

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
MINUTES – 28.11.24
BCRH at 7.00 pm

Present: Father Ruscillo (Parish Priest, Chair); Sister Getrude

Church Reps: Pat Cadman and Ann Watson (St A); Greg Smith and Ros Gibson (Christ the King); (OLSJ); Tina Battle and Nidhin Jose (St B); Kathy Holden-Smith and Carolyn Aitkin (OLSW)

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

Apologies: Rev Bill Kirkley (Deacon); Ann Pinguet (Finance); Jack Johnstone and James Knox (OLSJ); Kath Cameron and Francesca Robinson (St MM); Father Harrison (Assistant Priest); Father Gaskin (Assistant Priest); Father Siandele (Assistant Priest)

1. **Welcome and Prayer** led by Father Ruscillo

2. **Minutes of the last Meeting (17.10.24)**

Accepted as a true record of the meeting (*after correcting the spelling of St Getrude's name*)

3. **Matters Arising not covered on the Agenda**

Reports, as requested at last meeting

4. **PPC Business**

All is ticking along nicely

5. **Reports**

(a) Tricia Turner (Safeguarding)

Agata is stepping down from her role in St Augustine's; new PSR required

(b) Ann Pinguet and Paul Lovell (Buildings and Finance)

Finance

Questions/comments

A request had been previously made for a breakdown of capital expenditure for each building for this meeting.

Response: a spreadsheet is already set up with this information and in daily use; some of this information is sensitive, however, should anyone request to see these reports, they are welcome to visit BCRH and view the documents

Action Paul: to screen the spreadsheet at the next meeting.

Comment: parishioners ask questions regarding expenditure on various properties

Response: PPC members will be enabled to answer these questions after seeing the information on screen; PPC members to ensure parishioners know they can be a conduit for any queries they may raise

Questions/comments on finance report

Note: The sum received from Standing Orders is not reflected in the Sunday newsletter; roughly, two-thirds of income is reflected in the amount shown

Action: the phrase "not including standing orders" to be added

Second collection

Action Priests: to announce from the pulpit the week before and on the day of the second collection

Action: A 'donation/payment' machine to be installed in OLSW and CtK asap

Property

BCRH

- Car parking: more permits sold (five, realising £1,500); barrier on order plus bell
- Inductions: new Romanians and their church have been inducted in the use of the church
- Leases: agreed

St Bede's

- Gas - new supply: can now turn the gas on and off in the church and hall, separately
- Insurance Claim settled
- Finishing of Rectory renovations for Sisters, including trees removed (recycled)

St Augustine's

- New tenant (from 1st December)

Warwick Bridge

- On-going relationship is building between Nottingham Diocese and the WB Restoration Committee; there is a link with Bishop Whiteside and the Church in Tasmania (the church being identical to WB)
- Fire Risk Assessment: 80 is the figure for mitigation; can go up to 100; need torches at WB; marshalling on the doors
- Land Registry: adverse possession claim - Corby estate were including our property in their advert for sale of their estate; Land Registry have been advised that the land has belonged to the parish for over 30 years; this is now being dealt with by Land Registry

Longtown

Rubbish removal: boys from probation service have cleared a huge amount of rubbish which now needs to go into a skip; it is proposed to fence off the site and install gate access (planning permission needed); there has been no interest shown in the purchase of the land for the building of flats; long-term plan is for the parish to undertake this project

General

Heating times and temperatures: set to 18 degrees in each church during services

Action: PPC members to send photographs of thermostat if churches are not achieving this temperature

Insurance

Some churches had their church organs on the policy (all items over £20K need to be identified); OLSJ and OLSW were listed; all others have now been added

Boiler at CtK: waiting for quote - if over £8K, the quote requires diocesan approval (the boiler is still working)

6. Our Lady and St Wilfrid's

WB recently held two very successful fundraising events. There was a very good turnout for the organ recital which raised £1,200. The Open Day was well attended (in spite of the weather) and raised over £1,000.

The next step is to have the work done to produce the report (costing up to £40K) to make the application for funding.

It was discussed whether it is worthwhile using parish funds to get that up and running, WB having already raised £20K; making an outlay of about £15,000 to get the funding application of £300K progressed

The PPC supported this suggestion

7. Parish Sisters – update

While Sister Rozaria and Sister Gladys are able to find employment within the health service, they have yet to find sponsors in Carlisle, hopefully, they will be here by the beginning of next year.

8. St Gabriel Sisters

The date for leaving has been pushed back again, leaving date still not known (possibly February)

9. Sunday 8th December St Bede's 1.00 pm: Welcome Mass for our new parish sisters.

We will be joined by the Mother General of the Little Children of Our Blessed Lady and Bishop Paul. There will be no 9.30 am Mass at St Bede's this day since it is replaced by the 1.00 pm Celebration Mass. All parishioners are invited and encouraged to join in. We will be joined by a sizeable number of members of the Zimbabwean Community UK. The Mass will be followed by a reception of Zimbabwean cuisine.

- There will be You Tube Live Streaming of the "The Great Welcome" at St. Bede's Church
- A Marquee had been organised enabling 300 people to attend
- Up to 60 can be accommodated in the Lady Chapel
- ***Suggestion: livestreamed into the hall as well***
- Mother General is arriving on Monday, plus three other Sisters; accommodation has been arranged for the Sisters and Priests in the parish

There is to be new signage at St Bede's with the Sisters' logo to be included

10. Events

- *Recital review: see above*
- *Sunday 1st December, Our Lady & St. Joseph's 10.00 am* (this Mass will be live-streamed): Bishop Paul will celebrate Mass in our parish. This is part of the Centenary of the Diocese of Lancaster celebrations and in preparation for the Holy Year of 2025 (Pilgrims of Hope). As part of the 'Bishop's Progress' (that is: pilgrimage) through the geographic regions of the diocese during Advent, Bishop Paul will celebrate the 10.00 am OLSJ Mass. During this celebration of Mass, the Bishop will formally announce the forthcoming Holy Year which begins on Christmas Eve and lasts until the Solemnity of the Epiphany 2026.
- *Christmas: times advertised in the newsletter (first practice for Carol Service 30th November; mince pies and mulled wine to be served after the Carol Service); SPARK have designed the front cover of the order of service*

11. Holy Hour at St Bede's

To commence in the New Year

12. Diocesan Environmental Justice Group

Representative requested for each parish in the diocese; this was discussed in some detail

Action: PPC Members please send any suggestions to Father Ruscillo

13. 40 Hours Solemn Exposition

Father Harrison was very disappointed at the number of people who turned up for the final hour (about 16 parishioners)

Note for next time: Sign-up sheets need to be put into the churches at least two or three weeks before the event

14. Lectionaries

Although the parish paid for the leaflets in July, they have not arrived; Father Harrison has been promised they will arrive 29 November

Old lectionaries: one set will be kept as a legacy, the others recycled

Old books: offer them to parishioners; they should be recycled in green recycling bags (taking the covers off)

15. Any Other Business

CtK: counting offertory: *envelopes from another church should be returned to BCRH*

St A: Christmas Cards on sale in church: available in repositories (St B, OLSJ, St MM) and Mary's Meals

Action: check possibility of a repository at St A

St A: Parish retreat requested **Action: to be considered**

St B: Thanks expressed for list of funerals in Sunday newsletter

16. Date of next meeting

16th January 2025

20th February 2025

20th March 2025

24th April 2025

17. Final Prayer led by Father Ruscillo