

MEETING: MINUTES OF HOLY GHOST PPC

Attending: Colin Davidson
Elizabeth Ford
Geraldine Gallacher
Mgr Vincent Harvey
Barbara King
Liz Lovegrove
Richard Luker
Greg Medalla
Sr Mary Patrick

Apologies: Tony Spiteri

Date: Thursday 18th October, 2007

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The meeting opened with a short prayer for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Greg Medalla has been co-opted onto the PPC to represent the Filipino community. With this position the PPC is now complete.

1 **MATTERS ARISING**

- 1.1 **Holy Ghost Parish Hall.** There has still been no action over this.
- 1.2 **Stewardship.** This is awaiting the open meeting which has been called for 30th October, 2007. An excellent Day of Reflection led by the Bishop was held on 13th October. Sixteen parishioners went.
- 1.3 **Religious Book Library.** As yet, no action has taken place on this.
- 1.4 **North West Hants Pastoral Area.** Mgr Vincent gave a brief account of the meeting which had been held on 6th October. Marriage Preparation had been discussed, as also had Skills for Leadership. The members of the NWHPA committee had discussed the essential characteristics of a Worshipping Community (a term often used in the document on Pastoral Areas). They have described such a community as follows:
 - a) Familiar group of people united by prayer, shared beliefs and behaviours with a sense of identity within the pastoral area to which it belongs
 - b) Pastor to act as point of contact for the community to facilitate growth in the community
 - c) Place for meeting, worship, rites of passage and sanctuary
 - d) Support for the community through communication, catechetical formation, evangelisation, social activity and visiting sick & housebound
 - e) Joint witness to the wider world through participation in Ecumenical, Missionary, Justice & Peace and Social Action organisations.

1.5 **Christmas Fayre.** This will take place in St Bede's Hall on 24th November, 2007

1.6 **Signage on Site.** This is slowly proceeding.

1.7 **Quiz Night.** 1st February, 2008 has been proposed for this.

1.8 **Children at Mass.** It was felt there had been a perceptible improvement in the behaviour of children; certainly, most of the reading material is being used at all Masses. A number of people expressed the view that parents of particularly recalcitrant children might be asked to consider staying in the cloister during Mass. The loud speakers enable them to stay in touch with the service, while allowing them - and their children - more flexibility of behaviour. As many people may not be aware of the speakers, it was suggested that their presence be publicised.

2 **COMMUNICATION WITHIN THE PARISH**

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the various means of communication within the Parish. It was felt that the most effective was announcements from the pulpit, although it had to be recognised that most people are selective regarding what they hear - or for how long they retain it in their mind. The website is an increasingly effective means of communication, and seems to be becoming more popular, although by no means everyone in the parish has access to this.

The rôle of the PPC in communications with parishioners was discussed, though no particular view dominated.

There was a general view that photos of key people would be a good thing, both on the website and also on documents or lists produced in the office. The use of egroups was tentatively suggested, and found general approval, though this would presumably not be useful for non-specific communications.

3 **ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER**

It was agreed that the minutes of the August PPC should be posted onto the website.

4 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

a) A member proposed that second collections should be taken while the congregation is still in its place, before the service is ended, thereby increasing the amount collected. However, doubts were expressed that this would be the result.

b) A request had been received via the Suggestion Box that there should be a 5.15 pm Vigil Mass in Holy Ghost Church on Saturdays. Mgr Vincent expressed regret, but said this was no more possible now than it had been a year ago. St Bede's is now the Parish Church, and it is not practicable to introduce another regular Mass into the Parish programme.

5 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Richard announced that he had double-booked himself for the night of 15th November - the date proposed for the next meeting. **Mgr Vincent proposed Tuesday 20th November, at 8 pm, and this was accepted.**

There being no more business, the meeting close at 9.45.