

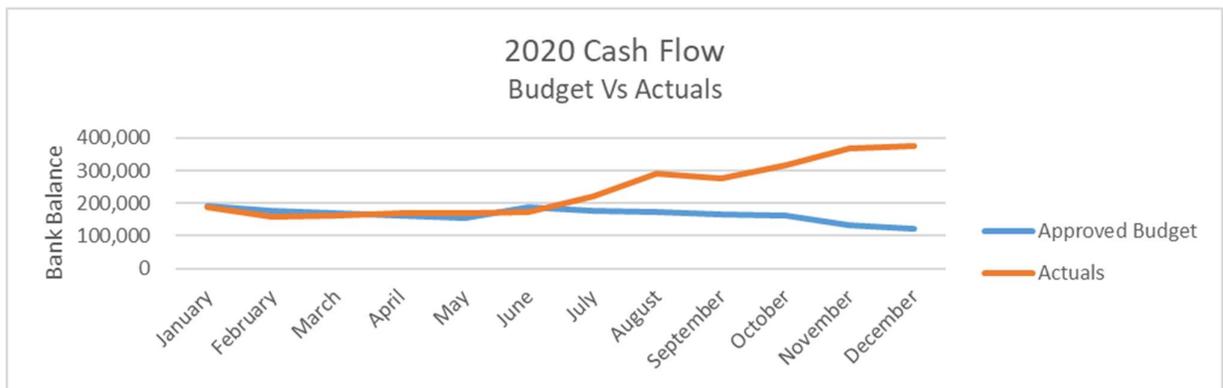
Committee of Management Report for 2020

2020 Finance Report

We are thankful to God for his ongoing provision and continue to strive towards being wise stewards of the resources we are blessed with.

The arrival of Covid-19 in early 2020 caused us to revise our cash flow modelling based on levels of reduced giving. With thanks, our giving remained steady throughout the lockdown period and many cash givers changed to online giving. We were also blessed to be eligible for some of the Government Stimulus Packages, receiving \$239,543 over 2020. This, together with a reduction in expenses due to Covid-19 restrictions, meant we completed 2020 with a surplus over expenses of approx. \$180,000 and sound cash funds.

Whilst our accounts are yet to be audited, our preliminary reports indicate that across the year, our giving was 10% lower than planned budget but other sources of income was higher and expenses were lower (15%). This enabled us to finish the year in a better position than originally forecast in a year with much uncertainty. In addition to our operating cash balance, we finished the year with \$688,483 in Capital Funds which represents approx. 7 months of operational expenditure. This has been after transferring initial support of \$100,000 to City South as they become an independent charge.



The 2021 budget was carefully created with income and expenditure reduced, to conservative levels for an uncertain period, with a commitment to invest in the outdoor project for the Creek Road facility.

The Committee of Management thanks the finance team (Janet Sutton) as well as the money counters, advisors and auditors for their diligence. We also express our thanks to the people of Living Church, for your continued generosity. What a blessing it is to have a Lord and Saviour who shows us what it looks like to live generous lives. May we continue to be a church that strives to be more like Jesus in all areas of our lives.

Creek Road outdoor improvement project

At the “Towards 2021” event on 25 November 2020, we were updated by Mal Griffin and Tim Collard on the outdoor project. In April 2020, the board had paused the project until the impacts of COVID were understood. The congregation was asked if the timing was right to progress the project. There was healthy and open discussion with people voicing their thoughts on both sides. At the end of the night (after ice-cream, budget presentation, and singing), an indication of the desire to progress the project by show of hands was made. This was not a vote as such (the project is approved) but an indication of the congregation’s desire to move forward. Overall, there is a desire to move forward and it has been agreed to proceed to tender. The project committee will come back to future congregational meetings with progress and recommendations.

Creek Road general facility operations

The following has occurred in 2020:

Auditorium sound improvement.

This has been a major project with stage 1 and 2 completed and stage 3 deferred for a future time. The value of this investment has been evident with the newer capabilities delivering a better in room sound experience and particularly in these times an improved online sound experience.

The project involved a replacement of our sound console with a digital front of house console and stage box combination and in ear mixing solution connected via a digital network. Microphones (vocal and instrument microphones) and in ear monitoring transmitters and receivers were standardised and replacement of the ceiling mounted and floor speakers and amplifiers.

In addition, the auditorium was treated to reduce sound reflections by the addition of sound absorbing materials (panels and curtains on the rear wall).

Improvements to upstairs meeting rooms

The upstairs meeting rooms at Carina have had removable walls secured with studded and plasterboard walls. An additional room has been made available as a result.

Other Carina Facilities Investments

- The office, meeting rooms and office doors were all updated with keyed locks.
- The main air conditioner has sustained regular faults throughout 2020. Repairs are based on the unit’s age. A scheduled contracted maintenance program is in place. However, the asset is due for capital work in the next 1-3 years
- The dishwasher was repaired to solve a water leak.

Our thanks to the many volunteers who generously give their time in helping to maintain the facilities. A special mention to Brian Whitwell and his gardening team! Also, thanks also to Tom Neville for his many hours of volunteer work, with his electrical and lighting work for the church. There are others, but the list would be too long! Thank you to each of you.

City South

The City South congregation moved into a cohabitation arrangement with the Annerley Church of Christ in early 2020. This relationship has grown in 2020 and as City South moved to an independent charge from 2021, we are thankful that they have started a new life on a sound footing in these premises. Living Church Creek Road was able to support the new charge by gifting equipment and funds. In addition to various items from our replaced sound desk, 3 months of working capital and initial seed capital funds for a total of \$137,000 saw City South commence the independence. Please pray for Nathan and his congregation as they settle into ministry based at the Annerley Church of Christ building.

Springfield

The Springfield congregation has settled at the end of 2020 into rented facilities at the Tavern. After a challenging period during COVID of meeting virtually this has been an opportunity to rebuild relationships. As Josiah and Bloss look forward to welcoming an addition to their own family in 2021, pray this congregation will grow
