

The Chairman concluded the 46th Annual General Meeting with a prayer and benediction.

Chairman

Secretary



(Rev. K. Suthakar)



(Mr. Moses Vijayakumar)