

MINUTES OF THE PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON SUNDAY 18th SEPTEMBER 2011

AT 7:00 pm in ST. ANNE'S PRIORY

Present:

Margaret Daunt, Clare Guidi, Deacon Des, Chris Merriman (Chair), Deacon Mac, ,
Fr Boniface Moran, Fr Godric Timney.

Minutes Secretary: Brian Farrimond

1. Opening Prayer

Chris welcomed everyone to the meeting and led the opening prayer.

2. Apologies

Elaine Clegg, James Coleman. Peter Mawtus

3. Approval of minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 3rd July 2011 were accepted as a true and accurate record.

4. Matters arising from minutes of previous meeting

Social Committee

Action: Fr. Godric to report back on meeting of young parents regarding forming a Social Committee

Fr Godric has met the interested parents and they are keen to organise.

House Groups

Action: Brian to add House groups as priority item for next PPC meeting in September

Done. See *New Agenda Items* below.

Parish Website Support

Action James to put the Parish Mission Statement on the parish web site.

Ongoing.

Action James to put the Parish Mission Statement on the parish web site.

Parish Roles and Volunteer Programme

Action: Fr. Godric to contact Pat Harwood who has offered to be Volunteer Coordinator

Action: Chris to contact Pat in order to process the volunteer forms and review Welcoming Ministry

Pat Harwood has been appointed Volunteer Coordinator and has started work in enthusiastic and effective style, supported by Ann Barton. So far 20 volunteer forms have been received representing 26 volunteers, all of whom have been contacted.

Action: Brian to put Parish Roles and Volunteer Programme as priority item for next meeting to revisit ideas for an October start.

Done. See *New Agenda Items* below.

Action Fr Godric to put a reminder in the Bulletin about handing in the forms. He will also ask volunteers who haven't received a response to contact him.

Welcoming Book

Action: Chris to speak to Bob and Elaine Conlin about supplementing the Welcoming Materials.

This was discussed under the *New Agenda item* on Welcoming - see below. Chris has met with Bob and Elaine. They said that they would welcome help from the volunteers and are open to exploring ways to make the welcoming ministry more effective.

Action Chris to discuss this with Pat Harwood.

Times of Masses

Action: Fr. Godric is to consult parish about reviewing the time of Saturday evening mass

Fr Godric reported that an informal show of hands at a Saturday evening mass had indicated that the majority wanted it to stay at 7 pm. However, the vote was not conclusive. A discussion followed in which the following points were raised:

- changing the time during winter means we can always go back
- people had already been consulted and they had indicated that they wanted no change
- previous changes in Mass times had resulted in falling attendances
- should those attending other masses also be consulted?

It was agreed that, taking all things into account, Mass would be at 6 pm in the winter (from when the clocks go back in October until when they go forward in March 2012). This would be an experiment to be reviewed after the winter. The change would apply 5th November 2011 - 25th March 2012.

The decision is subject to discussion with the other priests of the Pastoral Area that takes place on 29th September.

Action: James is to produce a consultation form for the back of church.

It was agreed that this was no longer needed.

Provision for Toddlers in mass

Action: Brian to add this as item for next meeting

Brian

Done. See *New Agenda Items* below.

5. **New agenda items**

a) **Membership of PPC**

Chris thanked Clare and Margaret for their service on the PPC which comes to an end today. Fr Godric thanked Chris for his service which is also coming to an end. It is assumed that Jonjo has also left the PPC since he is now working away from Ormskirk.

Action: Chris to write the Jonjo thanking him for his service on the PPC.

Two of the recent volunteers had volunteered to serve on the PPC. Other potential members were also discussed.

Action: Chris to discuss service on the PPC with these potential members hoping to recruit at least four of them.

It was recognised that a new Chair and Vice Chair need to be appointed.

Action: Deacon Mac to chair the next meeting when a new Chair and Vice Chair will be appointed.

b) **House Groups**

Action: Fr Godric to discuss with the Tuesday Prayer Group the possibility of visiting Christ Church to learn from their experiences.

c) **Parish Roles and Volunteer Programme.**

Further to the discussion in *Matters Arising*, it was decided to make a special occasion once a month of the **coffee after Sunday Mass**. The following was agreed:

- do it on the first Sunday in each month (2nd Oct, 6 Nov, 4th Dec this year)
- the parish groups should be invited to contribute
- only a stall or similar expected - not a full scale presentation
- Youth Group should be involved in the October event; the Justice and Peace Group in the November event
- involve the Welcomers' Group
- invite people who gather in Church after Mass to the coffee
- can involve those who volunteered to help with tea and coffee

Action: Fr Godric to approach Mike Price regarding the Youth contributing a cake stall on 2nd Oct.

Action: Fr Godric and Chris to contact Bob and Elaine regarding 2nd Oct.

A discussion took place on how Welcoming could be enhanced.. The following points were made:

- team members were very supportive of this idea
- hospitality had always been an important aspect of the Benedictine tradition
- it was especially important for Youth in developing community

Action: Deacon Des to contact John McLoughlin regarding supporting resources for Welcoming.

Action: Chris to continue discussions with Welcoming Group.

d) Provision for Toddlers in Mass

It is recognised that something could be done for toddlers too young to attend Children's Liturgy. The possibility of buying toys that could be used in telling Gospel stories was discussed.

Action: Clare to explore possibilities.

e) Parish Website Support (Standing Item)

Nothing to report.

f) Status of Parish Centre Development (Standing Item).

Fr Godric to report

Fr Godric said that discussions were continuing regarding improving the facilities.

6. Correspondence

None.

7. Reserved issues

None.

8. Matters arising from the minutes not dealt with elsewhere.

None.

9. Any other business

Recruitment and development of catechists.

Fr Godric said that 20-30 helpers were needed for the catechesis programme to prepare children for Communion and Confirmation. . He had met with the Head of St Annes Primary School to discuss coordination of their support.

Several volunteers had volunteered to help with the programme.

Friday Abstinence

Action: Brian to add this to the agenda for the next meeting.

Eucharistic Ministry for Young People

There is a course for Eucharistic Ministry for young people on 16th October. Clare asked if we can send some of our young people.

Action: Clare to discuss this with Fr Godric.

10. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place at 7 pm on Sunday 13th November 2011 The meeting should finish at 8.30 pm.

11. Closing prayer

Fr Boniface led the closing prayer.