

# MEETING MINUTES OF HOLY GHOST PPC

Attending: Colin Davidson  
Stephen Flitcroft  
Alison Ford  
Mgr. Vincent Harvey  
Brian Morris  
Richard Luker  
Pat Ralph  
Tony Spiteri

Apologies: Sr. Mary Patrick  
Fay Redmond  
Vina Tamares

**Date:** Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2006

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The meeting opened with prayer and reflection on the Gospel reading for this coming Sunday.

## **1. Membership**

Regrettably, Vina has resigned from the PPC due to pressure of work and childcare issues. She had been co-opted onto the PPC and was due to leave in April. She has proposed another Filipino to replace her, but it was thought best to wait until April to action her replacement. We thank Vina for her contribution to the PPC and all wish her well for the future.

## **2. Matters Arising**

### *(a) St. Bede's Church Update*

#### **i). Current Position with the church**

The Office will move to the new premises on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November and Fr. Vincent may also take up residence at the end of the month.

The first Mass is scheduled for Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 9.30am. The new Sunday Mass schedule will also come into operation that week-end.

It will be announced at all Masses, and noted in the newsletter, that the Saturday evening Mass will be discontinued with the new schedule.

#### **ii). Familiarisation Sessions**

Readers, Special Eucharistic Ministers, Welcomers etc are to be invited to a familiarisation session at St. Bede's on Friday 1st December at 7pm. There will be another session at a later date. **(Action VH)**

At every Mass, there will be 5 Eucharistic Ministers: four with Chalices and one with Hosts. There will also be 3 Readers.

The Theodore Alexander car park will no longer be available for use from this week-end (18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> Nov.)

#### **iii). Dedication**

The date of the dedication of St. Bede's is confirmed as Saturday 26th May 2007 at 11am.

***(b) CAFOD***

Basingstoke Council have rejected CAFOD's application to utilise the Burgess Road Hall. This was on the grounds of "the loss of a useful local facility" (The building is used occasionally as a Polling Station). John Botting has discovered that an appeal can be lodged with the Council. He has written to them, pointing out existing alternative sites e.g. the Vyne School & the new Oakley Village Hall. He has also pointed out that the building will deteriorate if it is not used on a regular basis. Meanwhile, CAFOD have begun to look for alternative sites. It is feared that similar problems could be encountered with the application for change of use for the Holy Ghost Presbytery in the future

***(c) Justice & Peace***

The recent campaign to raise awareness of conditions in gold mining communities (held in conjunction with Bishop Challoner School) was a success. It even received publicity in "Portsmouth People".

Some future initiatives are on hold pending the move to St. Bede's. It is expected that these will be held in conjunction with St Josephs & Bishop Challoner. Also, with the establishment of the LPA, it is possible that Andover could be included in future campaigns.

**3. Larger Pastoral Areas**

**i). Name for our area**

The first meeting of the LPA has taken place at which nearly all the clergy were present, together with lay representatives from all the parishes except Tadley & Andover .A multi-layered structure was envisaged with a Leadership Team, a Pastoral Area team, and a local Worship Team(e.g. PPC).

Mgr John Nelson, a Canon Lawyer, suggests that by working together pastorally, sharing skills& talents, the new structure should work itself out starting from the bottom upwards.

Some of the issues involved had been explored, including the name of the LPA. Several options had been proposed, including Test Valley, Hannington, Blessed John Body, N.W .Hants.

The PPC decided in favour of "North East Wessex (NEW)" as the name for our LPA.

The next meeting of the LPA is on 2<sup>nd</sup> December

**ii).Further Issues**

There were no further issues or expansion on the items from the September minutes.

**iii). Ecumenical Dimension**

The Bishop had received a letter from Old Basing. Apparently the Baptists have withdrawn from the Ecumenical Group there, leaving just the Church of England & ourselves, and there was concern that we too would be pulling out. This is not the case. There are signs, however, that the "Churches Together in Basingstoke" movement is dying out.

**iv). Stewardship**

This idea has been piloted in the USA. It involves the concept of how committed are we, as stewards of the Faith we profess, in terms of giving of our time & talents.

The emphasis is not on giving financially, but on giving other things. However, where the scheme has been launched there has been an increase in financial income. A Working Party has been set up and the concept was discussed at an Assembly in 2005. A copy of the Working Groups report will be e-mailed to PPC members.

**(Action VH)**

#### **4. Newsletter Items**

Larger Pastoral Areas  
New Church Update  
CAFOD situation re. Burgess Rd. Hall  
Justice & Peace

#### **5. A.O.B.**

##### **i). The Giving Tree**

Tony has met with the co-ordinator and the board will be erected in time for the first week of Advent. It will be positioned in the cloister of St. Bede's where everyone will pass by it.

##### **ii). The Polish Community**

In connection with the increase of Polish immigrants into the UK, ought we as a parish be making arrangements for this group? The majority of them are Catholic, single, young, living in bed-sit accommodation and in low paid jobs.

Mgr. Vincent has been contacted by a gentleman employed by Basingstoke Council to look after ethnic groups. He had identified the Poles as a distinct group.

Perhaps the PPC could invite them to a meeting, as it did with the Filipino community, to identify their requirements and help them to feel that they belong in the parish community.

A further suggestion was that perhaps quarterly a Mass with an ethnic content could be said. It was also suggested that parishioners who would be prepared to assist with this group be identified. Possibly, a sub-committee could be formed which could also co-ordinate the other ethnic groups within the parish.

##### **iii). St. Bede's**

It was proposed that at the first weekend of Masses at St. Bede's parishioners be positively encouraged to introduce themselves to each other. It was also suggested that people be encouraged to look around the new church rather than conduct guided tours.

#### **6. Date of Next Meeting;**

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2006 at 8pm at St. Bede's (at last)!!!!

