

**Sacred Heart PPC Meeting
8.00pm Thursday 10 June 2021 in the Parish Lounge
Minutes**

Present

Canon John
Anne Waldron, chair
David Hurst, secretary
Clare Hobart
Ruth Naylor
Sarah Tobin
Maria Christopher
Jude Mariadoss
Fr Joe Donkor
Sr Dorothy
Dcn Julian Burling
Eleanor Bowman, youth minister
Rachel Purvis, observing

Apologies for absence

Siobhan Heffron
Chris Woodward, finance committee
Fr Dennis Bukenya

1.0 Welcome and introductions

- Anne welcomed all members of the PPC to our first in person meeting for 16 months
- The PPC welcomed Rachel Purvis who has expressed interest in joining the group and was attending this meeting as an observer. All introduced themselves.

2.0 Follow up actions from May 2021 meeting

- Minutes of the May meeting had not been recorded. We discussed the actions that PPC members had noted at that meeting and updated the group as follows:
 - On the Parish roadmap for 'unlocking' post Covid restrictions, Anne and Chris had contacted Parish Groups to advise of the change in guidance allowing groups to meet and to book the Parish Halls. Information had also been communicated via News & Views.
 - Ruth and Anne had met to discuss progressing ideas for developing the coordination of our communications in the Parish. Further update at item 6 below.
 - Following the February presentation by Theo Shaw, co-ordinator of Merton Citizens, dates would follow for free online training on Citizens UK and community organising
ACTION: David
 - David reported that a suitable house at 16 Durnsford Rd SW19 has been offered for the community sponsorship project and, subject to approval by Merton Housing, we might expect a family in September. Rachel offered to introduce David to Nicky Ford and Debbie Fawcett from Merton Social Services
 - Following our reflections on the IICSA report it was noted that the charity 'From Grief to Grace', which supports survivors of abuse, is now based at 14 Edge Hill. We agreed to invite a representative of the charity to meet the PPC at a future date. **ACTION: Canon John/Anne** in liaison with the safeguarding team.

3.0 PPC Membership & Meetings

- Anne summarised the role of the PPC as being *'to support the clergy and parish team in the development of the life of the parish community'*. The PPC could work most effectively as a facilitator of smaller groups and projects in the Parish. The success of the Christmas and Easter planning groups and their work was a good example that we could build on.
- Anne reminded the group that the PPC constitution (described in the PPC handbook) specified that lay membership of the PPC was for a 2-year term that could be renewed for a maximum term of 6 years. The same guidance applied to the roles of Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary. Review of membership and roles was usually undertaken each March.
- It was important that we continued to bring new people into the group and that membership and roles were 'refreshed' on a regular basis, also that parishioners understood that membership of the PPC was not a burdensome long-term commitment.
- Clare, Siobhan and Anne had now completed their 2-year terms. David had served for longer. Sarah, Ruth and Maria had joined within the last 2 years.
- Going forward, Clare and Sarah had decided to step down at this time. Clare had completed her 2-year term and felt it would be good to bring in a replacement. Sarah was about to embark on teacher training and would no longer have the time available for the PPC or to lead the Environment Group. The PPC extended their thanks to Clare for all her work and contributions, especially volunteering with the Merton Night Shelter; and to Sarah for her hard work and commitment to the Environment Group including two years invested in preparing the successful Live Simply application.
- Meanwhile Jude Mariadoss had joined us as an observer at the last meeting and had confirmed he would be very pleased to join the PPC. He was especially interested in contributing to work on the Parish digital communications, for example building on the success of social media and improving online information on Parish Groups. All welcomed Jude to the group. Rachel Purvis had also expressed interest in joining the PPC and was attending this meeting as an observer. We welcomed Rachel to our meeting.
- In terms of recruiting additional members to the PPC (our constitution indicates up to 9 lay members) all agreed on the importance of personal connection and invitation, and were invited to have conversations with parishioners who might be interested in joining us.
ACTION: All
- It was also important that we 'advertised' the availability of roles more formally (e.g. via News and Views) to ensure we were not perceived as a closed group. Anne would follow this up and also contact the various Parish groups to invite further interest across the breadth of our Parish pastoral activities. **ACTION: Anne**
- Anne invited expressions of interest in the roles of Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary; and also suggested that we might consider rotating these roles in the future. David agreed to continue as secretary; and no other expressions of interest were received at this time.
- We will review plans to hold another PPC Retreat and Planning Day, provisionally in the Autumn; and will consider strategies for the PPC to communicate and update the Parish on its work. In the meantime we will continue to meet once a month. **ACTION: Anne/All**

