

ST GEORGE AND THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

MINUTES OF PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON 11th JULY 2016

Present: Fr Brett Adams, Dianne Alexander, Malcolm Duncan, Catherine Harrold, Brian Lish, Chris McPhillips, Adrienne Davison, Kelvin Ncube, David Andrew, Frank McEvoy, Graham Alcock, Annabelle Norris, Suzanne Halvey and Paul Gwilliam.

Apologies: received from Paul Schofield and Charlotte Alexander

Also present: Val McEvoy (Minutes Secretary)

Fr Brett opened the meeting with a prayer.

Frank welcomed everyone and explained that Adrienne has now completed her two terms of office in accordance with the terms of the Constitution. He expressed thanks to her for her time on the Parish Council.

He welcomed Paul Gwilliam who has been co-opted to the Council as the newly appointed Steward of the Gospel for our parish. Frank said he would like to recommend that this position should be a permanent appointment as adopted for Headteacher, Parish Treasurer and Chair of Parish Finance Committee in 2012. This amendment will be circulated to the parish prior to adoption at the Annual General Meeting in November.

Approve minutes of the last PPC meeting held on 11th April 2016

Graham pointed out that an addition should be made to bullet point 2 (gravestone) under Matters arising to include the following sentence: *It was noted that any expenditure would be agreed before any work commences.*

This addition was agreed and the minutes were approved.

Matters arising from Action list of 11th April 2016

- Defibrillators - Dianne said that the cost would be about £400 and registration/application form is available on the British Heart Foundation website. A brief discussion took place on who would be trained to use the equipment, from various parish groups to the wider community. Dianne pointed out that the machine gives step-by-step instructions at each stage.
- First aid items – Chris said she had reported the out-of-date items to Sharon and these have now been replaced.

Receive update on Financial Report for Parish

Graham had circulated his report to the Council prior to the meeting and he briefly outlined some key areas. He pointed out that a further unexpected legacy had been received since writing his report of £35,000.

A recent Mould Inspection report has highlighted areas of damp penetration in the Priests Sacristy and other areas giving an initial estimate of £14,000. A Health and Safety report also noted a crack in the tower which will be investigated.

Frank thanked Graham for his very detailed finance report and no questions forthcoming.

Items raised by Father Brett

Fr Brett announced that he has asked Tony Castle to run a half-day of Recollection for Eucharistic Ministers in September and this will be advertised in the newsletter.

He said he also proposes to ask Tony to run a session for readers on improving how The Word of God is projected to the congregation, as it is such a significant and important Ministry. Graham pointed out that the microphone on the ambo is non-directional and does not need adjusting. This should also be emphasised to the readers.

He also said that a full list of moves in the Diocese will be published in the newsletter next weekend.

Items raised by Annabelle Norris

- Junior children attended Mass at the church on Feast of St. Peter & Paul while the Infant children had their own service in school.
- The 10/10 Catholic Education Theatre Company will be visiting school this week to provide workshops for the children on prayer and worship and they will also be filming a promotional video during her assembly.
- First Holy Communion – both of the weekend celebrations were fantastic. Annabelle said that with 30 Catholic children in Year 2 for the coming year, she envisages a similar number and she has agreed dates with Fr Brett.
- Annabelle said she would like to work with the parish in promoting the school for the proposed September 2017 families, to be proactive in encouraging the families to subscribe to our parish school. A brief discussion took place and it was agreed that this could be achieved by Fr Brett writing to all the families on the parish register who have baptised children in the relevant age group.

Receive report from Paul Gwilliam (Steward of the Gospel)

Paul briefly outlined his role to the Council. (Report to be emailed to Val)

Frank pointed out that he had attended the 2nd of the training sessions as Paul had a prior commitment and he found it to be a very interesting and positive experience.

All parishes now have a questionnaire to complete for data feedback, some of which can be split to be completed by various groups in the parish. The document is available on the parish website and a brief discussion took place on improving communications and involvement. It was agreed that Fr Brett will meet with Paul and Frank to discuss how all the parish will be involved in this project and Fr Brett will agree a date when Paul could introduce this to parishioners at weekend Masses.

Paul also pointed out that 'The Joy of Love' document is available on the website.

Any other business

- Malcolm pointed out that the church steps need to be edged with reflector paint and Graham said he will remind John Pither about doing this.
- Chris McPhillips asked about renewing some hymn books. Graham pointed out that there is no planned expenditure for this at the present time as the Finance Committee are awaiting quotes to possibly install an electronic system.
- Dianne said that the Befriending Group is slowly moving forward. Some volunteers are visiting housebound parishioners but she is still awaiting DBS clearance for other volunteers. Dianne will place a notice in the newsletter to encourage more Befrienders to come forward.
- Brian and Suzanne said they have been asked where people can give feedback about the recent fayre. The suggestions box is ideal for this and Frank will ask Sharon to publicise details in the newsletter again. They also said that the next fundraising event will be the joint Parish/School Race Night on 24th September and this will be advertised as a social evening with Races included.
- Frank asked for any volunteers for the Parish coffee morning on 7th August. Please email Frank and Val if you are able to help on the day or provide raffle prizes.

Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next PPC meeting will be held on 31st October 2016 at 7.30 at the school.

The Annual General Meeting will take place on Monday 21st November at 7.30pm in the parish hall (or Sunday 20th November at 6pm). Confirm with Sharon.