

MINUTES OF THE PPC MEETING

Wednesday, 12th July, 2017

Present: Father Richard Reid (FRR), Father David Raju (FDR), Ros Bowles (RB), Alyson Bumby (AB), Joe Colairo (JC), Bella Caridade-Ferreira (BCF), Michelle Reilly (part time)(MR), Dina Raouf-Tapp (DRT) and Lizzie Sinclair (LS)

Apologies: Mary-Maye Lorrigan, Rudi Pittrof, Patrice Murphy and Robin Landon

Minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved; proposed by LS and seconded by AB.

Matters Arising

None

PPC Social Evening

A vote of thanks was given to MML and MR for organising the celebration and it was agreed that a good time was had by all.

Zimbabwe/Ace of Clubs/SVP

FRR read out RP's email and this was discussed. AB asked if there was a working SVP group at St Vincent de Paul in Altenburg Gardens. Nobody was sure. FRR said that SVP were very enthusiastic when anybody was found to speak to. He said that there is a lady at Virgo Fidelis who had spoken about SVP to another parish and it was agreed that he should try to get in touch with her. BCF asked if the parish in Altenburg Gardens had anybody to come out to speak to other parishes. FRR said that there had been lots of interest in all the projects. DRT wanted to know how the Committee could progress things. FRR pointed out that this is not a very good time of the year but that it should be put on the agenda for the September and October meetings. LS suggested that an appeal should be made for the Ace of clubs in Advent. BCF agreed and suggested that there should be a talk at 10 Mass and that the speaker could then go into coffee so that people could talk to him/her. AB thought it would be a good idea if the people who attend the 12 Mass were asked to come at 11 so that they could talk to the speaker. FRR pointed out that they could talk about the shops; there is now one in Balham as well as the one in Clapham.

FRR said that there was nothing much happening re Zimbabwe. He had tried to contact Fr Joseph who was very busy as there were three brothers making their vows. RB thought it might be a good idea to twin with a school. JC wondered if it would be possible to go to Zimbabwe and maybe take a van full of goods next year. FRR said that it would be possible to go there but to take a van would be impractical. Money was always a problem; they always need US dollars and it would be possible to take some things out in personal luggage. FDR said it would be possible to find out what clothes, etc. were needed from the confreres and FRR agreed to talk to them. FRR thought it would be a good idea to do a presentation to the parish to raise money. JC thought it would be a good idea so that there was specific information on the causes supported and that donors would then know that the money would go direct to these causes.

Adoremus

FRR showed a film made in St Mary's on the Catholic Bishops of England & Wales project for 48 hours of prayer and adoration in the Echo Arena, Liverpool in 2018. This is intended

to bring people back to the meaning of the Eucharist. FRR wanted to look at what could be done in the parish. He thought that every parish should do 48 hours of prayer. AB wondered whether it would be possible to show that film at Sunday Masses so that the idea gets through to the minds of the congregation. FRR said that he was just introducing the idea. JC asked if keeping the church open for 48 hours was practicable. BCF asked if it would be possible to have a screen in the church for the event from Liverpool; she also asked about calling the Picturehouse to see if it could be screened there. FRR thought that would be good. DRT mentioned the other cinemas could be contacted.

Refugees

DRT said that she had been unable to attend the recent meeting but that she had spoken to Barbara Wilson who is running the scheme with Rabbi Janet. The way to contact Barbara Wilson was through Facebook. At the moment the scheme was helping a family who live in Streatham. There would also be a meal on 27th July at a cost of £34 a head to raise money to purchase necessities for refugee families. DRT said that they also needed people to talk to the refugees to help improve their English. JC asked if the refugees were legal and if they were looking for employment because he might be able to offer them jobs. DRT said that they were legal and it was agreed that she would pass on JC's phone number.

MR joined the meeting at 8...00 pm

Architects – New Toilet Project

FRR said that the architects had informed him that a survey of the drainage system needed to be carried out. It had been agreed that they would obtain quotes for this.

JC asked about planning permission for the hall. FRR said that the plans had been resubmitted to Lambeth Council about four weeks ago. BCF thought that the PPC should have been consulted but FRR said that he was only made aware after the fact. BCF said that she would check with Klementyna (the architect for the new toilets) to see whether she thought it would get through. It was known that Lambeth Council are notoriously difficult and that sometimes developers offer a quid pro quo for getting their plans through.

Altar Servers

FRR said that some parents had spoken to him. They felt that their children were being forced to sign up for a rota. LS said that she had represented the PPC at the meeting for altar servers. They had all been given forms with a Code of Conduct. Sometimes there were too many servers and sometimes there were not enough. Kimberly tried to give all the children a chance but she needed to know that they were going to turn up. She was trying to get consistency back and to make sure the servers know what they are doing and how to behave. It was pointed out that children had to sign a Code of Conduct when they started at secondary school. They would be given a rota. BCF expressed her surprise that there was not already a rota. FRR said that there had been no rota as such. LS pointed out that her daughter had been a server for over seven years and that there's always been a rota, as with everything else, readers, welcomers, etc. and that she did not know when it had fallen out of use. It needed to be reinstated. They also had needed contact details for the children and their parents. FRR said that the parents had not complained. BCF said that there had obviously been complaints because it was on the agenda. FRR said that it was just one of the things that had cropped up and he wanted to make sure it was being done in the right way. It was agreed that a vote of thanks should go to Kimberly and BCF agreed to email her. It was suggested that she should be given a gift and AB suggested theatre vouchers.

Last of the Summer Wine

FRR wanted to clarify arrangements for this. JC said that he would organise the food. RL had already offered to run the bar. FRR said that tickets were not being sold but there would be charges for the food and drink. LS suggested that the Portuguese ladies should be asked to provide food and DRT mentioned the Eritrean ladies as well. FRR suggested that a stereo system should be used for music. LS suggested a raffle with cash prizes. RB asked what time it would be and FRR said between 2 pm and 5 pm. JC said he would provide a sweet stall, cake stall, food stall and a cream tea stall. FRR suggested that 150 should be catered for.

Dates of Next Meetings

None in August

13th September

18th October – Zimbabwe to be put on the agenda

15th November

15th December

Any Other Business

LS mentioned people with disabilities in church and said that she had spoken to Elizabeth about people being missed out for communion. She thought that a meeting with the Eucharistic Ministers was needed and this point should be emphasised.

LS said that she was a “dementia friend” with a badge. This is not an onerous “task”. It is just about being supportive and being kind and understanding. She thought it would be a good thing for the church to take up.

JC asked if there was anything to report on financial matters and FRR said no but a Finance Committee meeting was needed.

BCF suggested that the church did something with the Ace of Clubs for Christmas. FRR said that the Ace of Clubs did a Christmas lunch. AB pointed out that Christmas starts on 25th December and goes on to 6th January. LS suggested that this should be put on the agenda for September.