

SACRED HEART PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday 5 September 2024 in the LOUNGE
MINUTES

<p>1. Welcome, opening prayer and apologies</p> <p>Jude opened the meeting in prayer at 8pm.</p> <p>Present were Ruth Naylor (Chair), Christopher Woodward (for the Finance Committee), Sr Dorothy Perrott, Maria Christopher, Annette Campbell-Black, Julian Burling, David Hurst, Primavera Moretti (taking minutes), Giovanni Peruzzo, Fr Jackson Sebastian, Canon David Gibbons, Max Toone, Rob Hitchcock (Faith Minister). Also in attendance were Celia Capstick and John Paul de Quay. Apologies were received from Teresa Engley, Rachel Purvis and Siobhan Heffron. Congratulations were offered to Siobhan on the birth of baby Sean. We welcomed our new assistant parish priest, Fr David Hunter.</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of last meeting</p> <p>Status on actions which will not be picked up in agenda items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <u>Website working group</u> – Ruth and David H spoke to Adam (CEO of the website hosting company) and Ruth reported back to Chris and Paul (who currently holds responsibility for updating the website). Adam suggests that he could help with cleaning up out-of-date / untidy parts of the website, standardise the formatting etc. It seems there will be no charge for this. He proposed adjusting the home page template so the announcements would be more prominent but there would be less scrolling down to see content. David H pointed out that parishioners need to be encouraged to use it. Ruth says new people are contacting her through the website which indicates it is well used. Jude asked if it was mobile responsive. Action Ruth to continue conversation with Adam, Chris and Paul ● <u>Updating fundraising messaging</u> – we now have clearer notices up by the Dona machines, and by the votive candles. Sr Dorothy thinks that it's not appropriate by the candles. Action: Ruth to remove fundraising notices from near the candles ● <u>Church Parades for uniformed groups</u> – this is with the parish office. Action: Canon David to ask Thelma how this is progressing ● <u>Some Definite Service Plan</u> – Action: Rob to have a look over it ● <u>PPC mini retreat</u> – David investigated Kairos Centre. It costs £300 (plus catering). It was suggested that we could do a room swap with another parish. We also discussed who will run it. Sr Dorothy ran the last one. We agreed look for a date in early spring. Action: David H to find out costs and availability for a half-day. ● <u>Confession Guides</u> – Action: Rob will action, John Paul offered to help. <p>The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true record and signed by the chair. They will be uploaded to the website shortly.</p>	Ruth
<p>3. Small Groups</p> <p>Canon David reminded us that we need to identify a small working group to run a pilot scheme. Max will ask in the YP house if there's anyone who would have time/space/enthusiasm to 'be our Adrian' – Canon David is going there for dinner and could explain the concept in more detail. Action: Canon David and Max</p>	

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4. Encouraging volunteering and PPC membership

There will be a weekend in October where we invite people to volunteer - Sat 12th - Sunday 13th October. Chris to approach group leaders to send representatives and also PPC to attend. Could have the Lower Hall open in case of poor weather but ideally do it outside so we can catch people coming out of mass. **Action: Canon David to check the date works and check if anyone can do the masses (especially Saturday which Ruth can't do).**

Ruth has drafted a role description for the Chair and a new role of Deputy Chair to provide support for Chair.

The 12pm choir needs basses.

Tara Philpott could do with readers for 5pm and 8pm.

Action: Ruth to write article for September Edgeways – 200 words with an image – by Sunday.

5. Update from the Finance committee

- a) Chris explained there would be a meeting next Monday so all items under this heading will be put back to October's meeting.

