

**MINUTES OF THE HOLY GHOST PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
THURSDAY 18 MAY 2006**

Present:	Fr. Vincent Harvey	Apologies:	Fr. Paul Lyons
	Richard Luker		Vina Tamares
	Faye Redmond		Brian Morris
	Pat Ralph		
	Sr. Mary Patrick		
	Alison Ford		
	Colin Davidson		
	Tony Spiteri		
	Steve Flitcroft		

Prayer

Fr Vincent led a prayer based upon a reflection of the Gospel passage from Matthew's gospel that will be used during the blessing ceremony of St. Bede's Church.

1. Matters arising

(a) Transition to St. Bede's

i) Transport

A number of local areas have been proposed, over which local coordinators would act as focal points, to bring together Parishioners requiring lifts, with those able to offer lifts. There was also a proposal for a central coordinator, acting through the Parish office, to provide an overall focal point for coordinating all lifts and to investigate other transport issues. The areas proposed and volunteer coordinators/possible coordinators are tabulated below.

Area	Coordinator
Winklebury	Judith Aylmer
Chineham	
Sherfield / Bramley	Veronica Upton & Sue Tyler (Pat Ralph to confirm acceptance of role)
Old Basing / Lychpit	
Eastrop / Riverdene	Faye Redmond & Liz Sadler (Faye to confirm acceptance of role by Liz)
Oakridge / South View	

Central Coordinator Geoff Fowler (Fr Vincent to confirm acceptance of role)

Allie Ford raised the question of the possibility of Holy Ghost operating a minibus to provide transport. It was felt that this option was not possible at present due to a number of difficulties:

Cost of purchase of a minibus

Volunteers to operate the minibus every Sunday

Difficulties with insurance, licensing etc

However, this topic is something that the central co-coordinator could more fully investigate.

The possibility of using Dial-a-ride or Community care transport was also raised, again the central co-coordinator could further investigate these possibilities. In the short term Faye volunteered to contact a friend involved with community transport to see what possibilities may exist.

Two draft forms, one for offering a lift, the other for requesting a lift were presented for consideration. Overall the forms were acceptable, although it was felt that they required a clear title. In use the forms would be printed on different coloured paper to reduce confusion between offering/requesting a lift.

ii) Ministries

Over 260 letters have been issued to Parishioners identified as fulfilling a ministry during Mass. These letters ask if Parishioners would like to continue in the ministry they undertake, or step down, and which mass they are likely to attend at St. Bede's. Approximately 50% have replied to date. Answers received are being collated into a database.

iii) Non pastoral roles

A number of roles need fulfilling that, whilst not pastoral in nature, directly affect pastoral issues.

Volunteers have been identified as key holders (both St. Bede's and Holy Ghost), to deal with the heating system (Mike Tustain), lighting/amplification system (Andy Sawko/Graham Budzinski-Seymour). Nigel McLean was proposed as a further potential key holder, Fr Vincent will follow this suggestion up.

Roles still to be filled include baptistry, sacristan and hall letting. Richard Luker volunteered for the latter if no further candidates are forthcoming.

All non pastoral roles will require a degree of training. Training will be provided for all volunteers by Brymor, once their representatives have received sufficient training/information.

(b) New Church Update

The blessing service is to be held on 25 May, St. Bede's feast day. We will be able to go into the church, but not through the main door. Service pits in the floor will be cordoned off. A risk assessment is to be issued to Fr Vincent by the builders.

Attendees will gather behind the church initially, and then pass into the courtyard, where the service will start. From there everyone will process into the main church area, where there will be a liturgy of the word and the Bishop will bless the church. During the service items from each of the Mass centres will be presented.

The official hand over date is 23 June, which has slipped again, and possibly may slip further. Fr. Paul leaves at the end of June, therefore he is on his own from July. A visiting Polish priest is available to assist in July.

The new furniture for the church will be delivered at the end of June, come what may. Storage then becomes an issue for the builders.

(c) Justice and Peace

Nothing to report.

(d) Cell Groups

Nothing to report.

(e) PPC Suggestion Box

Nothing to report.

(f) Go Out and Bear Fruit

The announcement of the LPAs will be on Pentecost Sunday. The clergy will meet the Bishop at the end of May to discuss the proposals. Initial guidelines for LPA operation have already been issued to the clergy for review.

A self-review process for the parish (essentially an audit) has also been suggested. Fr Vincent described briefly some of the suggestions within the document. It is suggested that once each LPA has been announced all existing Parishes undertake an audit, which is then collated across the LPA. This would develop a database for the LPA and help to identify areas that are covered and areas where gaps exist.

The clergy have reviewed the audit and suggested changes to be made before its official release.

2. Joint PPC and NCPG Meeting

It was felt that this meeting had been a worthwhile exercise.

Actions that arose from the meeting were:

Development of a transport strategy - which is being addressed at present – and the need to issue information.

(Action on Steve to draft transport information for review and issue.)

Orientation – An open day for the wider community to show them who we are and what we do. Also, prior to the wider community, an introduction for Parishioners to their new church, showing them what's where and who's responsible for what and how to contact the relevant people.

(To be organised.)

Within the new Church the deployment of signs to aid people in the early days of occupancy.

The new Church allows for the development of a new Church ethos. Noise has become an issue in many of our Masses, the new Church offers the ability to remind people how to behave and to allow the emphasis of shared values and parental responsibility. The large areas for congregating outside the new church will make this easier.

3. Items for Newsletter

Items for the newsletter were identified as:

- Transport
- Ministries
- Non pastoral roles
- LPAs

4. AOB

PPC minutes from 20 April meeting to be passed to Pat Vincent to go onto the web site – Fr Vincent to forward.

Sr Paddy reported that the tick off sheet for exposition was not working well and there are times during the day when no-one is present and Sr Paddy has to provide cover. Some mechanism for reminding people is required. It was suggested that someone stand at the back of church with the tick off list as an active reminder to people.

5. Date of Next Meeting 15 June 2006, 8:00pm in the Presbytery.