

MINUTES OF THE PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2022, 7:00 pm in Parish Centre

Present:

Ann Barton (chair), Deacon Des Bill, Terry Graham, Deacon Peter Mawtus, Claire Reed, Irene Slack, Fr Godric Timney.

Minutes Secretary: Brian Farrimond

1. **Opening Prayer:** Terry.
2. **Apologies:** Elaine Corrin, Will Daunt, Susan O'Halloran.
3. **Safeguarding Update**

Terry said that there was nothing new to report.

Deacon Des reported that at the national level embedding of new procedures is taking place during 2022 and documentation for those procedures would be issued to parishes in 2023.

4. **Reviewing actions from last meeting**

4.1 Call for Welcomer volunteers

Adverts had been placed in the bulletin and a couple of volunteers had come forward.

It was agreed that there should be at least two welcomers assigned to a Mass in case one could not make it. Welcoming's special importance at weddings and funerals was emphasised.

It was also agreed that collections during Mass should be brought back. Ann would contact the collectors to see if they were still available and to discuss welcoming.

4.2 Coffee after Sunday 10:30 am Mass

Terry reported that attendance was still low and help serving was needed. Events to attract people to the coffee sessions would be considered.

4.3 Churches Together

Terry and Elaine attended the first face to face meeting of Churches Together in Ormskirk (CTO). The meeting focussed on what had happened in the previous 18 months. Terry and Elaine will attend the next meeting on 4th April.

4.4 Planning for Lent

A parish meeting to discuss events for Lent took place on 6th February. A summary of events can be found in Appendix 1. See also Fr Godric's letter in the Bulletin, 27th February 2022.

4.5 Environment team

It was reported that Superdrug would only accept **blister packs** for re-cycling if they also had a pharmacy so not possible in Ormskirk.

Irene reported that there had been an excellent response to the appeal for book cases for the **Book Exchange** to be located in the Parish Centre. Boxes would be obtained for storing magazines.

Some **trees** had been planted in the meadow aided by pupils from St Bede's Gardening and Environment Group.

It was agreed that definite ideas were needed to development **the land known as the Secret Garden**. Several plans could be proposed according to the time, skills, and money available.

Irene to organise a meeting of interested parties to take this forward.

4.6 Marriage Preparation

Peter reported that arrangements for Marriage Preparation had now been made in response to the re-organisation at Archdiocesan level. Couples would be asked to make a donation.

4.7 and 4.8 PPC Constitution

See Section 5 below.

5. PPC Constitution

A draft constitution was presented to the meeting. After some discussion a minor alteration was made, and the resulting document was approved. A copy of the new constitution will be found in Appendix 2.

As all PPC members will have completed 3 years' service by 31st December 2022, Fr Godric will contact members regarding future commitments.

6. AOB

6.1 Connections with Edge Hill University

Peter reported that Deacon Dave Lawson has been appointed as a chaplain within the Chaplaincy at Edge Hill University.

Peter is arranging to meet up with Dave to discuss collaboration with St Anne's Parish, as well as making contact with Justin.

6.2 Pastoral Plan and Universal Synod

A parish Zoom meeting had taken place to discuss 3 themes in preparation for the Universal Synod. Notes from Joan Bill on these themes are at Appendix 3.

6.3 Justice and Peace Update

Ann presented a report submitted by Sue. It can be found in Appendix 4.

7. Next meeting

7.1 Tuesday 26 April 2022, 7pm in the Pastoral Centre Hall.

7.2 Opening and closing prayers: Brian to arrange.

8. Closing prayer: Fr Godric.

ACTION POINTS – 28 February 2022

1	Ann to contact collectors regarding resuming collections and discuss welcoming.	Ann
2	Terry to advertise for more help at the Sunday morning coffee.	Terry
3	Elaine and Terry to attend Churches Together in Ormskirk (CTO) meeting on Monday 4 th April 2022 and report back to PPC.	Elaine, Terry
4	Irene to organise a meeting of interested parties to propose plans for the use of the Secret Garden.	Irene
5	All PPC members to be contacted regarding time served on the Committee.	Fr Godric
6	Peter to meet with Deacon Dave Lawson, chaplain at Edge Hill University to discuss collaboration.	Peter

Appendix 1:

Lenten Opportunities, following on from the Parish Meeting 6th Feb 22.

