

MINUTES OF THE PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 5 JUNE 2023, 7:00 pm in Parish Centre

Present:

Ann Barton (chair), Deacon Des Bill, Caroline Grieco, Deacon Peter Mawtus, Pat O'Connor, Susan O'Halloran, Irene Slack, Paul Spencer, Fr Godric Timney.

Minutes Secretary: Brian Farrimond

1. **Opening Prayer:** Paul.

2. **Apologies:** Elaine Corrin, Will Daunt, Terry Graham, Claire Reed.

3. **Safeguarding Update**

Margaret Daunt is now registered as our second parish rep.

Terry and Margaret have been trained on the new safeguarding process.

Certain procedural issues need to be discussed with the parish clergy.

4. **Reviewing actions from last meeting**

4.1 Parish talks

A number of talks have been identified by parishioners and the Ormskirk Community Partnership. Fr Godric and Ann will produce a draft timetable.

4.2 Bulletin Article on the Social Action workshop

The article appeared in the bulletin on 30 April 2023.

A document was circulated for discussion, listing forthcoming social action events of interest to the parish. See Appendix 1.

4.3 Social Justice

Pablo Guidi's paper on "Pathways to Social Justice" and ways of supporting PPCs opened up the discussion, including finding out what social action may be going on in the parish and how publicising it could develop it further.

Discussion took place on the desirability of developing our understanding of the connection between faith and politics.

4.4 Fair Trade

The parish's Fair Trade status is due to be renewed. Sue produced a poster publicising Fair Trade which will go into the Bulletin and on the church noticeboard.. See Appendix 2.

4.5 Live Simply

Ideas for refreshing Live Simply were discussed, included talking to groups and including it as a discussion point at the parish AGM.

4.6 First communicant processions

Further thought might be given to this next year.

4.7 Retreat Day for Men

Paul reported on progress in organising the retreat day, including contact with Pablo. The Irenaeus Project in Waterloo was proposed as a suitable host.

4.8 Celebration of multi culture within the parish

It was agreed that later on in the year, an article would be placed in the bulletin inviting interest in an event celebrating multi culture within the parish.

4.9 Job description for chair of PPC

Ongoing.

4.10 Future of Pastoral Centre

A parish meeting took place on 20 April 2023 to discuss the future of the parish. Brief notes from the meeting can be found in Appendix 3.

No further action has been taken because of planned conversations with the Douai Abbey Parishes' Trust.

The issue is currently in the hands of the Finance Committee. A wide range of initiatives appear to be worth exploring including searching for external sources of funds.

4.11 Heritage Open Days

A **parish celebration day** will take place on Sunday 3rd September 2023 including an open air Mass, tours of the church and grounds and ending with the blessing of animals.

5 CAFOD

5.1 CAFOD Rep

The parish is recruiting a CAFOD rep. A job description will be prepared and placed in the bulletin and someone will speak on it at Mass.

5.2 CAFOD Big Letter

CAFOD is asking parishioners to sign a letter to the World Bank protesting against the rules requiring third world farmers to buy expensive seeds, fertilizers etc from global agricultural companies.

Parishioners will be invited to sign the letter at Masses weekend 10/11 June, with Paul and Deacon Peter reading out the need for this at these Mass.

6 Recording and reflecting on the parish experience of lockdown

A discussion took place on the feasibility of producing a short history recording St Anne's parish experience of lockdown.

A discussion took place on Communion under both kinds. The clergy meeting on 9th June 2023 will discuss this further.

7 AOB

7.1 Finance Committee

Will has submitted a report on the parish meeting discussing the future of the parish centre. See Appendix 3.

7.2 Supporting Churches Together Fun Day

This will take place 24 June 2023. It will be mainly organised by Cottage Lane Mission. Mike Price has offered Duke of Edinburgh award candidates as volunteers to help.

7.3 Deanery Synod Council

Joan Bill and Deacon Peter are the parish reps on this council. An initial meeting has explored cross-deanery initiatives and sharing of resources. These explorations continue.

7.4 Labyrinth Walk

A potential project to create a labyrinth walk in the church grounds will be placed on next month's agenda.

8 Next meeting.

8.1 Monday 17th July 2023 at 7 pm in the Parish Centre lounge.

8.2 Opening and closing prayers: Brian to arrange.

9 Closing prayer: Deacon Peter.

ACTION POINTS – 5 June 2023

1	New safeguarding procedures to be discussed with the clergy.	Terry, Margaret, Fr Godric, Deacon Peter, Deacon Des.
2	Produce draft timetable for parish talks in Autumn/Advent.	Fr Godric, Ann
3	Details of Social Action events for June and July to be published in the bulletin. Thought to be given to possible ways of collating all social action in which parishioners are involved.	Ann Sue
4	How to publicise what motivates Catholics to get involved in politics.	Deacon Des, Paul
5	Fair Trade poster to be placed in bulletin and church narthex.	Sue
6	Ways of refreshing Live Simply (maybe at the Parish Meeting) to be considered.	Sue
7	Continue exploration of organising a retreat day for men.	Paul
8	An article to be placed in the bulletin inviting interest in the parish hosting an event celebrating multi culture within the parish	Fr Godric, Ann
9	Draw up a job description for the chair of the PPC	Ann
10	On-going updates to PPC on developments on the future of the Centre	Will
11	Report back on the parish celebration day programme, 3 Sept 2023 and publicise “keep these dates free” for 3 rd , 16 th & 24 th September.	Irene
12	How to recruit a parish CAFOD rep	Fr Godric, Sue
13	Organise CAFOD big letter signing w/end 10/11 June. Paul & Deacon Peter to read out an explanation at Masses.	Sue, Paul, Deacon Peter
14	PPC COVID memories to be sent to Brian who will hold them ready for use in any future history. Ways of asking parishioners to be discussed.	All. Brian All
15	Advise PPC on matters of note from ongoing Deanery Synodal Council meetings	Deacon Peter
16	Labyrinth Walk in church grounds on the agenda of the next meeting.	Brian

