

MEETING MINUTES OF HOLY GHOST PPC

Attending: Colin Davidson
Alison Ford
Mgr. Vincent Harvey
Barbara King
Geraldine Gallacher

Apologies: Tony Spiteri
Richard Luker

Date: Thursday 16th August 2007

Chair: Mgr. Vincent Harvey

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The meeting opened with reflections on next Sunday's 2nd reading.

1. MATTERS ARISING

(1) PPC co-option

Marcin Donisiewicz has been co-opted onto the PPC to represent the Polish community. Discussion also took place about the other co-opted position on the council. It was felt that this should represent another ethnic community and, as the Filipino's are the largest, Vincent was going to approach them to find a suitable candidate. (Action VH)

Allie now knew for sure that she would be away during University terms. To help bridge the gap between meetings, Vincent suggested that her older sister, Lizzie, attended those meetings which Allie could not. (Action AF)

(2) Holy Ghost Parish Meeting Hall

Both Ruth Bental's ideas for the use of the hall (and the discussion on the Food Bank) are currently on hold due to illness. This means the hall will probably be out of use during the winter, which is not ideal and could cause some problems.

(3) Cell Groups

There was nothing to report as it links strongly to stewardship.

STEWARDSHIP: The Diocese has formally taken on Holy Ghost Parish (with six others) as a pilot project, beginning in September. They have indicated that it needs to be started through a briefing meeting, which is open to all parishioners, but certain individuals are identified and invited specifically. The group who went to Chandler's Ford have met and drawn up a list of about 35 people who are not already heavily involved in the parish to be specifically invited to this. This meeting will be preceded by a day of reflection on 13th October. There are some reservations as the schedule will be very tight. The meeting will act to broaden those who influence the parish, therefore tying in with cell groups.

(4) Religious book library

A catalogue of furniture has been emailed to Vincent, but no decision has been made.

2. NORTHWEST HAMPSHIRE PASTORAL AREA

There was nothing to report, as Vincent was not at the last meeting and he had not received any minutes.

3. COMMUNICATIONS WITHIN PARISH

There have been several incidents of parishioners not receiving important information, despite it seeming to be well publicised. It was decided that there were two issues: language differences and helping parishioners absorb information in a variety of ways. There was a suggestion to translate important sentences into a variety of languages but especially Polish. Vincent suggested ways to improve our newsletter, basing it on the Eastleigh newsletter. This sorts the items into sections similar to those in the Pastoral Plan. It was also decided that both the website and the notice boards should match. It was suggested that the newsletter should contain only a little more than pure headlines, but that once an individual's attention is caught, they should then refer elsewhere for more details.

Another way to increase communication is to encourage more people to speak at Mass, but it was pointed out that this must happen within the stewardship pilot anyway. It was also suggested that there should be a designated individual, similar to the readers to give important announcements at Mass. Linked to this, it was pointed out that sometimes announcements before Mass may be beneficial, as they would make a change from the norm.

4. CHRISTMAS FAYRE

It was decided that the primary focus of this should be as a parish social event, with any profit going to missionaries in Sri Lanka. Ideas included stalls selling items alongside games and traditional events such as a tombola. Several names were mentioned to help arrange this event, including Sister Paddy as it was remembered she has helped similar events in the past and Rusty who is always Father Christmas at the school. It was also suggested that the Justice and Peace group might be able to use some of their contacts, especially through Veronica Taylor, who Vincent is in contact with. A date towards the end of November or at the beginning of December needs to be chosen. Once this is done, it will be advertised in the newsletter and by word of mouth to find individuals who are interested in being involved. (Action VH)

5. SIGNAGE ON SITE

This is in progress, with the Parish Office making arrangements. There will be two arrows at the end of the drive pointing to the main car park and the overflow car park. In the main car park, there will be signs indicating the complex entrance and the Presbytery. Signing from the road was discussed again and Vincent will contact the council to arrange this. (Action VH)

6. CHILDREN AT MASS

The Parish has received lots of reading material for children. Once it has been stamped, they can be made available for use during Mass. The problem of noise needs continuing work and patience.

7. ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER

Minutes of May meeting to go onto the web.
A summary of matters discussed this evening.

8. A.O.B

It was felt that there should be an increase in social events in the parish, and a parishioner has suggested holding a quiz night. This would be similar to those held at the school where food is arranged and individuals bring their own drink. As Geraldine is on the PTA, she has said she will make some enquiries into organisation, and particularly into finding a quizmaster. **(Action GG)**

Due to a variety of parishioners wanting more social events, it was suggested that a social committee was formed to facilitate this.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

18th October in St. Bede's meeting room

N.B. There is no meeting in September