

MINUTES OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, 01 March 2017

Present: Father Richard Reid (FRR), Father David Raju (FDR), Ros Bowles (RB), Alyson Bumby (AB), Bella Caridade-Ferreira (BCF), Joe Colairo (JC), Dina Raouf-Tapp (DRT), Mary-Maye Lorriman (MML), Robin Landon (RL)

Apologies: Michele Reilly(MR), Patrice Murphy(PM), Rudi Pittrof (RP)

1. Opening Prayer

Led by FDR

2. Secretary Volunteer

MML offered to take minutes for the meeting.

3. Minutes

Minutes were approved.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes- FRR asked committee members to offer points for the agenda for this meeting as the agenda was set at a late stage. He stated that we could discuss additional matters if appropriate as some of the agenda points set for this meeting have not been moved forward/acted upon since the previous meeting.

5. Matters to be added to the agenda

RL proposed discussing meal tickets for the Ace of Clubs

FRR asked for a report from JC on how the pancakes were received

RB asked for an update on church etiquette.

These points were added to the end of the meeting in order to make taking minutes easier for MML.

6. Finance Update and Gift Aid

RL and BCF reported on the previous Finance Meeting. No reply as yet from the Diocese. New computers have been installed. Waiting for a VAT claim and monies from the English Heritage re the Spire work before giving a final update on figures which BCF expects to be neutral.

7. Summer Garden Party/Fayre? Dates St. Mary's Primary School

BCF would like to change the spelling of Fayre to Fair. Committee agreed that it is old fashioned and an agreement that the spelling would be change was supported.

FRR has been in touch with Miss Haynes who is due to call him with regards to dates of other church fairs in Clapham to avoid a clash of dates.

BC suggested a 'Back to School Fair'

DR asked what type of fair? BCF asked the question, 'who are we catering for?' and suggested working backwards from that point. AB suggested that we firm up the date and then decide. FRR, proposed a Garden Party, this was seconded by JC. RL offered to provide a drinks stand. JC offered to serve food. FRR liked the idea of the party being called 'Last of the summer Wine', with the party being a back to school, back to work, back to church party to gather together once again.

The date that was decided upon as Saturday 9th September 2017, at 1pm. RL asked if the event was for fundraising. MML suggested not for fund raising as a primary motivator but more to welcome everyone back and promote the church community. FRR seconded this.

JC said that soft drinks would be separate from the alcohol stand.

8. Membership of Council/Chairperson- for how long?

To be discussed at another meeting, no one had thought about this point since the last meeting.

9. Communion Ushers

FRR has continued to make announcements at the 10 am mass but it is still a mess. BCF is going to choose and train 2 young adults. Badges and sashes were discussed amongst the committee members for the ushers. FRR stated that it is something to give them authority in their position. Badges were the preferred option for ushers over sashes when discussed on this occasion.

10. Glass Doors?

To be discussed at the next meeting.

11. Toilet Architect

FRR to contact Clementina.

12. Date of next meetings

The next meeting was confirmed as the 5th April. Time not confirmed, 1900/1930 hours?

13. AOB

First Holy Communion-DR talked with FRR about a letter that was sent out to parents stating that some children will not be ready to make their First Holy Communion. FRR hoped that it was well received but stated that it was unfortunate that it went out whilst he was away. MML said that some parents were concerned that it may apply to their children. However, MML had encouraged them to speak with their catechists. DR said that it applied to 3 or 4 children only. FRR is involved in managing and supporting the catechists on this.

Ace of Clubs Meal Tickets

RL brought up that he would like to see the Ace of Clubs meal tickets more readily available for parishioners to purchase. A discussion followed about the meal tickets and how they worked. It was decided that a conversation with Sarah, to clarify how readily available they are, needed to be had. RL offered to email Sarah on this point. AB suggested that the tickets could be sold outside church once a month.

Pancake Sunday Report

JC was pleased with the support for pancakes and raised £92. JC said he would like the money to go towards the expenses of the Good Shepherd Catechesis. JC asked how the GSC was going. MML gave a brief report.

Good Shepherd Report

The Good Shepherd Catechesis has been well received by the families who attend. Currently 10 children come, we have capacity for 12 (2 groups of 6). MML said that we could swell the numbers to 18 children on the books in order to fill in the gaps as not all children attend each time. MML said that there are plans to make the catechesis more available to more children, through presentations to St. Mary's School Nursery and offering an afterschool club for children in Reception.

Church Etiquette

RB asked how the church etiquette letter was received. FRR said that there were a few who did not receive it well, however, he stated that his parish serves many people from differing cultural backgrounds and he wanted to give some helpful guidance. A small note on one point each week has been added to the church bulletin.

Socks Appeal

The committee were interested in having a socks appeal update from RP

14. Closing Prayer.

FRR led a hearty closing prayer, all joined in, Glory be to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen