

## HOLY GHOST PARISH PPC

Minutes of meeting held at 8 pm on Thursday 21st June, 2007

Present: Alison Ford  
Mgr. Vincent Harvey  
Barbara King  
Liz Lovegrove  
Richard Luker  
Tony Spiteri

Apologies: Fr L Adams  
Colin Davidson  
Geraldine Gallacher  
Sr Mary Patrick

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The meeting opened with prayer and reflection on the Gospel reading for this coming Sunday: the birthday of St John the Baptist.

Vincent welcomed Barbara onto the PPC. She was given a copy of the Constitution, and a summary of the rôle of PPCs by Kevin Treston.

### 1. MATTERS ARISING

#### 1.1 PPC election.

Barbara had been successful in the election held last Sunday, and members congratulated her. Some discussion then took place regarding the fact that currently none of the ethnic minority groups in the Parish is represented on PPC. It was still felt that the Polish community has the greatest need for representation at present, and it was agreed that Vincent will approach them about this. If a suitable candidate comes forward, they might be co-opted - there are still two vacancies for co-opted members - or an election could be held. (Action: VH)

#### 1.2 CAFOD

Vincent had asked Ruth Bentall if CAFOD was still interested, and was awaiting her reply.

#### 1.3 Justice and Peace

*CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day.* The intention is to give parishioners a more inclusive rôle, by bringing the envelopes up with the Offertory, and laying greater emphasis on the 'harvest home' aspect. (Action: TS)

*Rosary for the McCann family.* On the days when there is no Mass at St Bede's, the rosary could be said here. Parents who have dropped their children at the school might like to participate in this. It was also felt that other prayer forms might be appropriate, eg scriptural readings, and other times, eg before picking up children in the afternoon. (Action: TS)

*Livesimply Picnic.* People to be reminded to bring their own foodstuffs. (Action: TS)

*May Place.* The type of service they provide has altered, and they no longer want to receive gifts of food, but they have suggested other local charities which would be glad of it. We need to find out further details. (Action: VH & TS)

*Fair Trade products on sale after Masses.* It would be perfectly practical to sell such products from tables in the cloister, but before we embark on such a venture we need to

ascertain what suppliers there are, and what volumes of goods they might insist on our purchasing. Equally important, we should need somewhere to keep our stock. It was felt funding would not be a problem, other than to fund the initial order. (Action: TS)

*Food Bank.* Vincent briefly explained the concept to Barbara, but there was nothing to be reported.

#### **1.4 Cell Groups**

Richard and Colin have still to meet. (Action: CD & RL)

#### **1.5 Religious book library**

This will probably be located initially in the Meeting Room. A parishioner had let it be known she had books to donate. We are still checking on the shelving used in St Bede's School library. (Action: VH)

### **2. NORTH WEST HAMPSHIRE PASTORAL AREA**

The next meeting is scheduled for 21st July. Vincent spoke about the interlinking rôles of this PPC, the LPA PPC (yet to be appointed) and the diocesan PPC. His intention is that Stephen Flitcroft, our immediate past Chair, should continue to be involved at the LPA level, so long as he is available. There is a feeling that the LPA structure as set out in the Pastoral Plan may be over-elaborate, and this needs re-examination.

### **3. STEWARDSHIP**

Tony talked through the report of the Chandlers Ford meeting held on 28th April, and attended on our behalf by himself, Vincent, Judith Aylmer and Kathleen Manley. This had examined various practical aspects of the underlying meaning of stewardship - how each of us can use God's gifts to us on behalf of the wider community. The parish representatives at the April meeting intend to hold a further meeting to discuss the next steps for this parish.

### **4. ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER**

*A summary of the matters discussed this evening*

### **5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.**

#### *a Communication*

There is some feeling that communications at all levels could be improved; it was also pointed out that this is often due to the fact that people do not read notices, or listen to announcements. Difficult to know what more can be done on this topic.

#### *b Music-style rotation*

There is still discontent with this; people are annoyed when they find that the Mass which suits them sometimes has a music style which does not. However, the programme of music styles is made public in the Newsletter, and on notices in the Church porch. We do change styles, and it is up to parishioners to inform themselves.

#### *c Parking*

The parking situation is inherently unsatisfactory, largely because of selfishness and lack of self-discipline. It is reported that people attending Sunday Masses have been leaving their cars in Abbey Court - something they have absolutely no business to do. This is an ongoing problem, and one to which there is no evident solution.

#### *d Temperature in Church*

Over the past two or three weeks, the Church has seemed uncomfortably hot, particularly at the Sunday evening Mass. As far as we are aware, the heating is not running, but Vincent will check, in case this is another effect of the lack of adequate handover. (Action: VH)

*e* *Signage on site*

Need for a 'Welcome' type sign on the outside, as well as more, and more informative, signs inside?

*f* *Children at Mass*

Some discussion took place about the possibility of setting by an area outside the worship area, where small children could play, or be brought to howl, rather than disrupting services. No firm decision reached. If something like this is done, there is at least a risk that some parents will simply turn their children loose. Parents need to be responsible for their children, and this is best done in Church - though we should all be ready to offer help if someone is clearly in difficulty.

## **6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Thursday 19th July, 2007 in St Bede's Meeting Room.