Appendix 1

Pastoral Development - Events June & July 23

SOCIAL ACTION NETWORKING ON ENVIRONMENT: Investments as a force for good? -

Thursday 15th June, 6.30, ONLINE

Special network event focusing on how church funds are used in relation to action on climate change. Contact Pablo or visit

https://Archdiocese_environment_network.eventbrite.com

WELCOME CHURCHES: Welcoming Displaced People

Monday 19th June 1-3pm at St Barnabas Penny Lane

This event will be an opportunity to hear more about the needs of refugees and asylum seekers in your community, how you can get involved, and how Welcome Churches can support you. To book go to <https://tinyurl.com/4p4wnzpv>

'EVERY MIGRANT HAS A NAME, A FACE AND A STORY'

Friday 23rd June 4-5pm, online

To celebrate Refugee week, this online event will discuss the principles set out in "Love the Stranger"- a new document from the Bishops' Conference. Further details contact Pablo Guidi or visit https://love_the_stranger.eventbrite.com

CATHOLIC SOCIAL ACTION NETWORKING DAY: Shape the Change

Thursday 6th July, Liverpool

The purpose of this event is to bring together policy makers, workers and volunteers involved in social action, to interlink themes, make partnerships, and advocate for change. Further details contact Pablo Guidi or visit https://Social_Action_Networking_Event.eventbrite.com

Appendix 2



Fair Trade Products Available in Ormskirk

Product	Where to Buy
Bananas	Aldi, Co-Op, M&S, Lidl, Morrisons, Booths
Chocolate	Aldi, Co-Op, Lidl, M&S, Morrisons, Booths
Coffee	M&S, Co-Op, Lidl, Morrisons, Aldi
Tea	Co-Op, M&S, Lidl
Wine	Co-Op, Lidl, M&S, Morrisons
Sugar	Co-Op, Lidl, M&S
Jam, marmalade	M&S
Fruit and Veg	Co-Op
Flowers	Aldi, Co-Op, Lidl, M&S

Brands to look out for

Café Direct, Percol, Clipper	Coffee and tea
Divine, Tony's Chocolonely	Chocolate
Suma	Wide range of tinned and packeted foods, herb and spices
Zaytoun	Supports Palestinian producers
Meridian	Spreads

Some Fair Trade is fairer than others

Information is available from the Fair Trade Foundation : <https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/buying-fairtrade/>

The Co-Op has a good guide to Fair Trade Symbols (see below) : <https://www.coop.co.uk/our-suppliers/fairtrade/understanding-fairtrade-marks>



Ethical Consumer provides very detailed and exacting information :

<https://www.ethicalconsumer.org> (subscription needed for full information)

Example : <https://www.ethicalconsumer.org/food-drink/shopping-guide/ethical-chocolate>

Appendix 3: Notes of Parish Meeting re: the Pastoral Centre 20 April

Meeting led by Steve Jones (SJ).

Finance Committee attendees: Phil Wilkinson, John Abraham; Will Daunt

Apologies: Father Godric

What Happened

The meeting opened with a prayer by Des Bill, and SJ read a letter from Father Godric, while asking for attendees to log their names.

SJ asked attendees to talk at their tables and then feed back to the meeting views on the pastoral centre's strengths and weaknesses and ideas to address the latter (see below).

SJ then widened the discussion to suggest and illustrate how possible remodelling of the church estate might work, with separate and new pastoral and youth centres.

The meeting closed with a number of positive comments and thanks and a prayer, again by Des.

Concerns/ comments (not an exhaustive list). A number of these were answered/ addressed* by FC members, or other parishioners.

- what would be the impact on the environment of change/ new build?
- could the centre be used for children with SEND*?
- should we explore fund-raising through lettings*?
- could we make it a members' club again*?
- how much of the building is used, and how frequently*?
- should we have an asset plan*?
- who will approve any planned works, and their budget*?
- NB: £150k+ is owed to the Archdiocese.
- what is Douai's medium term plan for the trusteeship of St. Anne's*?
- what is the difference between the two Douai trusts*?
- how much of the building is used by youth groups*?
- what would be the access to Prescott Road if any new building is undertaken?
- could we consult on how the youth might use the centre more?
- are there any other good exemplars of successful 'downsized' pastoral centres nearby?
- what will the young people of the parish want/ need?
- a new Centre could not compete with other hospitality venues.
- how much is the land worth?
- how do we make any new build housing socially responsible*?
- what can be done to support this project, in the future?
- what expertise have people in the parish?
- Historic Churches will object to any building linked to the church.
- Burscough FC sold their land for much less than they had expected ...
- could we charge for parking*****?

Problems with the Centre as it stands

- a number of ongoing and expensive maintenance issues.
- the centre lacks many systems and facilities which are required for extensive lettings (e.g. a properly-functional kitchen).

- the Centre is not (and probably never can be) fully accessible.
- energy costs have increased greatly.
- no money is coming in to pay for repairs that are needed, and the Centre is very unlikely, in any scenario, to be able to generate anything like the income required for its upkeep and running costs.
- the day-to-day management of the whole of the extensive parish estate (church, grounds and pastoral centre) depends on volunteers, who are difficult to 'recruit'.

At a very rough calculation, no more than five of the attendees were under 60.