

MINUTES OF THE PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 15 JULY 2024, 7:00 pm in Parish Centre

Present:

Deacon Des Bill, Will Daunt, Terry Graham, Caroline Grieco, Fr Joseph Jacob, Deacon Peter Mawtus, Aidan McFall, Susan O'Halloran, Claire Reed (Chair), Irene Slack, Paul Spencer

Invited: Mary Ormsby and Les Rippon from St Elizabeth's, Scarisbrick and Jacinta Brown who is chaplain at St Bede's School.

Minutes Secretary: Brian Farrimond

1. **Opening Prayer:** Deacon Peter.
2. **Apologies:** Elaine Corrin, Fr Godric Timney.
3. **Welcome and Introductions**

Fr Joseph Jacob and the invited guests were welcomed to the meeting and introductions made.

4. **Working with St Bede's**

4.1 Faith in Action Projects

Jacinta explained the role of Faith In Action at St Bede's in providing a framework for the pupils to act on Catholic Social Teaching. She seeking projects suitable for the pupils to carry out.

After some discussion it was agreed that Jacinta would take back to school a proposal for St Bede's to collaborate with the parish in setting up a multi-cultural event.

See Appendix 1 for a report of a multi-cultural event hosted recently at St Joseph's Penketh which could inform planning between St Bede's and the parish. Pablo Guidi has also offered to share his experience of a similar event at St Agnes in Huyton.

4.2 Confirmation arrangements

Collaboration on Confirmation preparation and celebration arrangements between St Bede's and the parish was agreed. Confirmations are due to take place at the beginning of November. The following would be desirable:

- confirmation preparation to be held in the parish centre rather than in school
- a parish celebration to be held in the parish hall after the confirmation ceremony

4.3 Parish bulletin

It was agreed that St Bede's pupils should contribute regularly to the bulletin

5. **Membership and Chair (Standing Item)**

5.1 Membership issues

Consequences of the departure of Fr Hugh from St Elizabeth's was discussed below in item 8.

5.2 Dates of meetings

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	Terry

6. **Safeguarding Update**

Terry reported steady progress in carrying out the current checks on parish volunteers.

7. **Reviewing actions from last meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting in May were accepted as a true and accurate record.

7.1 DBS checking

This is underway.

7.2 Labyrinth benches

The benches installation is ongoing.

Investigations into how to move some sandstone blocks to St Annes are underway.

7.3 Multi-cultural event

Paul reported that no one has volunteered yet to organise this. It is hoped that the proposed collaboration with St Bede's will prove successful.

7.4 Family of Parishes

This was discussed below at item 8.

7.5 Liturgy Committee and Leadership Committee

Further discussions have taken place and the remit has been expanded for a liturgical committee to a Leadership Committee. The committee is expected to include St Elizabeth's as well.

7.6 Local pilgrimages

This was discussed below at item 8.

7.7 Election hustings

These took place successfully in the Parish Centre..

7.8 Fossil fuel letter

Discussions with Pablo Guidi have yet to take place.

7.9 Invitation to St Bede's chaplain

Done.

7.10 Finance Committee Report

This was presented in item 11 AOB below.

8. Family of Parishes

Membership of PPC

It was noted that when Fr Hugh leaves in August, St Elizabeth's parish will return to the ministry of the clergy at St Annes. In these circumstances it was suggested that it would be helpful if parishioners from St Elizabeth's & St Anne's either attended each other's PPCs, or that a joint PPC was set up.

Bulletin

It was agreed that a return to a joint bulletin for the two parishes was desirable.

Mass times

Fr Hugh's last Mass will be on Sunday 11th August. It was agreed that initially there would be no changes to the Mass times at St Elizabeth's, as both Fr Joseph and Fr Godric would be available to say Mass in August. However, it was noted that the current Mass times at St Anne's and St Elizabeth's were not sustainable unless there were two priests. There would therefore need to be changes going forward.

