



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC) MEETING

Sunday, 1st December 2019 – Old Chapel, 7pm
Minutes of Meeting

Opening Prayer

Led by Fr Ignatius including an invocation of the Holy Spirit

Attendance

Those present: Fr Ignatius, Fr Joseph, Andrew Richardson, Neil D'Aguiar, Ruth Kibirango, Eion McCusker, Anthea Davies, Sandra Batty, Rosemary McDermot, Jommy Thadathil, Manny Engage, and Elspeth Casey.

Those absent: Cecilia Hatt

Matters Arising

- Finance Committee Meeting
 - 4 existing members have remained on the committee and the committee are seeking to invite 2 new members.
 - Current Finances
 - £30k in re-occurrent account
 - £40k in diocesan loan account
 - Financial Year End in January and Accounts to be published in February.
 - Cost cutting measures undertaken across the parish as directed by the Parish Finance Committee.
 - Examples include reduction in pages on the newsletter and cancellation of cleaning contract for the Narthex.
 - Aim to reinstate annual parish AGM in 2020
- Year of the Word
 - Word Café has been started after weekday Masses on Wednesdays.
 - Discussion took place about Bibles – how many parishioners have access to one, do they know how to use it? What translations should be used? How to provide people support from the Bible and other sources online and in the parish.
 - The discussion also included the role of the newsletter, the parish website, and is there a need for a social media presence to support, guide and provide formation to parishioners.

- A Working Party has been established to explore these discussions and report back to the PPC
 - They will seek input from Council members by email
 - The working party will meet in January
 - RM, AR, SB, and RK volunteered to join the working party.

Agenda Items

Sacristy

Does the Sacristy need a make-over in order to still be fit for purpose? All on the Council felt it was necessary. Fr Ignatius to invite some people to draw up plans and quotes for what he has in mind and feedback to the PPC.

Sound System

Clear difficulties using with range and functionality of the Clip Mic's – a notice will be placed in the newsletter to see if any parishioners could evaluate those as individual items – but will extend to getting a Sound Company to give a quote if the work is necessary.

Contracts

David Smith from the Diocese has provided contracts which the School and Noah's Ark are happy to discuss and meet about.

- Current situation
 - The school pay for the utilities for the Hall only
 - Noah's Ark make a contribution to the costs of utilities but no more
 - Scout's use of the School Hall is subsidised by the parish who then use the money to pay the School.
- Clear need for contracts and improved conditions
- Hope contracts to be in place before Christmas.
- AR & EC are willing to be present for the meeting with the parties involved and Fr Ignatius would welcome them and/or any 2 members of the PPC.

Votive Candles

Fr Ignatius presented a new form of votive candle stand for the Parish – which would be cheaper, less messy and safer for the parish. The PPC were happy for a trial to begin.

Maintenance Committee

Proposal to establish a new Maintenance Committee to oversee the maintenance jobs over the parish. It is to be sub-committee of both PPC and Finance Committee – with members of both invited to join, along with other parishioners who are not on the PPC and Finance Committee.

Parish Feast Day

Plans for a Parish-wide event to celebrate the gifts and talents of our parish will be discussed at the next meeting.

A.O.B

- Please support the Parish Feast Day Social on 8th December.
- Please try to think of 2 events that we could run as a parish for the Year of the Word

Dates of meetings for 2019 – (all meetings in Old Chapel at 7.15pm with Coffee & tea from 7pm)

- Monday 10th February
- Monday 30th March
- Monday 1st June
- Monday 7th September
- Monday 9th November

Closing Prayer

Action points from meeting:

1. Working Party Meeting to discuss communication with Parish and Year of the Word
2. Fr Ignatius to get quotes for restructure of Sacristy
3. Notice in newsletter about Sound System and Clip Mics
4. Meetings with parties concerned about Parish Contracts
5. Begin trial of Votive Candle Stands
6. Establishment of Maintenance Committee
7. Think of 2 events that the parish could run for the Year of the Word