



Sacred Heart Church
 Parish of The Sacred Heart, Flitwick
 Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council
 Thursday, 10 May 2018

PRESENT

Paula Bates	Martin Brennan
Helen Burgess	Siobhan Campbell
Fr. John Danford	Eamonn Diver
Maggie Dullaghan	John Fletcher
Diana Page	Nicky Paterson
Deacon Philip Pugh	Suzanne Yates
Peter Leatherland (PAC)	

APOLOGIES

Anne Gadsden (PAC)	
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Agenda Item	Discussion/Decision	Action
1	Opening prayer	
2	Apologies – as above	
3	Minutes were passed as a true record and agreed that they would be published on website.	
4	<p>Matters Arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mission Building – suggest we do an adult Alpha course in 2019. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Need a group to organise the setting up of the course – There is diocesan funding available for laity development – NP and MD to work with DPP to look at this • NP fourth person to attend Eucharistic conference in September • Caring Community Initiative; this programme was defined some while ago. Several aspects of it are in place and working well; visiting the housebound with communion, the work of the SVP generally, contacting those who appear to be in need. The communication aspect is still a weak point. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DPP did not action! To be carried forward • This still to be discussed
5	<p>Focus Areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Gatherings; NP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Some people still not comfortable with having a gathering in their garden 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – DPP and NP to meet to

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		look at areas to target
6	<p>Standing Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Health and Safety – JFle (ii) Nothing to report, regular monthly checks continue (iii) Safeguarding – PB PB is still working my way through the renewal list and making great progress. (iv) Children Liturgy Report – PB The number of children is still low, we are managing with the four leaders and one chaperone using parents when the chaperone is unavailable (v) Catechist Report – DP So far so good. First Holy Communion on 23 June and confirmation on 5 July (vi) Finance – DPP There has been a meeting and preparations are underway for report for AGM (vii) Calendar of Events and Social Activities – SY Circulated (viii) Social Media – MD Maintaining the same level of engagement. Report handed out (ix) CTA&F – HB Walk of Witness – Good role up Pentecost in the Park – 20 May. Details available. Discussion on our payment to CTA&F and this has been organised (x) PAC – PL Discussed under 3 main areas One – LOCATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Marston Moretaine area - Up to 5,000 new homes, community facilities and services, b. Cranfield - 63 c. Flitwick – 250 d. Harlington – 435 + 154 e. Houghton Conquest 650+ TOTAL – c 6800 f. Maulden – 85 g. Westoning - 220 <p>Potential for substantial increase in Catholic</p> 	

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	<p>population over next 20 years</p> <p>Two – COMMUNICATIONS How do we publicise ourselves? a. Electronically through existing channels – Facebook, email, twitter, e-newsletter b. Local advertising – Oracle, local village newsletters c. Using existing systems with Churches together to publicise our existence d. Ensuring our location details are well known & directions to church are clear e. Information leaflets placed in estate sales offices, with permission, giving above information</p> <p>Three – LAY INVOLVEMENT To many parishioners, lay involvement probably means doing something ‘religious’ – i.e. something that the priest or deacon would normally do. It is more than that – volunteering to undertake any role within the church to enable the parish to function as an on going unit is classed as lay involvement. From readers, Catechists to church cleaners welcomers all these are activities which are vital what every parishioner sees and uses every time they come to Mass or any other event. We need to encourage more parishioners to volunteer and some may well be willing to undertake more ‘religious’ lay duties and if so, they would receive the training and support required.</p> <p>Four – ENGAGE RE-MEMBERING This is not helping us to remember things better. It is for us to reach out to parishioners who were once regular attendees but because of a myriad of reasons – Mass times not convenient, family commitments, children’s sports activities, - find church boring and not relevant or important in their lives.</p> <p>The PAC is itself engaged in looking at these major questions to be replicated across the other parishes in the area. Our focus as the PPC is to take these issues and see how they affect us and what we can do to project out image and parish forward. PL suggested we convene a small working group to take these issues and come up with a way forward.</p>	<p>– PL to organise a group. HB to help with lay involvement, SY and AG to look at location</p>

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7	Next Meeting – 14 June it is AGM.	
8	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AGM Report SY discussed format and text to SY by 31 May • Walsingham Diocesan Pilgrimage – 9 June SY is going to coordinate with LB who have a bus, publicity to be a priority in the year of Prayer and Vocation • Share the Journey – DPP for Jim Aylward A Proposal for our Parish to help Refugees from Syria Pope Francis appealed for each Parish in Europe to take in one refugee family, and since then further appeals have been made by Cardinal Nichols among others. The UK Government has committed to taking 20,000 of the most vulnerable refugees from Syria over a five-year period. There is an opportunity for our Parish to be involved in supporting refugees through an organisation known as Refugees Welcome Milton Keynes (RWMK). There are various possible ways in which we could become involved and make a real difference. We could adopt RWMK as a good cause and commit to fundraising events. JA believes that there is a wonderful opportunity for us to be involved in helping to respond to what is surely the greatest crisis of our times. The PPC agreed that we would be involved in this fund raising event for 12 months and what we raise goes to this cause. Then in 12 months we would think of another charity On 21 July as part of Pope Francis’s Share the journey we have a walk from Flitwick to Leighton Buzzard and perhaps this could be sponsored. • Justice and Peace – MB MB stepped down from this role as he is working in Europe. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SY to send format around • DPP to talk to JA and organise a group to fund raise • Need to find J&P rep
9	Meeting closed with a prayer by Fr. John	