Fr Joseph presented draft proposals for Mass times after the departure of Fr Hugh:

	Sat	Sun
St Anne's	5 pm	10:30 am
St Elizabeth's		9:00 am

Parish office

Although St Elizabeth's have previously maintained a separate parish office, there are potential opportunities for both parishes to support each other.

Local pilgrimages

It was agreed that these would be undertaken jointly with St Elizabeth's.

Novena of Masses

The last of the Novena of Masses in the deanery will take place on 13th September at St Anne's.

9. Creation Time

It was agreed that a joint schedule of Creation Time events should be agreed with St Elizabeth's, which could include harvest festival, blessing of animals and outdoor Masses.

10. Letter from Pope Francis to parish priests

This discussion is held over to the next meeting.

11. AOB

11.1 Finance Committee

Aidan provided an update which included:

- gutter inspections
- church tower repairs
- parish centre developments

It was agreed that the roof appeal should be re-opened.

11.2 Parish centre car park

It has been observed that the disabled car parking spaces on the parish centre car park were being used by people without displaying badges. It was agreed that a notice about this would be put in the bulletin.

12. Next meeting

9.1 Monday 16th Sept 2024 at 7 pm in the Parish Centre lounge.

9.2 Opening and closing prayers: Brian to arrange.

13. Closing prayer: Deacon Des

ACTION POINTS – 15 July 2024

1	Hosting of a multi-cultural event to be explored in collaboration with Jacinta Brown at St Bede's	Jacinta, Susan and Claire
2	Contact Jacinta with any other ideas of service for Y7 pupils	All
3	Parish hosting of a confirmation celebration to be explored with Finance Committee.	Aidan with Jacinta
4	Arrange for St Bede's pupils to contribute to parish bulletin	Sue with Jacinta
5	Investigate how to move sandstone blocks to St Annes.	Des, Irene
6	Fossil fuel letter - Discuss archdiocese position with Pablo Guidi	Sue
7	Agree with the clergy whether a joint PPC should be set up	Mary, Les & Fr Godric
8	Move to a joint parish bulletin	Claire
9	Confirm new Mass times	Fr Godric, Fr Joseph
10	Explore opportunities for the parishes to support each other in terms of parish office	Fr Godric, Claire, and Mary
11	Arrange joint creation time activities	Sue, Mary, Claire and Irene
12	Add letter from Pope Francis to parish priests to agenda for next meeting.	Brian
13	Identify local pilgrimage destinations	Sue and Mary
14	Put on place necessary arrangements for Novena of Masses at St Anne's on 13 September	Peter
15	Consider re-opening of the roof appeal	Fr Godric, Aidan
16	Finance committee report	Aidan
17	Warning about misuse of parish centre car park disabled spaces into the bulletin.	Terry

A Tapestry of Faith: St Joseph's Cultural Diversity on Pentecost

On a beautifully sunny Pentecost Sunday, St Joseph's, Penketh, hosted a celebration of all the different cultures within the parish.

Even before Mass began, there were flags outside showing off the culture and diversity of the parish.

The procession was then led in by an Indian band, with Fr Raymond Anyanwu, parish priest, and the altar servers coming in behind. Fr Raymond explained in his homily; "It doesn't matter where we all come from. We are all part of the one body of Christ."

After the homily, it was time for the bidding prayers, and it was a truly unique experience, as several people came up and said a prayer in their mother tongue.

There were prayers said in English, Scottish (Gaelic), Irish (Gaelic), Filipino, Indian, Hindi and Ukrainian among others. During Communion, Fr Raymond also invited all those present at Mass to say the Our Father in their native language. He also invited the children who had recently made their First Holy Communion onto the altar.

After Mass, the band once again led the procession out and performed in the Church yard as people gathered and enjoyed the music. Everybody was then invited to St Joseph's Parish Centre, which is on the same site, to continue the celebration.

The centre was draped in all different flags, and there was a big buffet celebrating some of the different foods from the countries represented. After the event, Fr Raymond said: "It was a truly joyous occasion. From the beautiful weather we had, to celebrating our heritage in all the different ways we did."

"It was also a chance for us to celebrate Pentecost, and allow the Holy Spirit to light up inside us."

