

St. Bartholomew's Parish Pastoral Council

Meeting 13th September 2017 at 8pm.

MINUTES

Present: Fr Deo (President), Fr Innocent, Sr Anne Ugoh, Richard Bush (Chair), Tim O'Donoghue, Eddie Sanders, Richard Harries. Teresa Furtado, Savio Fernandes.

1/ Opening Prayer

Fr Deo offered a prayer to the memory of Cardinal Cormac Murphy O'Connor.

2/ Apologies

Apologies were received from Clare Rhodes, Lucy Nwagwu, Tony McGing, Tony Price, Gerard Cowie, Gordon Clarke, Deacon Ged Perkins, Melvin Carty and John Ambler.

3/ Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th July 2017

The minutes were agreed without alteration.

4/ Matters arising from the minutes

Gerard has attempted contact with Fr Philip Glandfield (though awaits a response) about:

- how parishioners should properly approach communion;
- the data protection implications of the forthcoming census.

Responding to a request from Eddie, the Chair confirmed that Tony would produce a summary of the annual accounts at the AGM.

It was suggested that Gerard would contact all parish groups to provide refreshed material for the website.

5/ President's Report

Fr Deo noted:

- there had been no problems with the supply priests during his holiday in Tanzania;
- the Social Committee now has more female members and will meet soon;
- the Fundraising Committee has not yet met;
- the 2018 date for the Confirmation Mass has been set for 20 May (Pentecost);
- the First Holy Communion Mass dates have been set for 10, 17 and 23 June;
- census plans are in place, to start after Christmas or early in the New Year, led by Ged Murphy;
- new church boilers will be purchased before winter sets in, pending a decision from Gordon;
- the sound system is not working again; Gordon will be asked to investigate;
- Fr Bonaventure, a friend of Fr Innocent's from Nigeria, will be visiting for two weeks.

6/ Chair's Report

The Chair noted:

- he would personally review the output of the last census in advance of new survey;

- he is leading a project to update a publication on the history of the parish;
- all parish groups should submit reports in advance of the AGM (ideally with one paragraph describing the work of the group, one paragraph on its progress in the last year and one paragraph on its plans for the forthcoming year);
- the Social Committee would be providing refreshments at the AGM.

In discussion, the following points were raised:

- On the weekly newsletter:
 - with congratulations to Gerard and others, the new format is proving popular;
 - Richard Harries noted that Tony's statistics showed it was the most popular web page by a significant margin (with an average of 536 visits per month);
 - Fr Deo indicated that we should continue to try new formats; there was support for an "Ask Father" section to be added;
- Tim expressed concern that Mass and hymn books are being left in a mess after the 5pm service (Fr Deo informed the council that more Mass Books are to be bought);
- Following concerns about data protection, it was agreed that:
 - rota details for readers and Eucharistic Ministers would not be published on the website;
 - Gerard would be asked to liaise with Fr Glandfield to ensure all parish material (parish newsletter, Holy Communion and Confirmation timetables, etc) is vetted for personal information, ensuring there is informed consent and/or that content is suitably anonymised before being published on the website;
- Congratulations were offered to Bishop Thomas Grant School for excellent A level results this year.

7/ Parish AGM (11th October 2017)

It was agreed:

- there would be no "high table" for council members; only the President and Chair would sit at the front of the room;
- the newsletter would include an invitation to submit agenda items:
 - to Fr Deo, Fr Innocent or PPC members;
 - via the PPC email address;
- a suggestion box would also be placed in the porch.

8/ Any other Business

It was agreed:

- all posters and printed material in the porch will be given an official stamp; unstamped material would be removed;
- a welcome note to new parishioners would be added to the newsletter;
- Gordon would be asked to install a Yale lock on main door to the Hall;
- Fr Innocent would develop activities to engage parish teenagers and young adults;
- Fr Deo plans to re-establish the St Bartholomew's Football Club;
- Fr Deo would be away between 25 January and 12 February 2018;
- the issues raised by Fr Father John Mulligan, Dean of Merton, in February would be addressed as a specific agenda item at the November PPC meeting.

9/ Date and Time of next Meeting

The next meeting (after the AGM) will be on Wednesday 8 November 2017, as per the agreed rota.