

Catholic Parish of Belper and Duffield Parish Pastoral Council | MINUTES

Meeting date: 10/05/2017

Attending council members:

Fr Michael Kirkham	present	Sally Phillips	apologies
David Barlow (Chair)	present	David Pipe	apologies
Barbara Waring (Vice Chair)	present	Jannice Richthof	apologies
Melita Tooher (Secretary)	present	Niels Richthof	apologies
Fiona Cartmell	apologies	Alan Ward	apologies
Anne Halliday	present	Christine Hamshaw-Pope	Parishioner/speaker
John McCabe	present		

1. Opening prayer

Fr Michael opened the meeting with a reading and prayer

2. Apologies

Apologies from Fiona, Sally, David Pipe, Jannice, Niels and Alan

3. Approval of minutes of the last meeting – Matters arising (dissemination)

David welcomed Christine to the meeting. Fiona has sent information on the Derby Refugee Centre, following discussion on a second collection/talk discussed at last meeting. Christine came to speak about the Derbyshire Refugee Solidarity Group. The group meet on a Thursday morning in the Evening Telegraph building in Derby, and are linked with Nottingham and Derby Refugee groups, St Werburg's in Spondon and also work closely with 'Muslims in Need' in Derby. The group process donations of clothes, arrange van loads of goods to travel to French camps and work with the Derby Refugee Advice Centre to provide practical support e.g. making up hygiene packs. Following the fire at the Dunkirk Camp the group arranged for goods to be taken to those in need. Volunteers also attend car boot sales to raise funds. St Werburg's have spoken to Churches Together in Belper about the group. Discussion about how our parish can support the work of the group. Agreement that:

1. We will hold a second collection

2. At times of need we will appeal for donations of goods (such as warm blankets and coats)

Matters Arising – It is hoped that work on the boundary wall between that parish house and allotments will begin by week beginning 15/05/17. Terry Betts will be working on this single handedly as he has been unable to accept offers of help as this would affect his insurance. Barbara commented that she is looking forward to having the wall repaired and it has been difficult for less able parishioners with no parking near the church.

Building and Sites Committee – The committee are working together and Paul Walker will go ahead with work on the rotten eaves at Our Lady's. It is unlikely that there will be formal committee meetings.

Altar at St Margaret's – It was trialled moving this to the east end of the church. Anne is getting a quote for castors, and will also check the structure of the Altar to ensure that it will tolerate being moved on castors. A further option may be to have a wall removed and curtains put up. If required the diocese would need to approve these plans.

Decoration at St Margaret's – The east end needs decorating. Agreement that August will be a suitable time, as it is quieter for groups hiring the building. Slimming World would need to be informed, although it is likely that painting work will take place during the day only. The walls and some window frames will also require painting. David B will get a quote.

Orchard at St Margaret's – Five fruit trees have now been planted. There is some concern regarding blackthorn saplings that have been planted on the grass verge near Eaton Close in very close proximity to the boundary posts. There is concern that the blackthorn would grow to form a hedge, blocking light to the fruit trees. The Highways Committee are to inspect the site.

Anne advised that there has been a recent increase in anti-social behaviour in Duffield.

Barbara advised that the mower needs servicing. Fr Michael will arrange for a cheque to fund this.

Draft minutes approved.

Dissemination of minutes – agreement that draft minutes will be checked by chair and Fr Michael prior to distribution to PPC members, website and notice boards. Amendments to be agreed at following meeting.

4. Review of Lent (including times of Adoration), Holy Week and Easter arrangements this year.

Fr Michael asked for feedback – All agreed that it was uplifting to see Our Lady's so filled with people on Easter Sunday. The St Benedict Room was used to accommodate overspill,

and the TV link worked well, other than it was difficult to hear what was said at the Altar. Ed Turner is looking at the issue with the microphone on the Altar.

At the Saturday vigil there was an issue with people falling when walking out to, then back from the communal fire. Barbara explained that there are solar lights in place – but that they had not been turned on which made it difficult for people to see the edge of the path. There is now a note on the lights reminding that they need to be switched on to work, despite being solar powered.