Lenten Prayer Group for Men bi-weekly from Thursday 3rd March at 8pm.

World Day of Prayer. Friday 4th March at 7.30pm, this year taking place in St Anne's church

Open Invitations from the UCM: Monday 7th March at 1pm in the Pastoral Centre "A Lenten Reflection" and Wednesday 9th March at 7.30pm, Mass in church.

Stations of the Cross: Fridays in Lent from 11th March to 8th April, in church at 7pm. Each week prayers will be led by a different group.

Lenten Lunches: Fridays from 11th March at 12.30pm in the Priory. A simple lunch of soup and a sandwich, with time for prayer and sharing.

Fund Raising throughout Lent: over the course of several parish AGMs the charities Hospice Africa and Marys Meals were voted to be supported by the parish on an on-going basis. How much can we raise for them during Lent? Donations can be put into the box located at the back of church or in an envelope put through the Priory letter box, marked "Lenten Project". Whatever is raised will be divided between the 2 charities.

An Outdoor Gallery will be mounted alongside the church by St Bede's pupils to help with quiet time.

Details of the above, as well as reminders, will appear in Bulletins throughout Lent.

On-line Resources: for those who access the internet there are many sources of Lenten Retreats, prayer and reflections such as:

www.onlineprayer.net praying with the Jesuits

www.wednesdayword.org reflecting on the Sunday Gospels.

www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/pastoral-development Lenten Mondays, from 7 March at 7pm, "Belong and Believe". The Zoom link is on the above website.

Appendix 2:

ST. ANNE'S PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL CONSTITUTION

1. The Mission of the Parish of St Anne's Ormskirk

We exist to worship God, and through our worship He brings us into community.

As the community of St. Anne's, we strive to recognise and serve His presence in others.

2. Purpose of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

The role of the PPC is to support the Parish Priest in developing the spiritual, pastoral and social life of the parish by:

- Encouraging participation, synodality and transparency.
- Accompanying people through life.
- Enabling young people to flourish.
- Caring for the environment.
- Working with other denominations.
- Looking outwards to the needs of others.

3. Membership of the PPC

The Parish Priest and other parish clergy will be members of the PPC.

Lay members will be drawn from the parish and confirmed by the Parish Priest. They will serve for an initial term of up to 3 years. Multiple terms may be served at the request of the Parish Priest.

The number of members will be as required by the needs of the time.

If a member resigns before the end of their term of service, a replacement may be appointed.

Non-members may be invited to a meeting to advise on specific topics.

4. Responsibilities

The PPC is a consultative body with the right and duty to make their views and the views of parishioners known to the Parish Priest, working together in a spirit of openness and trust.

Members are expected to attend meetings regularly as well as working in between meetings. Difficulties attending successive meetings should be discussed with the chairperson or Parish Priest.

Alongside the Finance Committee, the PPC will organise the parish annual meeting, which will be chaired by the PPC chairperson.

5. Conduct of Meetings.

5.1 Posts:

Any member of the PPC may be nominated as chairperson and vice-chair by members and confirmed in the post by the Parish Priest. They will serve an initial term of 3 years. Multiple terms may be served at the request of the Parish Priest.

A Minute Secretary, who is not a member, will be appointed to enable PPC members to partake fully in discussions during the meetings.

5.2 Agenda and Minutes:

Agendas will be finalised a week ahead of meetings by the chairperson in consultation with the Parish Priest and minutes secretary.

Relevant items, additional to on-going business, may be proposed by members for the agenda, including any arising from requests by parishioners.

Approved Agendas and Minutes will be posted on the parish web site.

5.3 Meeting Dates:

The date of the next meeting will be set at the end of each meeting and notified to parishioners through the Bulletin.

5.4 Quorum:

Meetings will still go ahead if any 1 member of the clergy and 4 lay members are present.

