

MINUTES OF THE PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

THURSDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER 2023, 7PM in Parish Centre

Present:

Ann Barton (Chair), Deacon Des Bill, Will Daunt, Terry Graham, Deacon Peter Mawtus, Claire Reed,
Fr Godric Timney, Susan O'Halloran, Paul Spencer

Minutes: Claire Reed

- 1. Opening Prayer:** Will Daunt
- 2. Apologies:** Elaine Corrin, Brian Farrimond, Pat O'Connor, Irene Slack, Caroline Grieco
- 3. Safeguarding Update**

Terry advised that Margaret Daunt has stepped down as second parish safeguarding rep. Although there are no specific safeguarding issues currently in the parish, the absence of safeguarding structures remains a major concern. It would appear that some parishes in our situation are receiving services from RLSS, and others are continuing to receive services from their diocese, while we have neither. Although the Abbot replied to the letter signed by Terry and Ann, which included those concerns raised by Terry, Deacon Des and other PPC members, it remains unclear whether we have a contract in place with RLSS or not. There is a meeting of the Douai Parish Trust due soon at which this issue will be discussed.

Fr Godric explained that how the DofE carried out their safeguarding responsibilities needed to be clarified with Mike Price. Pre-COVID there was a committee for the Youth Ministry. This needs to be reconvened with additional people to act as chair and safeguarding representative.

IMPORTANT POST MEETING NOTE: Action by Fr Hugh has finally resulted in a response from RLSS. DBS training sessions (by Zoom) have been notified to St Anne's & St Elizabeth's safeguarding reps. (notified to them as reps of Douai Abbey parishes). The reps have also been given contact details of Cameron Sanders, DBS Lead & Admin, at RLSS. Deacon Des continues to be active and in support while other aspects of safeguarding are being firmed up.

- 4. Reviewing Actions from last meeting (17 July)**
 - 4.1 Safeguarding Concerns**. See agenda item 3.
 - 4.2 Increased co-operation with St Bede's on Social Action**
 - Susan spoke to Jacinta. Due to present commitment, Jacinta will get in touch at a later date.
 - 4.3 Inviting Ashley Dalton MP to address the parish**
 - Suggestion is that we should offer to host a joint invitation with Churches Together.
 - 4.4 Fair Trade poster is up in the Narthex.**
 - 4.5 Live Simply. See agenda item 5.**
 - 4.6 Retreat Day for Men**
 - Paul advised that the retreat day would take place on Saturday 11 November at Ince Bene. Fr Godric agreed to say Mass there in the afternoon. Money could be paid in through the parish office. Details will go into the bulletin.
 - 4.7 Multi cultural event - carried forward to Spring 2024.**

4.8 Recruiting PPC Chair

- Given that no one has volunteered to take on this role, and that Ann is stepping back from the PPC at the end of this year, Claire suggested that we set up a rota so that everyone takes it in turns to take on the role of chair for one meeting. To include:
 - Agreeing the Agenda with Fr Godric and forwarding it to Brian for any additional standing items and for distribution (usual by one week before each meeting)
 - Assisting with following up Action Points from the previous meeting
 - Chairing the meeting
 - Agreeing the minutes with Brian (who then distributes them)

before handing onto the next person.

- Given the number of PPC members and the number of meetings we have, this should mean people take on the role only once a year, and we would hopefully all gain from the additional experience.

4.9 Noted.

4.10 Parish Celebration. Ann thanked all those who helped make the parish day of celebration on 3 September successful.

4.11 CAFOD

- Still trying to get more people involved. Next CAFOD event is the Fast Day, Friday 6th October.

4.12 Deanery Synodal Council

- The next meeting of the Deanery Synodal Council will be at St Anne's on 28 September. Fr Godric and Joan will be attending.
- One of the ideas coming out of the Synodal Council is for families of parishes, so they can share resources and ideas. Fr Philip Inch will be giving 3 talks on this at different locations around the archdiocese. One talk will be at St Anne's at 7pm on 7 November, open to all in the deanery and beyond.

4.13 APM. See agenda item 5.

4.14 Labyrinth. Carried forward.

5. Prepare Content for Annual Parish Meeting on 22nd October

- Proposal is that we use the same format as last year -
 - Welcome & Intro
 - Report from PPC
 - Finance Report
 - Discussion
- Agreed that we should try to keep reports to a minimum and instead invite all groups to produce a handout or poster which can be displayed on boards around the hall.
- PPC report should include feedback on actions taken following last year's discussions on Cost of Living & the Future of the Parish.
- Agreed that this year's discussion could centre around Live Simply, and how to renew and demonstrate its principles in the parish, in family life and as individuals.

6 AOB

6.1 Finance Matters

- No finance meeting since the last PPC.
- Consideration may need to be given to increasing membership on the Roof Appeal Committee.

6.2 Labyrinth. Carried forward.

6.3 Autumn Talks. "How the Church relates to the World Past and Present".

- Four talks scheduled to take place in the Pastoral Centre on Thursdays 7pm-8.30pm
 - 5 Oct - Sr Lynne – Creation, Climate and the power of Hope.
 - 9 Nov – Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald – How the church relates to other Faiths.
 - 30 Nov – Brian Farrimond – The church in medieval Lancashire and the books in use by clergy and laity.
 - 14 Dec – Fr Godric – A deeper understanding of the Mass (held in church)
- Peter agreed to sort out technical/equipment issues.
- Coffee/tea to be provided beforehand.
- Hosts needed to meet & greet the 2 external speakers.

6.4 Foodbank

- Susan advised that the Ormskirk Foodbank is running short of food. Consider restarting parish collections as part of revitalising Live Simply.

6.5 Best Wishes

- PPC sent best wishes to Brian and his wife, and to Elaine for speedy recoveries.
- PPC sent a card to congratulate the UCM on its 70th anniversary.

7. **Date of Next Meeting: 7pm on Monday 27 November**

8. **Closing Prayer:** Fr Godric

ACTION POINTS – 14 September 2023

1	Circulate Safeguarding letter from the Abbot along with the minutes	held over – see Agenda Item 3 update.
2	Draft a reply to the Abbot's letter	held over – see Agenda Item 3 update
3	Suggest Churches Together invite Ashley Dalton to speak/Q&A session	Terry
4	Liaise with Colette to collect payments for the Men's Retreat Day	Paul
5	Add to agenda of next meeting discussion of a multi cultural event in Spring 2024	Brian
6	Add to agenda of next meeting drawing up a rota for PPC chair	Brian
7	Email Fr Godric details of the 6 th Oct CAFOD Fast Day for inclusion in the homily (weekend 30 Sep/1 Oct) so that people are encouraged to take part	Susan
8	Add Labyrinth Walk in the church grounds to the agenda of the next meeting	Brian
9	Raise initial Bulletin notice with date. Circulate draft input for the APM	Ann
10	Review and feedback on APM documents	PPC Members
11	Volunteer to be hosts for the first 2 of the Talks	PPC Members
12	Discuss practicalities of restating Foodbank collections and delivering to the Bickerstaffe warehouse on Monday mornings	Susan & Paul
13	With current moves towards RLSS, Safeguarding procedures within the parish DofE scheme to be reviewed and clarified by the Youth Ministry Management Committee.	Fr Godric