

Extract from MPBC Constitution re Deacons

7.3. DEACONS

The Church shall elect to the office of Deacon 9 members, all above the age of 21 years.

a. Responsibilities

The Deacons shall be responsible for

Recommendations regarding the appointments of pastors.

Management of Church finances and Church property in accordance with the budget and other Church resolutions.

Administration of Church business subject to the direction of Church meetings.

Recommendations regarding the appointment of Staff Workers.

b. Nomination

Election of Deacons shall take place at the Annual General Meeting. Nominations in writing, shall be called for not later than the fourth Sunday prior to the meeting, and may be received by the Church Secretary up to the third Saturday before the meeting. All nominations must bear the consent of the person being nominated. The names of all nominees shall be announced at all services on the two Sundays before the meeting.

c. Election

Deacons shall be elected for a period of two years, the election being so arranged that one half of the Diaconate (or one half of the Diaconate plus or minus one, as appropriate) shall retire each year, (being eligible for re-election).

The election shall be by written ballot, only resident members of age 18 or older, and present, voting. Yes/No voting shall be carried out for each candidate. Only candidates obtaining a two-thirds majority of the votes cast shall be elected.

Where the number of candidates receiving a two-thirds majority is greater than the number of vacancies, those obtaining the most votes shall be elected. In the event of a tie for the last position, a ballot shall be held to choose the final Deacon from those in the tie. The candidate obtaining the greatest number of votes shall be elected. In the event of a further tie, the final position shall be determined by drawing lots.

If there are fewer candidates than the number of vacancies, or if the number receiving two-thirds majority is less than the number of vacancies, the vacancies shall remain.

d. Vacancies

Vacancies occurring after the annual election may be filled at a members' meeting, of which two Sundays' notice has been given. Deacons so elected shall hold office only for the unexpired portion of the term of the Deacons who places have been taken.