

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

Minutes of the Parish Pastoral Council Meeting held on Monday 05 September 2016 in the Sacred Heart Church Annexe at 1930 hours

Present: **Fr. Martin O'Connor** **Jon Elsby**
 Daphne Bagshawe **Clare Kent**
 Nick Bagshawe **George Micallef**
 Frances Dorr **Greg OHiggins**

1. WELCOME	ACTION
<p>The Chairman welcomed members to the PPC Meeting</p>	
<p>2. OPENING PRAYER</p>	
<p>Fr. Martin opened the meeting with a prayer.</p>	
<p>3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p>	
<p>Apologies received from Toni Buckley and Len Tudor</p>	
<p>4. Matters arising from Minutes of Meeting on 11th July</p>	
<p>Minutes were approved . Fr. Martin reported that he had sent a cheque to the Kiltigans for education of African priests as agreed at the last meeting. Jon had discussed the possibility of a new room for the children's liturgy with Kim O'Higgins and she approved of the idea.</p>	
<p>5. Update on site development</p>	
<p>DB reported that progress on the new path was proceeding well and would soon be completed. The school had arranged for conifer trees to be planted along the edge of the path to provide security for the children with a fence on the school side of the trees which were being moved to original planned positions in order to maximize land for the cemetery. Responsibility for maintenance of the trees and upkeep of the path would be shared by Parish and school. Consideration was given to the possibility of moving the present wall within the cemetery to allow more space for graves.</p> <p>FD pointed out that she had noticed possible subsidence of the existing path by the church but GM did not think any repair job would be a major one.</p> <p>Once the path is ready and approved as meeting the specification for wheelchair access it was agreed that a sign would be put up indicating “pathway to cemetery” and the parish would be informed of this at the AGM.</p> <p>Father Martin expressed his thanks to Daphne for all the hard work and negotiation she</p>	

<p>had done over the year.</p>	
<p>6. Other Reports to PPC</p> <p>Finance Greg suggested there needed to be a renewed vigour with regard to fundraising; there would be a further address on gift aid shortly. It was agreed that suggestions for fundraising events should wait until after the inspection in case there were any specific requirements highlighted.</p> <p>Social It was agreed that more could be done in raising ideas for social events and that ideas could be solicited at the AGM. The inclement weather earlier in the summer had precluded having the proposed open air mass and use of the new garden furniture outside the presbytery.</p>	
<p>7.Support for SPUC</p> <p>There was general discussion about whether to support the forthcoming SPUC campaign to send postcards to MPS regarding legislation over abortion and agreed that as Ann Glenney has been involved in this area for many years she should be consulted as to whether she felt this was appropriate and perhaps agree to coordinate it. Jon agreed to discuss this with her.</p>	<p>JE</p>
<p>8.Quinquennial review</p> <p>It was noted that we have been advised that the cost of the upcoming review would be £1,950 plus VAT (£650 each for the two churches and the presbytery) which came as a surprise since the firm were already familiar with the site and all details with photos have been printed . As the inspection was a Diocesan obligation it was agreed that the deanery should be approached to see which other contractors were generally used.</p>	
<p>9. Fr. Kevin's grave</p> <p>There was general discussion as to construction of a headstone for Fr Kevin's grave and it was agreed that it would be appropriate to approach the family in the first instance. Jon agreed to explore this with the family.</p>	<p>JE</p>
<p>10. Any other business</p> <p>FD proposed considering a pilgrimage to the Holy Door at Mayfield perhaps for the Diocesan pilgrimage arranged for 15th October to Mayfield school chapel when the Bishop would be celebrating Mass. Fr. Martin pointed out that very few parishioners had attended the Diocesan pilgrimage to West Grinstead although the parish had contributed towards the hire of the coach.</p> <p>Frances suggested that insufficient attention had been given to the significance of the Jubilee Year of Mercy declared by Pope Francis and that it would be good to encourage people to participate before the close of the jubilee year on 20th November.</p>	<p>Fr Martin</p>

CK reported that plans for collecting goods for the migrants in Calais were going well with many offers of support.

DB noted that Rotherfield supported a number of charities including monthly collections for Nourish.

11.Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the PPC will take place on **Monday 10 October 2016 at 1930 hours.**

The next AGM will take place on **Sunday 20 November** after the 10:30 Mass

12 CLOSING PRAYER

Fr. Martin closed the meeting with a prayer.