

MINUTES OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, 5 April, 2017

Present: Father Richard Reid (FRR), Ros Bowles (RB), Alyson Bumby (AB), Bella Caridade-Ferreira BCF, Joe Colairo (JC), Robin Landon (RL), Mary-Maye Lorrیمان (MML), Patrice Murphy (PM), Rudi Pittrof (RP) and Michelle Reilly (MR)

Apologies: Father David Raju, Dina Raouf-Tapp and Lizzie Sinclair

Minutes

Minutes were approved.

Matters Arising

Nothing.

Finance Update

RL gave an update. RL said that there had been a delay in doing the accounts for 2016 as a result of the problems with the computer and the Parish Secretary being ill. It had been decided that Fergal Keane would input the transactions on the system. He would be receiving a fee but the accounts should be done more or less on time. RL pointed out that there were two professional accountants on the finance Committee to make sure that everything was done properly. JC asked if the parish would be able to see the accounts. RL answered that there would be some form of communication for the parish. He suggested a welcome pack for newcomers to the parish showing how the money was spent. BCF thought it would be a good idea to combine the accounts with a gift aid push.

RL said when the final figures were done it looked as though the cost of the spire would be covered..

RL asked if FRR had spoken to the Fr Provincial as to the status of the plans for the hall. FRR replied that he had not had a chance to do so. JC asked what was happening. BCF said that the plans had been rejected on the grounds of insufficient affordable housing, the fact that the gym was not needed and the restriction of light to nearby houses. She pointed out that Lambeth Council refused planning permission for all sorts of reasons, including car parking not being provided. BCF also thought that they were right to reject the plans on the grounds of the gym not being needed as there were plenty of gyms in Clapham already. It was pointed out that there were other halls in the area that could be used if necessary and if enough notice was given. St Anne's had been revamped although it was quite expensive to hire. The Methodist church could be approached if a hall was needed as they had used St Mary's halls while their own church was having building work done.

Toilets & Glass Doors

FRR had he a meeting with the architect, Klementyna. She had taken lots of photographs but thought that toilets would be possible. They also had a discussion about glass doors on the old main church entrance and Klementyna thought it might be possible to replace some of the wood of the present doors with glass rather than removing them completely. MR wanted to know whether the doors would be used as an entrance. FRR said they would not and that he

was not waiting for a report with plans from Klementyna who would obviously have to check on restrictions and what sort of permissions and from whom would be needed. RB asked how many toilets were planned. FRR said there would be two fully accessible toilets if space permitted.

Good Shepherd Catechesis

MML said that she had given a full update at the last meeting. She enquired whether it would be possible to run a training course for catechists. One had been run in the past. This could include people from outside the parish and there would be a lady from the US who would be the teacher. MML would hope to get maybe five people from St Mary's as new catechists. A question was asked about costs which MML said would be covered. The course would run over 3 – 6 years (depending on the ages of children being taught – 3-6 years, 6-9 year, 9-12 years) and would consist of 50 hours (i.e. a week) training a year. People could see whether they liked teaching or not and it would be a way to get more catechists. RB asked how many students would there be at one time and MML replied that there would be 15 and that they would make their own materials. JC asked who would pay for it. MML said that an administration fee would be charged and that the 50 hours training would be spread over 6 days. JC said he thought it was a fantastic idea. AB asked if it was something that other denominations do. MML said that some do something like it. AB then asked if it was something that CTiC would be interested in. MML said that the question would be when and suggested that maybe it could be done in 2018 or 2020. It would be necessary to fit in with the lady from the US and her work. MR suggested that it should be publicised in the local schools. RB asked about DBS checks. MML said that if they were necessary then they would be done through the church. FRR said that he would need to discuss this with MML.

Summer Faire – Last of the Summer Wine

It was suggested that this should be held on September 9th hopefully in the garden. There would be some activities for children but no stalls, just food and drink. A discussion ensued about having a hog roast. FRR wanted to know whether it covered its costs and BCF said that it had done in previous years. JC suggested a barbecue. FRR said that people would just be charged for what they consumed.

It was agreed that the Parish Christmas Lunch should be held after Christmas.

Communion Ushers

BCF said that the 10 am Mass is still a “free for all”. Last year JC and LS had acted as ushers at Easter. She suggested that she should ask young people to act as ushers at the 10 am Mass but also at services over Easter weekend. She also asked RP if he thought his son would be interested in being an usher. RP said he would ask him. BCF said that she would train the young people. MR pointed out that lots of people wish to go to a priest for communion or a blessing. There was a discussion as to whether Eucharistic Ministers are allowed to bless but FRR said that they were not. AB suggested that they could say something like “I pray for you”. PM said that as Eucharistic Ministers are sanctioned by the Diocese that they should be given instructions. RL said that it would be good when there were more than one priest on the altar. All agreed that the fact that Masses were crowded at weekends was good and that there was no problem when the children and their catechists came back into church. AB asked if it was thought necessary to have ushers for ordinary Sundays and BCF said that it was for 10 am Mass. JC thought that PPC members could help if they were not employed helping with the offertory,

PM wished to know whether the choir and musicians should still come forward first and was it OK for them to go to the priest. FRR said of course it was and that the choir and musicians have to get back to sing/play.

RB asked that the Eucharistic Ministers should make sure they are standing in the right places. FRR said he would talk to Elizabeth Greathead about this

Dates of Next Meetings

10 th May)	
7 th June)	all at 7.00 pm
12 th July)	

Any Other Business

Pancake Sunday

A profit of £91 was made which was given to MML for the Good Shepherd Catechism.

Crèche

MML asked if the children used the Clement Room after their First Holy Communion. She said she knew someone called Lily who had two small children who was willing to do something for very small children. FRR said that there used to be a crèche in the sacristy. MML asked if it would be possible to use it again for mothers and small children. PM said that it would be good to stop the small children from running around during Mass and that Marina had gone to speak to one of them one Sunday. MML said that her daughter, Mary, is a server but would like to help. She could use Good Shepherd material to give a talk and demonstration to the older ones. RB said there would be no need for DBS checks if mothers were there. MML said that if space would allow that Mary could teach the 2/3 year olds. MR suggested that there should be colouring sheets. FRR said that RP Books do them in packs. Everybody agreed it would be a good idea and FRR asked how long it would take to organise. MML said that Mary would use the Easter holidays to prepare. There would be no need for chairs because everybody would sit on the floor.

Coffee

BCF said that children having First Holy Communion lessons kept pushing in front of the coffee queue asking for water. FRR said that when Brother Charles was helping with the classes he used to take water into the classes. MR thought that the catechists should take jugs of water into the Clement Room. BCF said she had spoken to Rita and Made who thought that some of the children were doing it on purpose to get out of the lessons. RB said that water should be available all the time for everybody. BCF said that she would ask Rita and Madge to make sure water was available. RB said that the other coffee people would have to be made aware of this.

The meeting ended at 8.30 pm