4.0 Parish Safeguarding

- It was noted that the Diocese has required Parishes to update and renew DBS safeguarding forms for all relevant people and groups. This was a big undertaking although much of the work could be done online and the Finance Committee had approved additional resource to support the Parish safeguarding team in completing the necessary work. Members of the PPC were not required to complete DBS checks in relation to their work on the PPC.

- It was noted that after many years of service Sue Chapman has stepped down from the safeguarding team. Nandita Nelson has joined the team in her place. Contact details to be updated on the parish notice boards. **ACTION: David**

5.0 CAFOD Update – Live Simply Award

- Sarah presented plans for the visit by Christine Allen, CAFOD Director, at the 10.00am Mass on Sunday 27 June when she would speak about the Live Simply award made to the Parish on 22 March 2021.
- Sarah will look at the possibility of a second collection, baskets or online, in aid of CAFOD
- There was a need to identify a parish CAFOD representative to explore mutual opportunities. **ACTION: TBC** (Interim representative: David)

6.0 Communications

- Anne and Ruth reported on their recent meeting to discuss ideas for building on and coordinating all the various streams of Parish communication.
- Their recommendation was to convene a Zoom meeting to include everyone involved in communication across the Parish, to talk through ideas and discuss whether for example it might be useful to establish a Parish communications team.
- Potential invitees to this initial meeting would include e.g. News & Views (Thelma and Barbara), Web site (Paul, Jude, Anne), Face Book (Ruth, Alison, Eleanor), other social media (Ruth), Edgeways (John Symes), notice boards (Anne and David), youth group (Eleanor).
- The PPC expressed support for this initiative whilst recognising that different people and groups preferred different modes of communication.
- **ACTION: Anne and Ruth**

7.0 First Holy Communion and Confirmation Programmes

- Eleanor reported that Bishop Paul Hendricks will once again lead the Sacramental services:
 - First Holy Communion on Saturdays 12 and 19 June
 - Confirmation on Saturday 3 July

8.0 Promotional planning for post pandemic events - 'where are we going from here?'

- Canon John was keen that we start to think about possible ways to mark the next stage of Parish life post lockdown and post pandemic. He would look to establishing a small group to meet and explore ideas, possibly drawing on the Christmas and Easter planning groups.
- A number of ideas were discussed including: Requiem Mass; Procession, with singing, walking from Donhead down Edge Hill to the church; Parish 'Songs of Praise'; Welcome event for new parishioners, with exhibits by voluntary groups (as before); Social event for church stewards; Children's' nature trail (Marion); Sponsored walk for CAFOD (Sarah); 8.00pm Tue 28 Sept WW Churches Together meet in person in the lounge (David)
- This topic to be revisited at future PPC meetings

9.0 AOB

- Church Building Appeal: Julian reported that £1.3m of the £1.7m appeal target has so far been raised. When the parish receives approval from the Diocese to go ahead, tenders will be invited for **all** the building work and not just for Phase 1. As ownership of the land has not yet been finalised, the work might be run as a joint project between the Jesuits in Britain and Southwark Diocese

10.0 Next meeting

- 8.00pm Thursday 15 July in person in the lounge