

11th March 2026

Dear Members (and the wider congregation) of Windsor Park Baptist Church

The Constitution of Windsor Park Baptist Church (WPBC) is the foundational governing document of the church. It establishes the legal framework under which WPBC operates in accordance with the laws of New Zealand, setting out the church's purposes, governance structure, membership provisions, and the roles and responsibilities of its leaders and decision-making bodies. The Constitution provides the authoritative rules for the orderly administration of WPBC, ensuring that decisions are made transparently, accountably, and in alignment with both the church's Christian convictions and applicable New Zealand law.

On 5th October 2023, the Charities Amendment Act 2023 came into force. This legislation requires registered charities to regularly review their governance procedures and key rules documents (including trust deeds or constitutions) at least every three years to ensure they remain fit for purpose and continue to support the charity's purposes.

WPBC's Constitution had not been formally reviewed since 2007, so it was timely to undertake a careful review, particularly given the many developments at WPBC over the past eighteen years.

The Elders appointed a Constitution Review Team to review the current Constitution and bring recommendations to the Elders. The team comprised Bruce Anderson, Jo Lima, Rebecca Pavis, and John Tucker. Pastor Grant Harris was also involved at various stages of the review process.

In November 2025 the Constitution Review Team presented its recommendations to the Elders. The Elders accepted the recommendations, apart from a couple of very minor wording changes. The staff team also reviewed the proposed changes over the summer and support the recommendations.

The next stage in this process is to invite members, and others in the congregation who may be interested, to review the recommendations and provide any comments or feedback. To assist with this, the following documents are attached:

- The initial report and recommendations presented to the Elders in November 2025.
- A side-by-side comparison of the current Constitution and the proposed Constitution.
- A full copy of the proposed Constitution showing how it would read if adopted by the members

I encourage you to take some time to review these documents. If you have any comments or feedback, please email me on behalf of the Constitution Review Team. We will carefully consider all feedback received before bringing a formal recommendation to the members of WPBC, as any amendment to the Constitution must ultimately be approved by the members of the church.

Our hope is to bring a recommendation to the members at the Annual General Meeting on Sunday 19th April 2026, so we would appreciate receiving any comments by Sunday 29th March 2026. If additional time is required to properly consider the feedback received, we are very open to allowing more time. It is more important to do this well than to do it quickly.

Thank you for your interest and engagement in the life and governance of our church.

Grace and peace

Grant Harris
Senior Pastor
grant.harris@windsorpark.org.nz