

MINUTES OF THE PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 22 JANUARY 2024, 7:00 pm in Parish Centre

Present:

Will Daunt, Terry Graham, Caroline Grieco, Deacon Peter Mawtus, Susan O'Halloran, Claire Reed, Irene Slack, Paul Spencer (Chair), Fr Godric Timney.

Minutes Secretary: Brian Farrimond

1. **Opening Prayer:** Terry.
2. **Apologies:** Deacon Des Bill, Elaine Corrin, Aidan McFall.

3. **Membership and Chair**

It was noted that we have volunteers in place for all planned PPC meetings this year apart from November's.

The following draft schedule of meetings and rota of chairs is now agreed:

Provisional Date of meeting	Chair
22 Jan 2024	Paul
18 Mar 2024	Irene
20 May 2024	Susan
15 July 2024	Claire
16 Sep 2024 (prep for APM)	Will
18 Nov 2024	

It was announced that Aidan McFall will be joining the PPC at the next meeting.

It was also noted that most PPC members have now reached the end of their 4 year terms. All present agreed to an extension of 1 year to their terms of office.

It was agreed that a WhatsApp group be set up for PPC members in order to improve communications.

It was agreed that membership of the PPC should be a standing item on the agenda.

4. **Safeguarding Update**

Terry reported that all volunteers helping out with the Youth Group are to be processed for safeguarding under the procedures introduced by the Religious Life Safeguarding Service (RLSS).

5. Reviewing actions from last meeting

5.1 Multicultural event

This was to be added to this meeting's agenda. See below.

5.2 Labyrinth Walk

The search for benches to be placed at stopping points is ongoing.

5.3 Annual Parish Meeting (APM)

The notes for the APM have been sent to Colette and have been posted to the parish web site.

5.4 Foodbank Appeal

There was a good response and a number of volunteers have been recruited.

5.5 CAFOD Prayer

This was placed in the bulletin.

5.6 Parish Facebook Page

A discussion took place without any definite conclusion beyond keeping it going as it is for now. It was suggested that the developing family of parishes may be able to address the future of editing the page.

5.7 PPC/Finance Committee Link

The new PPC member, Aidan McFall will be also joining the Finance Committee and so will be the new link.

6. Lenten Programme 2024 – proposed events

A discussion took place on events to be held during Lent.

It was agreed that the **Food Bank** should be the theme for Lent and activities should support it.

Activities suggested included:

- setting up alms giving boxes/jars in church and at home
- supporting the CAFOD Family Fast Day. Paul Spencer agreed to do one of the talks introducing Family Fast Day at the end of the Saturday evening Mass.
- CAFOD have a Big Lent Walk - inviting people to walk 5 km a day for 40 days and getting sponsorship
- promoting the Swap Shop
- Men's Lenten Prayer Group
- "fasting" by abstaining from the use of social media and TV
- setting up prayer baskets
- Lighting a candle at the beginning of each week of Lent similar to the Advent wreath.
- a Lenten talk by an invited speaker

It was proposed that events should be advertised via:

- the notice board in the narthex
- the bulletin e.g. a weekly fasting topic

It was agreed that Claire, Sue and Irene would meet to take ideas forward.

Subsequent to the meeting, David McLoughlin agreed to do a talk as part of the programme for Lent. This will take place in the Parish Social Centre at 7.00pm on the evening of Monday 11th March. The theme he has chosen is:

“Walking with Jesus through the first Holy Week”

It was also noted after the meeting that the **World Day of Prayer** takes place in Lent. This year it is at 7.30 on Friday 1 March at Christ Church Aughton

7. Multicultural Event

It was agreed that this should be organised for the summer and that a volunteer would be sought to organise it. It was suggested a notice be placed in the Parish bulletin seeking a volunteer/s.

8. AOB

8.1 Churches Together

Terry reported that the next meeting of Churches Together would be planning for Holy Week. After some discussion it was agreed that the parish would support the Walk of Witness on Good Friday.

A discussion took place on collaborating with Churches Together to invite local politicians to meet with the local churches. No definite conclusion was reached.

8.2 Families of parishes

It was reported that an initiative was being launched within the Deanery to form “families of parishes”. It was agreed that further information was needed before taking any action at St Annes.

8.3 Emergency evacuation of the church

Concerns were expressed regarding the procedures emergency evacuation of the church. Fr Godric will discuss this with the insurance risk assessors and the Archdiocese.

9 Next meeting

9.1 Monday 18th March 2024 at 7 pm in the Parish Centre lounge.

9.2 Opening and closing prayers: Brian to arrange.

10 Closing prayer: Deacon Peter.

ACTION POINTS – 22 January 2024

1	Brian to update PPC members spreadsheet with new end of terms of office and phone numbers.	Brian
2	Brian to create a WhatsApp group for the PPC.	Brian
3	PPC membership to be a standing item on the agenda.	Brian
4	Benches for the Labyrinth Walk	Fr Godric and Irene
5	Plans for Lenten events	Claire, Sue and Irene
6	Arranging speaker for Lenten talk	Paul
7	Recruit an organiser for a summer multicultural event	Claire
8	Seek further information on the “family of parishes” initiative.	Terry and Deacon Peter
9	Seek further clarification of requirements for handling emergency evacuation of the church	Fr Godric