

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
MINUTES – 27.10.22**

Present:

Clergy: Father Ruscillo (Parish Priest, Chair)

Church Reps: Pat Cadman (St A); Tina Battle (St B); Jack Johnstone (OLSJ); Kathy Holden-Smith (OLSW); Francesca Robinson (St MM)

Committee Reps: Ann Pinguet (Finance); Tricia Turner (Safeguarding)

Apologies: Rev Bill Kirkley (Deacon); Paul Lovell (Building and H&S); Father Etienne (Assistant Priest); Father Harrison (Assistant Priest); Greg Smith (Christ the King)

1. Father Ruscillo welcomed everyone to the meeting and he led the Opening Prayer.

2. Minutes of the last Meeting (12.09.22)

The Minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

3. Matters Arising not covered on the Agenda

Heating:

- Too hot in St MM
- Other churches are very cool (heating to be switched on)
- PB to check out the heating (timing and temperature) in each church - *work in progress*

4. Reports

(1) Ann Pinguet and Paul Lovell (Buildings and Finance): reports previously distributed

Finance

- The figures presented are to the end of August (September info is slow in coming through)
- Minutes also previously circulated – it was emphasised that all Minutes should be treated as confidential
- Bank balance remains fairly steady
- Refugee Funds are being used
- Independent Examiner: need to appoint someone fairly soon – a reminder to PPC Members to ask if anyone can do this (see previous Minutes 040822); perhaps someone from the High School; person does not have to have a finance background

Thanks were given to Ann for her work and reporting

Buildings

Points made:

- Lift has been ordered, no VAT payable saving £4K - first instalment paid; two further instalments to be made (the final after installation)
- St Edmund's accommodation is now empty
- Waverley Road: looking unkempt and overgrown; this will be cleaned up before the new tenants move in
- Still pursuing United Utilities for compensation for lost income during the time they were on site
- Potential tenants for downstairs at BCRH are being sought

- Father Robert Billing, now a Doctor of Canon Law, has been appointed Parish Priest in Carnforth, and is leaving the presbytery at Scalegate Road
- St Bede's lights: 13 light bulbs not working; this work needs done as a matter of urgency

Tricia Turner (Safeguarding): report previously distributed; nothing further to report
There was a positive reaction from the PPC members re the LOUDfence initiative

5. PPC Business:

- A list of suggested names has been compiled with the parishioners yet to be approached.
- St Bede's now has many parishioners from India; it would be good if one of these parishioners could become a member of the PPC
- It is intended to have all new members starting at the same time, with a review of the purpose of the PPC at the first meeting

6. Relics of St Bernadette

It was agreed that this had been a brilliant occasion, with each part of the programme being very successful; the event was well organised and enjoyed by all who attended; good feedback

7. Energy Prices

Ann advised that our current deal with IFM expired at the end of September and we are now on the new gas tariff for two years (green gas)

Government support arrangements have not yet been announced (we are classed as commercial and not domestic)

Advent soup money: *suggestion* – use donations towards fuel costs instead of a charity?

Not supported by members of the PPC

8. Flocknote

St A: most of the congregation don't use it; others PPC members forgot to ask their congregation

Action: *Bring back to the next meeting*

9. Catechetics:

a. Adult Formation:

Bible Study Group has had two sessions, resuming on 8th November; other aspects are in the minds and plans of Fr Etienne and Fr Harrison

b. Sacramental Programmes:

Confirmation: not many candidates have come forward this year; Fr Etienne is reviewing how/if it will be run this time

HC/1st confessions, in summer: many of the Catechists have stepped back; re-thinking the timing, eg, after Mass or on an evening, at a meeting on Saturday

The meeting was advised that the evening session last year (held for those who couldn't attend after Sunday Mass) was poorly attended

The number of children who continue to attend Mass after receiving their First Holy Communion was discussed.

10. Parish Magazine

Distributed to PPC members

11. Music Day for all

To be held on a Saturday after Christmas, Peter Cobb is happy with this.

12. Christmas Masses

Sunday Mass times will remain the same with the exception that there will not be a 4.30 pm Mass

Under consideration:

Three vigil masses: all at 6.00 pm OLSW/St B/St MM *or* St A *plus* Midnight Mass at OLSJ

Carol Concert: venue and timing still to be decided

Request: advice churches ASAP

Easter Triduum plans

Under consideration:

St B Holy Thursday and Easter Vigil service

Good Friday in each of the churches

It was requested that care be taken to ensure no church is used more than another for services and Carol Concert and to prepare a three year plan to ensure this.

Note: choirs, servers and readers from *all* churches to be engaged at the services held in one church only

13. Any Other Business

- Refugees are coming to Mass at St B
- Asylum seekers/Ukraine: collections in the back of church
- Leaflet for funeral request: Father Harrison, *work in progress* (agenda item for next meeting)
- The use of Mass Books, and availability in each church, was discussed and it was noted that the readings are going to change next year, therefore, there is no point in buying new books or Missals until the new version is released

Warm Spot

SVP are responding to the call to provide a Warm Spot and are proposing to use the Waterton Hall on a Friday from 12.30 to 3.00; they are requesting help from *parishioners from all churches* to help with running this

14. Dates of next meetings

November 17th (7.30 BCRH **please note later start time**) apologies Kathy

December 14th (7.30 at St Augustine's) apologies Francesca

Father Ruscillo thanked the members of the PPC for their valued contribution

15. Final Prayer led by Father Ruscillo