PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE FOR 14ᵀᴴ APRIL

As an ongoing way of sharing information re "Reimagining Plains Parish" a reminder of the upcoming

local meetings in each region of our parish:

- **Mayfield** – 18th April, 1.30pm in the Church Lounge

- **Methven** – 21st April, after the 10.30 am Church Service.

- **Rakaia** – 23rd April, 7.30 pm at the Church.

These local meetings are an opportunity to share the Reimagining document, listen to the voices of your community, and discuss as a group: if this proposal were to go ahead to the next stage, what are the things about your mission in the church that you value and would want to retain?

Last week we shared the definition of members of a church parish. Like any charitable organisation, this needs to be clear for decision-making processes to be understood. Parish Council, consisting of nine members (representing three from each church) have unanimously made the decision to "determine the minds of the wider congregation to closing Plains Presbyterian Parish in order for new growth possibilities to emerge". This does not necessarily mean it is going to happen – we have just taken an initial step to get the conversations happening. The next step is to take this decision to a parish-wide **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING on Sunday 5th May, 10.30 am at St John's Methven**. The reason for this meeting is to ratify PCs decision to investigate closure**. It will need 2/3rds of the members (including associates) present at the Congregational Meeting to be in favour to take this further**. Under the PCANZ Book of Order proxy votes are not counted.

Rev Robyn McPhail, a past Minister for our parish, has reached out to tell us we are in her mind and prayers as we look for some answers to the challenges we face. She feels it is significant that we took the initial plunge and linked up as parishes and have some years now of worrying together while keeping an active presence in each district/community".

Visit our website for all the links of the Parish Council Updates on the home page:

plainspresbyterian.co.nz