

**STM PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Minutes 23 October 2019**

**Meeting opened:** 7:17pm

**PPC Members:** Mariel Adams, Marysa Coulter, Neil Dawson (Chair),  
Rosemary Farrow, Tim Hackwell.

**Secretary:** Sue Morris

1. **Opening prayer:** Neil Dawson.

2. **Apologies for absence**

Kevin Burnham, David Broom, Father Darryl.

3. **Matters arising from previous meetings**

The minutes of the previous meeting held 11.09.19 were circulated prior to the meeting.

Matters arising not covered under separate agenda items were:-

- **Website**

**Ongoing action: David Broom** to see if the PPC minutes on the website can be re-organised so that the newest minutes are at the top of the list.

- **Cleaners**

**Ongoing action: Neil Dawson** to compose a notice for Father Darryl to read out at Masses.

- **Bible sessions**

It is not possible for the Parish to borrow the videos after Fordingbridge Parish have used them for the bible sessions to be held at STM. Sessions are likely to take place after Christmas now.

**Action: Neil Dawson** to ask his contact if the Parish can borrow their copies of the videos.

- **Mercy for Life**

This charity was the beneficiary of the proceeds from the Harvest Supper. Neil Dawson had contacted the charity and received some information that was put on the noticeboard to inform Parishioners about the charity's mission.

4. **Parish**

**"Inreach" bible study group**

**Action: Sue Morris** to remove the item from the next agenda.

**Update on financial picture in the Parish**

This was taken at the start of the meeting as Peter Brittan attended for this item to present the annual Parish return (which was circulated at the meeting). The return showed that receipts for the year ending 21.08.19 were £47,449 and payments for the same period were £46,483 which gave a surplus of £966. However, Peter Brittan pointed out that there were several outstanding payments to be made which take account of almost all the surplus (£451 for PAT electrical testing, £333 for Mass intentions and £100 for sundries (tea lights etc.).

Pie charts were also circulated at the meeting which demonstrated that income streams were very similar to the previous year.

Peter Brittan confirmed that the Government allowed gift aid to be claimed on loose cash offerings but that the amount that could be claimed would be more if Parishioners had signed gift aid declarations.

In answer to a question Peter Brittan explained that "DOPIF" (item 115 on the annual return) was dividend on the donations for Foundation Masses that go to the diocese to be invested.

It was commented that the funds in the Poor Box, St Anthony's fund and the church fund are slowly building up.

It was noted that the diocesan levy accounted for the largest slice of the outgoings pie (£9005).

Peter Brittan informed the PPC that there had been considerable costs incurred in replacing the

photocopier (£1370), paying the surveyor who undertook the quinquennial inspection (£1800) and fire safety and electrical work resulting from the quinquennial inspection (£2200). It was noted that there had been a recent repair to the boiler costing £500 and that the boiler was likely to need replacing in the near future as it was starting to break down more frequently.

On a positive note the PPC was informed that the nursery school was hiring the hall for an additional two afternoons a week from September. Income from the nursery school is vital in keeping the Parish financially viable but the outside area is becoming untidy and the nursery school's equipment etc. is spreading round the hall.

The Parish is paying £291 a month to support Richard Martin.

Peter Brittan confirmed that the return has been sent to the diocese and that usually there is no feedback from the diocese.

Steve Ferris had provided a financial update which was circulated at the meeting detailing the income and expenditure for September 2019 which showed an average offertory amount of £405.

There is no progress on the new entrance doors.

### **Social activities**

#### **Harvest supper**

The event was held 12.10.19 and raised £447.50. However, 38 tickets had been bought in advance and catered for but a significant number of tickets were sold at the door and over 50 people attended. Some of the people who had bought their tickets in advance did not get any food. It was commented that some attendees appeared to take more than their fair share of the food.

It was also commented that the Harvest Supper was not an appropriate forum for the speeches that were given.

While not wanting to discourage people buying tickets on the day of any event for catering purposes people will be encouraged to buy their tickets in advance in future.

Marysa Coulter was thanked for all her hard work in organising the Harvest Supper and Tim Hackwell's brother was thanked for supplying the vegetables for auction.

#### **Next social event**

It was agreed that a quiz would take place 30.11.19 in aid of church funds. Although David Broom was the quizmaster at the last quiz the PPC was cognisant of the fact that he was very busy and may not have the time. A raffle will be arranged. Tickets to be priced at £2.50 with under 18s free. Teams of 4 to be arranged on the night. Tea/coffee and nibbles to be provided and attendees will be invited to bring their own alcohol if desired.

**Action: Marysa Coulter** to ask her contact if he would be quizmaster and to let Neil Dawson know. (If Marysa Coulter's contact is unavailable Neil Dawson had agreed to take on the role.)

**Action: Neil Dawson** to arrange for the event to be advertised in the newsletter.

### **Ordinariate**

In the absence of Father Darryl there was nothing to note.

### **Aid to the church in need**

This was discussed at the last meeting following an email in which "Aid to the Church in Need" invited Parishes to "Stand up for Faith and Freedom" by illuminating churches, ideally in red, to show solidarity with Christians around the world. It was agreed that Tim Hackwell's suggestion of having a spiral candle holder (with a white candle at the top with red candles spiralling up to the white candle) on the font for the octave leading up to "red" Wednesday (27.11.19).

### **Giving tree**

It was agreed to have a giving tree again before Christmas in aid of the Apostleship of the Sea so that Parishioners can donate gifts.

**Action: Neil Dawson** to contact the Apostleship of the Sea to ask what gifts would be appreciated.

## **5. Diocesan**

The Bishop is due to visit the Sacred Heart Oratory in Bournemouth 01.11.19 and the Holy

Redeemer in Highcliffe 04.11.19.

**6. Pastoral area**

**Action:** Neil Dawson to circulate the last EST minutes.

**7. Correspondence**

None.

**8. AOB**

**Bidding prayers**

The complexity of the bidding prayers was commented on and the relevance to Parishioners of some of the people prayed for.

**Flat roof**

It was reported that the surveyor who undertook the quinquennial inspection had offered (at a cost of £700) to attend with his contact to review the flat roofs. Father Darryl and Steve Ferris have agreed to approach a local company.

**9. Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 20 November 2019 at 7.15pm.

**10. Refreshments for next meeting:** Marysa Coulter

**11. Closing prayer:** Neil Dawson.

Meeting ended at 8.34pm