

RC PARISH OF CROWTHORNE AND SANDHURST

Minutes of the PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL Meeting held on Wednesday 2 December 2015 at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre, Sandhurst

Present: Father Marcus, Daniela Chapman, George Fanning, Lawrence Gaffney (Chair),
Cyn Hopkins, Rita Paxton and Moira Taylor(Sue Niblett - Minutes)

Opening Prayers

1. Apologies

Apologies were accepted from Margaret and Gwen.

2. Agree Previous Minutes

The draft Minutes of the previous meeting of 7 October were approved as a true and accurate record.

3. Actions

8.b. AOB/Parking bays at Immaculate Conception car park (11.6.14) – the car park lights are to be replaced before the car park is lined. No further action till then. Closed.

8.b. AOB/Holy Ghost organ (20.1.15) – Griffiths & Company of North End, Portsmouth, will be assessing the condition of the organ with a view to repairing it. Ongoing. **(Action Sue)**.

4.a. Parish Pastoral Update (7.10.15) Liturgy– the IC organist issue was reported as resolved at the previous meeting so no further action required. Closed.

Carolyn Ablett represented the parish at the Sandhurst Town Remembrance Day service. Closed.

The Patronal Festival Mass of the Immaculate Conception Church on Tuesday evening 8 December was announced in the Newsletter. Closed.

3 parishioners volunteered to serve refreshments after the Patronal Mass. Closed.

The Parish Advent Penitential Service will be at 7.30pm on Thursday 17 December in the Immaculate Conception Church and Fr Simon Thomson and Fr David O’Sullivan will concelebrate.(The Lenten Penitential Service will be held at the Holy Ghost Church). There will also be Penitential Services in St Swithun’s Yateley on 10 December and in Corpus Christi Wokingham on Monday 21 December. All to be announced in the Newsletter. Closed.

Following the poll taken over 2 weekends, parishioners elected to have the second Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve at Holy Ghost Church at 10.00pm. Hence there will be no Midnight Mass. Closed.

4.g. Parish Pastoral Update (7.10.15) Christian Community- a statement in the Christian Aid secular health policy clarifies why we cannot support the Churches Together in Crowthorne Christian Aid Service in May. They have been notified of this. Closed.

The Filipino community Christmas party will be at 6.00pm on Saturday 19 December in Edgbarrow School, Crowthorne. Closed.

7.b. Issues for this meeting (7.10.15) Seniors’ Christmas Party - all invitations have been sent out and replies are coming in. Transport is being organised. Closed.

7.c. Issues for this meeting (7.10.15) St Vincent de Paul Society – Moira to meet with Fr Marcus to discuss.**(Action Moira/Fr Marcus)**

7.d. Issues for this meeting (7.10.15) Parish charities’ review – the report on the Burma Orphanage Appeal has been sent to the Bishop. Fr Marcus will assess other charities as they evolve in the New Year. Closed.

4. Parish Pastoral Update

a. Liturgy – Fr Marcus would like the children to approach the Sanctuary after Communion at the 6.00pm Christmas Eve Mass so that he can address them. They are welcome to attend Mass in costume if they wish. Clarification is needed as to which organists are available to play at the Christmas Masses. Fr Marcus to check with Gwen. **(Action Fr Marcus)**

Lent—a brief discussion took place about the Lent programme for 2016. Fr Marcus was informed of the usual programme of Stations of the Cross (Friday lunchtime at Holy Ghost Church, followed by soup and cheese and biscuits; Wednesday evenings at Immaculate Conception Church; Children's Stations on Good Friday at alternate churches). To be considered and confirmed at next meeting. (**Action Fr Marcus**)

b. Outreach, Justice & Peace – Latest DBS Safeguarding policies and procedures are to be reviewed. (**Action George**).

Once approved the Safeguarding document will be displayed in both Church porches and parish halls/kitchens, and also posted on the parish website. Rita has 40 copies of a pocket guide issued by the Diocese entitled 'Responsible Caring' which she will hand out to all those who have been DBS checked. (**Action Rita**).

64 shoeboxes, along with 4 large bags of supplies, were kindly donated for our annual Christmas Refugee Relief Shoebox Appeal, for despatch to refugee camps and orphanages in Croatia.

It was proposed that the parish should be more proactive in recycling. There is a charity that will collect 10 kg loads of used postage stamps, old mobile phones and other gadgets, and the money generated can be donated to CAFOD. It was agreed that Rita will order a collection bin for each church and parishioners will be encouraged to use them. (**Action Rita**).

Fr Marcus suggested that the parish might have a stall at the Donkey Derby to increase awareness that the event is run by the Catholic parish. At the very least, it was thought that booklets from the Catholic Truth Society could be handed out. Dave Robinson, the Chairman of the Donkey Derby will need to be consulted. (**Action Daniela**).

c. Youth – nothing to report.

d. Social & Communication – the London coach trip on 21 November was successful despite the tour of the Christmas lights having to be aborted because they had not yet been switched on! It was confirmed that there will be no children's Christmas party this year.

e. Catechesis – there are 21 children in the First Holy Communion group. They fulfilled various roles and were introduced to the congregation at the 9.00am Mass on Sunday 15 November.

Confirmation classes are proceeding with 2 sessions a month - 1 at Wellington College and 1 at the Immaculate Conception Church.

RCIA (Journey in Faith) – Bracknell parishioners no longer join us and there are just 2-3 of our own parishioners attending sessions in the Immaculate Conception Church. The Pastoral Area clergy to discuss the future programme.

f. Pastoral Area– see RCIA above in item 4.e.

g. Christian Community – Rev. Catherine Vaughan is the new Vicar at St George's Church in Owlsmoor.

Lent – Churches Together in Crowthorne Lent house groups will have 'Les Miserables' as the theme for 2016. The programme will include the Meditation Group at Holy Ghost Church.

5. Pastoral Initiatives Update

a. Parish Census and Database (Rita, Lawrence) –the parish database and census form updates have been completed. This initiative is now closed.

b. Parish Pilgrimage (Gwen) – Ascot parish is being encouraged to join us in Lourdes next year.

c. New Baptismal Course (Lawrence) –nothing to report.

6. New Pastoral Initiatives

a. World Youth Day in Poland 2016 (Gwen)– nothing to report.

7. Issues for this meeting- none.

8. Any other business

a. Projectors in Churches – a brief discussion took place on the pros and cons of installing equipment in both churches to project the words of hymns onto the walls. George will make initial investigations on viability and cost. No practical action will be taken before consulting with Gwen and Linda Tranter. **(Action George).**

b. Dishwasher for Parish Centre – a request was made for the installation of a dishwasher in the church hall in Sandhurst. George will investigate. **(Action George)**

b. Crockery for Parish Centre – new crockery is needed and it was suggested that we could source printed mugs. **(Action Rita.)**

c. Living Our Faith – the PCC was informed that this 5 year Diocesan fundraising initiative has almost concluded, except for a few outstanding pledges. We will no longer be collecting parishioners' anonymous donations.

d. Day Pilgrimage - it was suggested that a one-day pilgrimage might be welcomed by those parishioners who may not be able to go away for a whole week. Rita to discuss with Fr Marcus. **(Action Rita).**

9. Date and time of next meeting – Wednesday 27 January 2016 at 7.30pm.

Closing Prayers

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

Distribution:	Father Marcus Brisley	Daniela Chapman	Margaret Derlacki
	George Fanning	Lawrence Gaffney	Cyn Hopkins
	Rita Paxton	Moira Taylor	Gwen Wiseman
	Sue Niblett		