

The Sacred Heart Church, Wadhurst and St. Peter's Rotherfield

Minutes of the Parish Pastoral Council Meeting held on Monday 11 July 2016 in the Sacred Heart Church Annexe at 1930 hours

Present: **Fr. Martin O'Connor** **Clare Kent**
 Daphne Bagshawe **George Micallef**
 Frances Dorr **Len Tudor**
 Jon Elsby

1. WELCOME	ACTION
The Chairman welcomed members to the PPC Meeting and introduced new member George Micallef.	
2. OPENING PRAYER	
Fr. Martin opened the meeting with a prayer.	
3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
Apologies received from Toni Buckley and Nick Bagshawe	
4. Matters arising from Minutes of Meeting on 2nd May	
Draft minutes were approved with the addition of agreement under any other business that photos of PPC members would be displayed in the annexe so that parishioners would find it easier to identify them.	JE
5. REPORTS TO THE PPC	
<p><u>Site Development Plans</u> DB reported on the recent meeting with the Bishop who had reiterated that any future development of the school would be required to be within its existing boundary and this requirement would be permanent. He also made it clear that it was important for the school to feel they have the ongoing support of the Parish and diocese. Two estimates have been received for construction of the proposed path to provide access to the graveyard and it was agreed that the parish would meet its obligation to fund half of the cost with the school but that the amount would not be open ended. The diocese has agreed to provide an interest free loan which could be repaid by the sum of £1,000 each year by the Parish.</p> <p>GM pointed out the importance of checking if there is a warranty and DB will enquire. The parish will continue to be able to use the current playing area for parking. It was agreed that the Parish should be kept informed about the construction of the new path at both Masses this weekend.</p> <p><u>Fabric and buildings</u> FD reported that the inscription on the foundation stone had been painted and was now clear and legible.</p> <p>FD confirmed that a quinquennial inspection, which takes place every 5 years, is due to be carried out in September. She also confirmed that it would be carried out by the</p>	DB DB

<p>same firm as before and did not expect any major problems as attention had been given to the items previously pointed out. The bushes requiring attention would be cleared during the construction of the path. She pointed out that the Health and Safety audit had been done for both churches and seemed unnecessarily arduous and time consuming.</p> <p><u>Finance</u> Discussion was held about bursarial commitments and it was decided to leave this to Greg O'Higgins to discuss with the bursar.</p> <p>Fr. Martin reported that John Whelan will be discussing gift aid again at all Masses. It was agreed that funding should be raised for the construction of the new path and that Toni Buckley would hopefully be able to think of a fund raising event for this.</p> <p><u>Social action</u> FD reported that she is very pleased with the degree of support the Parish have provided for the two charities, Nourish and Bridge Trust.</p> <p><u>Pastoral matters</u> Fr. Martin reported that the children's liturgy group continued to do very well with many children attending and he was extremely grateful to Kim O'Higgins and the other teachers. He said he is considering the possibility of holding an open air Mass and Parish barbecue, perhaps later this summer.</p> <p>Fr. Martin mentioned that all parishes had been invited to take part in the Year of Mercy Holy Door pilgrimage to West Grinstead but there had not been much uptake from the local parishes so the bus might have to be cancelled.</p> <p>It was agreed that the parish would give financial support to the training of a new African Kiltegan priest for the missions.</p>	<p>TB</p>
<p>6. Room for children's liturgy</p> <p>There was some discussion as to the most suitable site for the children's liturgy and whether it should continue to be held in the annexe in view of the lack of sound proofing. It was agreed that Jon should discuss this with Kim.</p>	<p>JE</p>
<p>7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting of the PPC will take place on Monday 10 October 2016 at 1930 hours.</p> <p>The next AGM will take place on Sunday 20 November after the 10:30 Mass and it was agreed that parishioners should be invited to propose any topics for discussion to the PPC for consideration.</p>	
<p>8. CLOSING PRAYER</p> <p>Fr. Martin closed the meeting with a prayer.</p>	