If the Parish Priest is unable to attend, then the meeting will proceed without deciding on any agenda item held over at the request of the Parish Priest.

5.5 Decision Making:

Decisions will be arrived at in a spirit of synodality.

However, the wish of the majority may not necessarily be the deciding factor as the Parish Priest has the right of veto.

Revised and Accepted: February 2022

Review by: February 2025

Appendix 3:

From Joan Bill following the parish Zoom session (21 Feb 22) on the Universal Synod

Three of the out of the 10 themes were discussed:

2. Listening - Listening is the first step, but it requires an open mind and heart, without prejudice.

- a. How may God be speaking to us through voices we sometimes ignore?
- b. How are the laity listened to, especially women and young people?
- c. What enables or prevents our listening?
- d. How well do we listen to those on the peripheries and on the margins?

3. Speaking Out - All are invited to speak with courage, freedom, truth, and charity.

- a. What enables or hinders us to speak out courageously, candidly, and responsibly in our local Church and society?
- b. When and how do we manage to say what is important to us?
- c. How is our relationship with the local media (not only Catholic media)?

5. Sharing Responsibility For Our Common Mission - Synodality is at the service of the mission of the Church in which all baptised members are called to participate as missionary disciples.

Further Notes: Responses from the discussion were noted by Joan who will add them to the suggested format on the Archdiocesan website for inclusion in the overall submission to Rome. Any written responses (to Joan via the parish Office) will also be included.

Side by Side – exploring the art of accompaniment. One day sessions will be held on 19 & 20 March 22 at St Margaret Clitherow Centre (previously called LACE) and on line over 2 half days 26 & 27 April. Full details on: www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/side-by-side

Appendix 4:

Justice and Peace Group Note for PPC 28th February 2022

Toiletries collection went very well (people had been asking if there was going to be one this year – very encouraging that people anticipating and keen to help). This time taken by Matthew Wright to refugees and asylum seekers in Skelmersdale rather than Asylum Link Merseyside in Liverpool as in past. It seemed more sensible to help local people, as they are dispersed widely now.

Food collections for the same people in great need in Skelmersdale will continue – Matthew provides very good information about what is needed and parishioners respond very generously. Matthew comes to Mass on Monday and collects the donations for the club he runs on Monday afternoons, where the food etc is made available (The Ask Club Skelmersdale <https://theaskclubskelmersdale.org/>). This also solves the logistical problem of getting the donations to where they are needed, which is a huge help. The donations make the narthex look cluttered – but are also a great witness to both the need and the generous response of the parish to the need.

Fair Trade Fortnight publicised and parishioners asked to let Colette know about any Fair Trade products they see in local shops to go in the bulletin, so that buying Fair Trade becomes mainstream. If PPC members could do that it would be a great start. M&S is very good for FT tea, coffee, preserves. FT chocolate all over the place! Interestingly, a recent Which? survey found that the two greenest supermarkets are Waitrose and Lidl. Lidl FT chocolate very nice...

Also need to remind Parish Groups, now that activities are starting again, that we are a Fair Trade Parish so have committed to use Fair Trade products at all parish events. Could this come “officially” from the PPC?

Apart from promoting CAFOD Fast Day as usual (help with stapling envelopes to bulletins on Friday 4th March would be much appreciated) J&P will not be doing anything extra for Lent as PPC plan to support Mary’s Meals and Hospice Africa, which are great J&P and lovely to see being part of mainstream parish life.

Archdiocese J&P Zoom course is not happening this year after all.

Finally, two thoughts – the impending increase in fuel costs, plus all the other increases in the cost of living we are already seeing, risk pushing more people over the financial edge. Should we emphasise support for the SVP as our way to help local people in need and also publicise the help available from West Lancs Debt Advice (<https://www.wlda.org.uk/>) for those who have already tipped over?

(Post meeting Note: Bulletin Notice covering this last paragraph, (also agreed with SVP), will be in this weekend 5/6 March 22)

Added later:

CAFOD have a daily Lenten email with readings, stories from the global family, prayer.

Stations of the Cross, Friday 18th March at 7pm, led by the Justice and Peace group.