

MINUTES OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, 12 October, 2016

Present: Father Richard Reid (FRR) Ros Bowles (RB), Joe Colairo (JC), Rudi Pittrof (RP), Dina Raouf-Tapp (DRT), Michelle Reilly (MR), Lizzie Sinclair (LS)

Apologies: Alyson Bumby, Bella Caridade-Ferreira, Mary-Maye Lorriman, Robin Landon and Patrice Murphy

Minutes

Minutes were approved subject to one amendment (proposed by LS and seconded by MR) and it was agreed that they could be put up on the website.

Matters Arising

Ace of Clubs – Sox Appeal

RP said that there had been 1,200 pairs of socks and £250 raised for the Sox Appeal.

Finance Update

It was decided that, as no members of the Finance Committee had been able to attend the meeting, this should be left for the present.

Gift Aid

There was a discussion about gift aid envelopes for visitors/occasional donations. JC suggested welcomers could give them out but it was decided this would be too difficult. LS suggested a two week trial period of PPC members giving them out at each mass. FRR agreed that the office would print envelopes for a two week trial and that there would be a notice in the bulletin.

Social Events

DRT stepped down from heading the Social Committee.

Christmas Celebration

LS pointed out that the Christmas and summer fairs were social occasions and not about making money. JC suggested that a Christmas lunch. Tickets could be sold for £20 each for a three course lunch. Tickets could be sold after Mass and would have to be limited to 100. FRR said he thought it was a great idea and that it should go ahead. The date was agreed as 18th December which would need to be confirmed by JC. If the 18th was not possible then the 4th December was agreed as second choice. There could be a raffle and Christmas music, etc. The time was agreed as 2.00 pm and tickets could be printed in the office. It was agreed that a notice should be put in the bulletin as “Watch this space”.

DRT said that there were a lot a gifts for children left over from the Summer Fair. They were all wrapped and marked Girl or Boy. FRR suggested that there should be a St. Nicholas weekend and that there should be some sort of a bran tub at £2/£3 a go after 10.00 am Mass on 4th December.

Christmas Gathering for Volunteers

FRR suggested that this should be a gathering to say thank you to everybody who works for the parish (including the PPC). LS suggested a Mass first then drinks and nibbles. JC asked how many there were likely to be and FRR said he thought about 60/70. It was suggested

that it should be announced that a mass would be held for volunteers at 7.00 pm on Friday, 13th January, 2017 with drinks/nibbles at 7.45 pm. The details would be worked out and decided at the next meeting.

Christmas Cards/Calendars

LS asked if there had been a lot of calendars left. FRR said there had been but that costs had been covered. He thought that maybe cards should be done every two or three years and thought it would be too late for this year anyway. It was agreed that this should be put on the agenda for April, 2017.

Communion Ushers

The subject of communion ushers had been raised by BCF. FRR said that the 10.00 am Mass was usually chaotic. LS and MR pointed out that some people preferred to take communion from priests rather than Eucharistic ministers which caused long queues on one side of the church. JC asked if there could be more priests on the altar but FRR said that this was not always possible. LS mentioned that Fr Dominic used to swap sides and that maybe this would be a good idea. No decision was taken.

Crèche

BCF had suggested that soundproof glass doors could be used to screen off part of the church to use as a crèche with the services being broadcast into the area so parents could hear them. LS said that there was a problem with children running around. RP and JC said that people did not have to go to 10.00 Mass if the children disturbed them and that money could be spent on more important things. DRT thought that it was good that children were introduced to the Mass and RB pointed out that children do not have to scream and run around and that it is possible to explain to them at 2 years old that they must not run. FRR said that he would like something done because sometimes he found it difficult to concentrate himself. He did not want to stop children coming to church but equally he did not want others being put off because of the children. It was thought that parents could do more to prevent their children causing disruption. It was also suggested that children should be given colouring books/pencils to keep them occupied but no decision was made.

Dates of Next Meetings

16th November

No meeting in December

11th January, 2017

FRR suggested that PPC meetings should start at 7.00 pm and finish at 8.30 pm instead of starting at 7.30 pm finishing at 9.00 pm and this was agreed.

Any Other Business

FRR mentioned that the Good Shepherd classes had begun and were taking place once a month for 3 year olds. LS asked if it should go in the bulletin but FRR said that MML wanted to keep it low key to start with so there were just a few children at the moment.