

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
MINUTES – 18.1.24
BCRH at 7.00 pm

Present:

Clergy: Father Ruscillo (Parish Priest, Chair); Father Siandele (Assistant Priest)

Church Reps: Pat Cadman and Ann Watson (St A); Jack Johnstone and James Knox (OLSJ); Carolyn Aitkin and Kathy Holden-Smith (OLSW); Ros Gibson and Greg Smith (Christ the King); Tina Battle (St B); Francesca Robinson and Kath Cameron (St MM)

Committee Reps: Paul Lovell (Building and H&S); Tricia Turner (Safeguarding)

Apologies: Rev Bill Kirkley (Deacon); Father Harrison (Assistant Priest); (OLSJ); Vinish Maliekal (St B); Ann Pinguey (Finance); Father Gaskin (Assistant Priest) anthony.gaskin@lrcd.org.uk

1. Welcome and Prayer led by Father Ruscillo

2. Minutes of the last Meeting (16.11.23)

The Minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting

3. Matters Arising not covered on the Agenda

St Bede's Holy Hour

Action: to be discussed at next Clergy meeting

4. PPC Business

Review of Guidelines

An overview of the guidelines has been made and it is confirmed that the PPC is functioning within the guidelines.

It was noted that it is not necessary for the Parish Priest to Chair the meetings, it can be a member of the PPC, however, it was unanimously agreed that Father Ruscillo continue as Chair

Query: would it be a good idea at each meeting to have a verbal report from churches (one or more, or all)

Response:

- This is covered at the Deanery meeting
- Issues are discussed naturally
- The members are happy to be able to air what happens in the local churches at this meeting

5. Reports

(a) Safeguarding: nothing to report

Note: DBS checks for Youth Leaders (see Agenda Item 8) will be required: in hand

(b) Finance:

These were reviewed by the members of the PPC

No questions or comments

A review of the telephone system for BCRH and contacts for the Priests is currently underway. The need to transfer calls easily has been identified as an important feature of a new system

BT is currently providing the service for the parish (phone and broadband) and has provided one of the quotes, with the other quote from a local firm (this would involve a transfer cost) – the decision for this will be made by the Finance Committee. It was noted, from experience, that the local firm are easily contactable and quick to problem solve.

Mary Mitchinson (Parish Administrator) is retiring and is willing to do a handover to a new administrator before she leaves in May. The post will be advertised as 30 hours a week with a salary of £12-13 per hour. The remit for the post will include managing volunteers/tenants/contractors/raising invoices/ordering supplies. The vacancy will be advertised in the parish newsletter.

An Appointments Committee was *suggested* and the following members of the PPC *agreed* to be on that Committee:

Ann (Finance), Carolyn (OLSW), Kath (St MM) and Ros (Christ the King)

First task: a good job description will be required

Buildings:

- Rooves for St B confessionals: in progress
- Castle Water owe the parish over £20K, held for over 6 months, solicitors instructed to recoup the money with interest
- Fire alarm BCRH: updated, subdivided for the tenants
- Reporting of accidents: ALL accidents should be highlighted at BCRH and included in the Safety Tool Box; the parish needs to get into the culture of keeping safe from outside attack (Martin's Law)

Furniture at St B (needs to go to the skip) – send email to Mary

Lighting in OLSW: flickering, some not working – send email to Mary

Thermostat in the Stables needs attention – send email to Mary

Heating (St A) – send email to Mary

Lighting: Timer at Waterton Hall sorted

ALL queries should be emailed to christopherrobinson@carlislecatholicchurch.org for logging and action

6. Easter Triduum – location and times

Maundy Thursday, 28th March at 7.00 pm and the Easter Vigil, 30th March at 8.00pm will both be held in Our Lady and St Joseph's.

On Good Friday, it is anticipated there will be a service in each of the churches (yet to be confirmed);

Children's Stations of the Cross to be held at St MM

Query: Will there be an Easter Sunday morning Mass at OLSW?

Action: To be discussed at clergy meeting

Ash Wednesday Masses: 8.00 am OLSW; 9.30 am St MM and St B; Midday OLSJ; 6.00 pm Ctk; 7.00 pm St A

7. House Groups

29th January: there is to be a meeting of interested people (this will appear in this week's newsletter)

8. Youth initiatives

a. Spark for little ones

SPARK of Faith is a new youth group for young parishioners who are in years 6-8 at school. It will be held at Blessed Christopher Robinson House 7.00 pm - 8.30 pm. The first meeting is on Tuesday 20th February.

b. Young Adults Group: 18 and above (every 2nd Sunday evening 6-8)

9. Entertainment Evening: 1-2 March 2024 update

This event is sold out

It is proposed the money raised will be used to support the two youth initiatives

10. First Holy Communion update

38-40 children are undertaking the programme across the parish in three locations

11. Mass for the sick – Thursday 15 February 2024, Christ the King

Postponed (awaiting info from SVP)

12. Solemn Exposition (Christ the King)

Very successful with an, amazing number of people attending

Action: Another event to be planned for this year

13. Over 70s Christmas Dinner – St Bede's

Very successful, well attended – 25-30 sick and housebound (46 people in total) – there were many volunteers for transport/washing up, etc, which helped tremendously in ensuring everyone had a good time

14. Christmas Masses/Parish Carol Service

Carol Service: thanks to Greg for spot on organisation; lovely to see all the children; a beautiful service (32 in the choir with every church represented)

Christmas Masses: St MM disappointed to be the only church not to have a Christmas Day Mass
OLSW 8.00 am Mass was appreciated; St A was well attended (over 170); St B 6.00 pm (over 200); St MM 6.00 pm (over 200); Midnight OLSJ: very well attended
10.00 am CtK well attended (not many parishioners from St MM)
10.00 am OLSJ well attended
11.00 am St A well attended (140)

A *query* was raised regarding the possibility of a morning Mass at St MM on Christmas Day

Response from member of PPC: there is an incredible choice of Mass times around the City, for which we are very grateful (we are one parish)

15. Rosary in the Square – Saturday 16 December

It was *agreed* to continue to hold this event (about 25 people turned up)

Holding the Latin Mass earlier, at 8.00 am, followed by bacon butties, was successful

16. Any Other Business

- 2nd collection: request the Priest announces it at Mass (week before and Sunday of the collection): **noted**
- Choice of Hymns: some are too obscure; hymns chosen in different ways in each church: **noted**
- Feedback from Synod meeting: diocesan submission was on line (this was advised in the newsletter at the time)
- Mass intentions (announcing of): name not always read out; when appropriate, the person asking for the Mass intention takes the offertory procession

Action: put a notice in the bulletin "if you have asked for the Mass intention, and would like to take the offertory procession, make yourself known to the welcomers"

Mass times on Holy Days: Action: Item for next agenda

17. Date of next meeting

22 February 2024

21 March 2024

18 April 2024

18. Final Prayer led by Father Siandele