

**ST GEORGE AND THE ENGLISH MARTYRS**  
**MINUTES OF PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING**

**5<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2014**

**Present:** Father Graham Smith, Frank McEvoy, Chris McPhillips, Annabelle Smith, Charlotte Alexander and Kelvin NCube

Also present: Val McEvoy (Minutes Secretary)

Father Graham opened the meeting with a prayer.

Apologies were received from Chris Wallen, Paul Schofield, Bernard Chalk, Graham Alcock, Suzanne Halvey and Adrienne Davison

**Approve minutes of the last PPC meeting**

It was noted that the item under Matters arising on minutes of 16<sup>th</sup> October concerning 'assistance to parish youth wishing to go to Lourdes' should be amended to read 'any support should be confined to agreeing that the youth can have a fund-raising event and that we would urge the parish to support this. The intention being we help the group rather than specific individuals'.

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2013 and the AGM of 18<sup>th</sup> November were then agreed and approved.

**Matters arising from Action list of 16<sup>th</sup> October 2013**

- 12 days of Christmas Quiz postponed
- Youth going to Lourdes – see amendment above

**Matters arising from AGM minutes of 18<sup>th</sup> November 2013**

- Father Graham has given a talk on Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- Possible parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes coinciding with the Diocese in July but possibly for a shorter time. Notice to appear in the newsletter again to establish interest.
- Father Graham to arrange meeting of all parishioners who have volunteered to be part of the 'Befriending Group' so that this can be launched as soon as possible.
- Frank explained that a revised quote and recommendations had been received from a professional Sound Engineer to improve the sound quality in St. George's to include: new amp, new brackets to change angle of speakers, replace ambo microphone and upgrade Father Graham's lapel microphone. If agreed, it is hoped this work will take place shortly.
- Sharon to be asked to contact the electrician to adjust the front external lamp

**Receive update on Financial Report for Parish**

As Graham was unable to attend the meeting, he had circulated his finance report to 5<sup>th</sup> January 2014 (attached) which was discussed briefly.

**Preparations for Parish Mission**

Father Graham said that a few responses had been received following the tick-list sheet that had been circulated to the parish but more support will be needed. Father Graham said he has noted that the final weekend of the Mission (26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> July) coincides with the first weekend of the school summer holidays when many families will have gone away on holiday. He has considered this and the effect it could have on the success of the Mission and has decided to contact the Sion Community to ask to have a 'mini' Mission (one week) and carry over the other time to possibly help the school have a 'mini' Mission in the autumn term. Father Graham and Annabelle will arrange to have a meeting with Sion to discuss this issue.

**Other items raised by Father Graham**

- Noticeboard – Father Graham pointed out that 2 quotes will be needed for a new external noticeboard for St. Georges
- Father Graham has sketched an outline of The Baptism of Christ in the alcove on the altar by the font and quotes are being considered for the mural to be painted.

### Other items raised by Annabelle Smith

- Annabelle confirmed that 50 school newsletters are delivered for St. George's porch each week and a further 20 for St. Gregory's and she will monitor the uptake should any further copies be required.
- First Holy Communion classes are going well and Charlotte and Suzanne have joined the team.
- School and Parish joint Christmas Fayre – Annabelle said she would like to encourage the parish to be more involved with the Fayre this year, both with providing donations and help on the day and she will hopefully help to achieve this by speaking at weekend Masses leading up the Fayre. The PPC agreed that they could be more pro-active nearer the time.

### Any other business

- Charlotte said she has received good feedback regarding the monthly Parish Youth Mass and following this, would like Father Graham to consider having two a month. Father Graham said he had no objection to this but Charlotte would have to discuss it with both Emma and Dave who are very involved with the music.
  - Charlotte said that Lorna would like to know when the Diocesan trip to Walsingham is being held and Father Graham confirmed that it will be 24<sup>th</sup> May and will be advertised in the newsletter.
- Chris reported that one of the altar lights flickers during Mass and a replacement bulb is also needed in the porch. Annabelle said that the school use a very reasonable electrician/plumber if needed. Sharon will be asked to organise this work.
- In preparation for Youth Masses, it was suggested that Tony Castle may be willing to practise with the Confirmandi for reading at Mass.
- Chris said she thinks the candle by the Memorial Book needs replacing and Father Graham said this should probably be a smaller sanctuary candle. Sharon to organise replacement.

Due to another commitment, Kelvin left the meeting at this point.

- Noticeboards to be shared by Parish Council, First Holy Communion group and Confirmandi.
- Chris said that St. George's is hosting a Womens World Day of Prayer service on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm. It was noted that this time will not interfere with Adoration and Benediction.

### Date and time of next meeting

The next PPC meeting will take place on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm.

Frank thanked everyone for attending.

### Action List

Sharon	Re-advertise possible parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes	
Father Graham	Arrange meeting with 'Befriending' group to launch a.s.a.p.	
Finance Committee	Consider amended quote for sound system at St. George's	
Sharon	Contact electrician to adjust front external spotlight	
Sharon	Contact electrician to replace flickering altar lamp bulb and porch	
Father Graham	Contact Sion Community to discuss Mission dates	
Charlotte	Speak to Emma & Dave re: additional Youth Mass	
Frank	Speak to Tony Castle – practise reading with Confirmandi	
Sharon	Order replacement small sanctuary lamp for Memorial Book table.	