6. Parish Community initiatives

Community Outreach - Merton Citizens

- 7.00pm Tue 17 Sept Leader's meeting in the parish lounge – please let David know if you would like to attend

Parish Environment Group

- JP de Quay and David will host meetings on Sundays 10 and 17 November to re-launch the parish Environment Group
- using projects from the CAFOD 'Live Simply' award as examples

Edgeways

- Dominic Cunliffe and James Potter are asking the Duke of Edinburgh teachers for a youth editor from each school
- September Edgeways will report on events at the three schools to be published Friday 13 September

Sacred Heart Primary School

- David has met James Bush who is responsible for building relationships with the parish
- they will meet at the school to discuss before inviting James to a PPC meeting

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<p>7. Parish Social Life</p> <p>(a) <u>Report on the Young People's Dance</u> - JP de Quay</p> <p>John Paul reported on the dance in Upper Hall held in July for under 35s. There were 100 dancers and 10 volunteers. They offered curry (fair trade and organic and everyone brought Tupperware to take leftovers home). £1,045 has been donated to the Crown of Thorns charity appeal raising funds for a school/convent in rural Nigeria with development needs. The organisers now have spreadsheets for all surrounding parishes so now have a template for marketing. JP is still following up with people who are interested in doing more YA events. The original idea was to raise money to help kit out the hall for similar events. However, JP had some comments to make about this. He asked if there is a vision towards the hall being used for community activities? The committee weren't sure how the money would be spent if it was given to the parish. There encountered considerable challenges while trying to organise the event, such as not being able to get keys for hall outside of work time, the cooking equipment is not stored near the cookers and is locked away and is not the right size for a 200-capacity venue. The cooker isn't appropriate: the hobs are too small for big pans. JP suggested forming a Parish Social Committee which could do an audit of the equipment that's available for social events and this would also overcome the problem that each event is organised by a different set of people who don't know how things are organised. Primavera pointed out that the PPC identified the need for a social committee over a year ago and expressed her gratitude to JP for offering to help with this. Chris and others agreed that how equipment is made available was very restrictive and Chris noted that there had been a request from a preschool to use the hall until they realised there was no storage space. Primi wondered if the uniformed groups needed us much storage space as they have. The Archdiocese gave funds to the YA house/group for YA events, not to the parish.</p> <p>Action: Ruth and JP to discuss how to form a social committee.</p> <p>(b) <u>Fr Matthew's leaving do – Friday 27th September</u></p> <p>Max says it's all under control. David H will produce a photo book for Fr Matthew. There will be a collection for Fr Matthew that weekend. Primi asked if we could we have a collection at the event as well.</p> <p>(c) <u>Christmas Lunch</u></p> <p>All in hand.</p> <p>(d) <u>Marriage enrichment day.</u></p> <p>No one has come forward to run a creche, so we can't offer one. The day is not organised by the parish.</p> <p>(e) <u>New parishioners' welcome tea</u></p> <p>29th September 2024 3pm in the Lounge. Chris said there had been 116 new registrations from January this year, although they were not all new parishioners (some people accidentally re-register). Open invitation to whole PPC. Action: newsletter item and PPC encouraged to attend.</p>	<p>Ruth but spent £663 for cooking equipment.</p>
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<p>8. AOB</p> <p><u>Merton Council Gambling Policy</u>. The council had made an open invitation to faith groups to comment on the 'no casinos' policy. The PPC felt this was a good policy that should be continued (although there were various comments that casinos are scarcely harmful compared to online gambling).</p> <p><u>Sacred Heart Primary School</u>. David H continues to be in contact. James Bush says he will join us but not yet.</p> <p><u>Parking Sign</u> although it was agreed it would be helpful to have more obvious signs to remind people to register for the carpark no specific suggestions of how this might be done were made. Action: Primi add to agenda for next time.</p> <p><u>Work-from-home space</u> – there was a discussion about whether it would be possible to create a parish shared workspace, perhaps in the youth room. Primi pointed out that workstation set-up is important for health and safety. Action: Ruth to be in touch with Ed De Quay to express support for him putting a proposal together.</p> <p><u>Youth Group</u> – Rob needs some volunteers to support him. He's building a new sacramental team and when that is in motion this is something they can explore if someone comes forward specifically who wants to work with a youth group rather than sacramental preparation.</p> <p><u>Praise</u> – Celia Capstick, who attended as an observer, noted that we're all "amazing!" and the secretary deemed this to be worthy of note.</p>	Ruth
<p>9. Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Thursday 3rd October in the Lounge</p>	