

RC PARISH OF CROWTHORNE AND SANDHURST

Minutes of the PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL Meeting held on Wednesday 27 January 2016 at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre, Sandhurst

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

Opening Prayers

1. Apologies

Apologies were accepted from Margaret, George and Gwen.

2. Agree Previous Minutes

The draft Minutes of the previous meeting of 2 December were approved as a true and accurate record.

3. Actions

8.b. AOB/Holy Ghost organ (20.1.15) – Griffiths & Company of North End, Portsmouth, has inspected the organ and we are awaiting a quotation for cost of repairs. Ongoing. **(Action Sue).**

7.c. Issues for this meeting (7.10.15) St Vincent de Paul Society – Fr Marcus and Moira have discussed this issue and concluded that it will not be pursued further. Closed.

4.a. Liturgy (2.12.15) – there was no organist at the Christmas Day Mass at Holy Ghost Church. Closed.

Fr Marcus confirmed that Stations of the Cross will be held at 12.noon every Friday at Holy Ghost, followed by hunger lunch; every Wednesday evening at 7.00pm at Immaculate Conception; and for children on Good Friday at 12.00noon at Holy Ghost (Cyn and Margaret to take). A full programme of Lent and Easter Masses, in booklet form, will be available to all parishioners in due course. Closed.

4.b. Outreach, Justice & Peace (2.12.15) – the DBS Safeguarding policies and procedures have been completed and are on the parish website and posted on both church notice-boards.

Closed. (Two actions.)

There is now a CAFOD recycling bin in each church porch and parishioners will be encouraged to use them via an announcement in the newsletter. Rita will arrange for them to be emptied when necessary. Closed.

Donkey Derby – discussions continued as to how visitors to the Donkey Derby might be made more aware that the event is run by the parish. It was suggested that booklets from the Catholic Truth Society might be handed out from our own stall, which Daniela offered to do, or from the Sandhurst Churches Together stall; literature could be made available in the tea tent; the parish name could be more dominant on the front page of the Donkey Derby programme; an article about the parish could be inserted in the programme (Daniela to write). **(Action Daniela)**

Rita will raise the issue at the next Sandhurst Clergy Fraternal lunch meeting. **(Action Rita)**

8.a. AOB/Projectors in Churches (2.12.15) – George absent from meeting. Ongoing.

8.b. AOB/Dishwasher for Parish Centre – George absent from meeting. Ongoing.

8.c. AOB/Crockery for Parish Centre – Emma-Lisa Carter-Segue is kindly looking into this. Currently, if the mugs are to be printed, there is only enough money for 30 new ones at each church. Ongoing. **(Action Rita.)**

8.d. AOB/Day Pilgrimage – a date will be set for this in the spring once Fr Marcus is able to confirm his availability. Suggested venues are West Grinstead, Sussex or Shrine of Our Lady at Caversham. Ongoing. **(Action Fr Marcus/Rita).**

4. **Parish Pastoral Update**

a. Liturgy – Christmas—it was noted that there had been no sacristan or altar servers available on Christmas Eve at Immaculate Conception Church, nor an organist to play on Christmas Day at Holy Ghost Church. Therefore, in September/October Fr Marcus will review the number of Masses for Christmas 2016 to ensure that there are enough people to cover the required tasks. The number of Masses set will be dependent upon this. The Christmas Eve Vigil Mass was extremely well attended; Christmas Day Mass at Holy Ghost Church was busier than in previous years; Christmas Day at Immaculate Conception attendance was average Sunday Mass numbers.

Easter - the Easter Triduum Masses will be celebrated at the Immaculate Conception Church this year. The provisional date for the Lent Penitential Service is Wednesday 9 March at Immaculate Conception Church at 7.30pm, if enough priests are available to assist Fr Marcus. An additional service this year will be for 'the Blessing of Easter Food (Święconka)' at 6.00pm on Holy Saturday at Holy Ghost Church. Daniela will try to have this publicised in the newsletter for St Augustine's School. (**Action Daniela**)

b. Outreach, Justice & Peace —the status of charities being supported by the parish is under review by Fr Marcus. The PCC was reminded that in 2014 it had been agreed and minuted that the Bracknell LifeHouse would be supported by the parish. This was to be in the form of an annual retiring collection in January (in place of that taken for SPUC), with more practical donations of baby clothes and equipment when requested through the parish co-ordinator Margaret Derlacki. However, Fr Marcus is in favour of providing a donation from Donkey Derby funds as opposed to a church collection. Dominica Roberts, who represents the LifeHouse, has asked for clarification on the current situation with regards to our parish and Fr Marcus agreed to speak with her directly. (**Action Fr Marcus**). Fr Marcus requested that the status of the Burma Orphanage Appeal be discussed at the next PPC Meeting. (**Action Lawrence**)

The net curtains in the Confessionals have been replaced by mesh to meet Safeguarding criteria.

c. Youth – Gwen absent from meeting. Nothing to report.

d. Social & Communication – the Parish Quiz Night is on Saturday 30 January in Our Lady's School. The provisional date for the Parish BBQ is Saturday 2 July, which will be the 10th anniversary of this event.

e. Catechesis – the **First Holy Communion** programme is progressing smoothly, although Rita will contact one family whose 2 children have missed 2 sessions. There are 23 children in the group, including the 2 aforementioned. It was noted that the invitations to the children's teachers should be sent out earlier than last year. (**Action Cyn/Margaret**).

The proposed Weekend Retreat to Cold Ash for the **Confirmation** group was cancelled due to only 11 out of the 45 candidates responding to the invitations. The proposed one day Retreat was also cancelled due to lack of response. However, a Youth Theatre Group will be performing at Our Lady's School on Sunday 24 April, with the theme 'Gifts of the Holy Spirit', which will be compulsory for all the candidates to attend. The response so far is positive.

RCIA (Journey in Faith)— is being held in the parish with just 1 person attending at present. The baptismal course was discussed; the present course (and also the replacement one under development) is designed for group discussion and works best with a minimum of two families. Courses are currently run when there is sufficient demand.

f. Pastoral Area – nothing to report.

g. Christian Community – the parish will be hosting the Mayor’s annual Sandhurst Civic Service on Sunday 28 February at 2.00pm in the Immaculate Conception Church. Attendance is by invitation only.

5. Pastoral Initiatives Update

a. Parish Pilgrimage (Gwen) – Gwen absent from meeting. Nothing to report.

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

c. World Youth Day in Poland 2016 (Gwen)– Gwen absent from meeting. Nothing to report.

6. New Pastoral Initiatives – none.

7. Issues for this meeting- none.

8. Any other business

a. Receiving Holy Communion – people need to be reminded that they should fold their arms across their chest if they are not to receive Holy Communion. The First Holy Communion families to be especially reminded. **(Action Cyn/Margaret).**

Note that for those eligible to receive Holy Communion there is no lower age limit to receiving from the chalice.

9. Date and time of next meeting – Thursday 17 March 2016 at 7.30pm **in Holy Ghost Parish Rooms.**

Closing Prayers

Meeting closed at 9.05pm

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