

**MINUTES OF THE PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY 23 JUNE 2021, 7:00 pm in Zoom Conference**

Present:

Ann Barton (chair), Paul Bakaki, Deacon Des Bill, Will Daunt, Terry Graham, Deacon Peter Mawtus, Fr Boniface Moran, Susan O'Halloran, Fr Godric Timney.

Minutes Secretary: Brian Farrimond

1. **Opening Prayer:** Terry.
2. **Apologies:** Anne Corrin, Elaine Corrin, Margaret Johnson, Claire Reed, Jacqui Sellek, Irene Slack,.
3. **Safeguarding Update**

Terry reported that DBS updating continues within the parish.

Des reported that major changes are taking place at national level. As he is still involved with safeguarding he will be able to update the PPC at an appropriate time. How these changes might affect the parish can then be discussed.
4. **Reviewing actions from last meeting**
  - 4.1 **Safeguarding update**

Moved to item 3 above.
  - 4.2 **Hope for the Future**
  - 4.3 **Fuel Poverty**
  - 4.4 **Herb Garden**
  - 4.5 **Tree Trail**

Moved to item 5 below.
  - 4.6 **Opening up activities**

Moved to item 6 below.
  - 4.7 **Synod Zoom sessions**

Moved to item 7 below.
5. **Parish Environmental Plan**

Sue reported that **Fuel poverty** is the issue being explored with help from **Hope for the Future**, a national charity working to equip communities communicate and act with their local politicians on urgent local matters relating to climate change.

A discussion took place on how anonymised, anecdotal evidence could be gathered on fuel poverty cases to support collaboration with local MPs. Possible information might be gained from schools, SVP and the Scouts.

Sue reported that the **Tree Trail** is progressing, whilst waiting for the arrival of a better map. Brian Eccles has already labelled the trees.

Plans for the **Herb Garden** are well underway. Claire has identified suitable locations in the church grounds. A notice in the bulletin will request help with trugs and, once herbs have grown, invite parishioners to use them for free.

## 6. Post-Covid Ministry

The sub-group has met to discuss ideas including Outdoor Mass, a Memorial Mass, Summer Fair, Welcome Weekend, drop-in for parents in the Centre.

Terry said that “how to be a **Welcoming Parish**” was being reviewed towards being more pro-active and approachable, using the re-discovered Audit on Welcoming. As well as Stewards being invited to become Welcomers, hopefully the teams will reflect the congregation (age, gender ethnicity etc)

Ann said that the **open-air Mass** previously scheduled for 18 July and a possible **Parish Fair** will be discussed at a sub-group meeting on 29 June.

Peter advised that those involved in **parish ministries** (Eucharistic Ministers, altar servers etc) were very keen to return once lockdown restrictions were lifted, although some ministers might still be wary.

The celebration of Fr Godric’s and Deacon Des’s anniversaries might be combined with the open-air Mass.

PPC members see if parishioners have ideas about activities post lockdown.

**POST meeting note: Due to circumstances, events scheduled for July & August are rescheduled as follows:**

**Saturday 4 September**, 12 noon: Memorial Mass. Commemorating Loss.

**Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 September** – Welcome Weekend. Mass of Thanksgiving for Blessings Received including jubilees and other events not celebrated during lockdown. Outdoor Mass. Parish lunch. Tours of the Church. Events for all – details later.

## 7. Reflections from and on Synods

### 7.1. Liverpool Archdiocese (19th June)

The Archbishop’s pastoral letter (27<sup>th</sup> June) will report on the Synod.

Fr Godric spoke on the following issues which received most votes:

- evangelisation
- lay ministry
- welcoming
- nurturing the faith of the youth

Synod members from the parish are to meet with Fr Godric prior to the July meeting in Leeds, when the Archbishop starts the writing of the Pastoral Plan.

### 7.2 Universal Synod – October 2021

Appendix 1 outlines the stages of the upcoming *Universal Synod*.

## 8. AOB

### 8.1. Refugee Family Update

Peter reported that the family, who are doing well, have been with us for two years. With the pandemic preventing transition to being self-supporting, the parish group, together with similar north west groups, will continue support.

There is sufficient funding for a further 2-3 years but parishioners making regular payments to the fund will have the option to stop or to carry on paying.

The family can apply to stay after 5 years have elapsed. A celebration of success is planned for 26 September.

**9. Next meeting**

**9.1 (Wednesday 4 Aug 2021)**

**POST meeting note: Due to circumstances, Meeting postponed to**

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September: venue to be confirmed.**

**9.2** Opening and closing prayers: Brian to arrange.

**10. Closing prayer: Fr Boniface.**

**ACTION POINTS – 23 June 2021**

1	Terry and Jenny to meet with Des to learn of changes in safeguarding arrangements	Des, Terry
2	Will to approach Council to ask for information on fuel poverty in council accommodation.	Will
3	Sue to advertise in the Bulletin for trugs to be contributed for the herb garden.	Sue

# Appendix 1

## **Universal Synod of Bishops to begin in the local Churches.**

To make the synodality desired by Pope Francis since the beginning of his pontificate concrete and visible, **the next Synod of Bishops**, scheduled for **October 2023**, will not only be **celebrated in the Vatican but in each particular Church of the five continents**, following a **three-year** itinerary divided into **three phases: diocesan, continental and universal**.

**Weekend 9 and 10 October 2021** - a beginning at the Vatican, in the presence of the Pope.

### **Phase 1.**

**Sunday, 17 October 2021** - the particular Churches will begin their journey under the presidency of the diocesan bishop, culminating in a “Pre-Synodal Meeting.” The contributions will be sent to their own Episcopal Conference. The bishops, gathered in assembly for a period of discernment, will make a synthesis which they will send to the General Secretariat of the Synod

**By April 2022** - first stage completed.

### **Phase 2.**

**From September 2022 to March 2023** - the second, continental phase.

**By March 2023**.- each continental grouping will draft a final document and send this to the General Secretariat of the Synod.

**June 2023** - publication of this document planned.

### **Phase 3.**

**October 2023** - synodal journey will culminate with the celebration of the Assembly of Bishops in Rome.