Fr Michael advised that next year the sign up list for readings etc. include Palm Sunday Passion Readings.

Eucharistic ministers – Sean Lambert is now able to help again due to a change in work commitments and Sandra Martin, Alan Ward and Melita Tooher will also be trained.

The date of 4th December has been set for Confirmation. Phil Smith and Lisa Walton will support with preparation. Four candidates have signed up and there has been a date of 4th November suggested for a day at The Briars.

The Centenary of the Church building (Our Lady's) is December 2019, not 2018; it was opened on 19/12/1919, which gives more time to arrange celebrations.

The Life in the Spirit Course is being well received. Two sessions have taken place in Belper and three at Duffield so far. Anne described some of the course to be 'quite challenging' and confirmed that people have got quite involved which has led to some healthy discussion. Anne's hope is that this will lead to increased confidence in people to build the church. Some people are able to commit more time than others, some people have been moved by the experience and others have found that it did not suit them. It has been good to offer different times and the crèche has enabled young mother's to attend. People have shared their experiences and thoughts. Fr Michael said that he enjoyed it, and would recommend it. Anne said that it would be good to get a sense of how it went, and to evaluate the course – to talk to people about what was helpful. This could inform the Mission and planning meetings for the Mission.

5. Role of the pastoral council:

a. The Ministry of Compassionate Presence

Fr Michael began by explaining that the work linked with Hope for Belper and Refugee support groups link into this aspect of the role; which applies to both people within the church others of good will. Fr Michael explained that he is supported in this aspect of the role by the work of the SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society) and the Eucharistic Ministers, Heather Ward and Eileen Wharam, who visit the hospital weekly.

Groups such as the Leisure Group provide good opportunities for people to socialise and also raise awareness of the needs of others. Barbara explained that sometimes a phone

call to someone can mean as much, or even more than, a visit. The Leisure Group are going for lunch at the Sudbury Prison, and will be served by prisoners working towards qualifications.

Anne queried whether we should consider supporting the offer of Christian Counselling should someone be in need, especially in light of funding cuts to the NHS. Discussion regarding this, and consideration of retired counsellors within the parish. Agreement that as a parish family we will respond to needs as they arise, offering what support we can, including helpful conversations/listening, but not to offer courses in counselling as this work can be very demanding and a long term commitment.

Ministry of Welcome – Some concern expressed that rota is not being adhered to – Pat Whetton has done the last five Welcome's at the Sunday mass and Victor Drew often does the Saturday vigil mass welcome. Fr Michael expressed how important the ministry of welcome is; when deciding what parish to join David Pipe felt drawn to Our Lady's following the warm welcome he received (from Sam and Malaika).

Discussion on how we can better bring gifts before the Alter. Agreement to bring the Hope for Belper food collection box to the Alter during the offertory. Fr Michael to speak to the Children's Liturgy about how the children can be included in bringing gifts to the Alter.

b. The Building of Communal Spirit (to be discussed at July's meeting)

6. Futures dates – Holy Hours for June, July and August; Anointing Service in July; Date of a White Father's Appeal; Refugee Council collection (if appropriate)

Monthly Holy Hours will take place :
Tuesday 30th May at Duffield, 09:30 – 10:30,

Wednesday 28th June at Belper, 19:15 - 20:15

Thursday 27th July at Belper, 12:00 – 13:00

Friday 18th August at Belper. 09:00 followed by 09:30 Mass.

A Service will be held for the Anointing of the Sick, Elderly and Housebound on Sunday 9th July at 15:00 at St Margaret's. Anne asked if people should be encouraged to attend for all healing needs. Fr. Michael explained that the mass is for anyone who feels in need, but that the focus will be on the sick, elderly and housebound.

The White Father's Appeal will be held in June – date to be confirmed.

Fr Michael explained that there was a meeting with Bishop on Monday and that next phase of pastoral reorganisation is now being considered.

7. Closing Prayers

Meeting closed with the Prayer for Vocations

Next meeting to be held on
Wednesday 12th July, 7pm until 8:30pm
St Benedict's Room, Our Lady's, Belper.