

ST BARTHOLOMEW'S PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Agenda Wednesday 27th September 2023

Meeting 7.30pm Lower Hall

1. Opening Prayer
2. Apologies for Absence
3. **Urgent item:** Noise and noise abatement (see **addendum 1**).
4. Noting: Minutes of the Previous meeting and of the Parish AGM (with thanks to Irene for doing such a great job with the minutes!).
5. AGM 'washup' (i.e. matters arising of special note, which are not special items later on the agenda):
 - a. to thank representatives from Norbury Teams of Our Lady, RCIA, Holy Communion Order of the Knights of St Columba, SVP.
 - b. more Eucharistic Ministers?
 - c. The Youth Club
 - d. Maintenance
 - e. Parish finance report
 - f. Good Friday Walk: discuss and next steps
 - g. The Synod Process: quick update
6. Food bank: next steps
7. Celebration: 50 years since the consecration of the altar (06.05.75); next steps
8. Corpus Christi Procession: what do we need to do to make this an 'event'?
9. Coffee mornings
 - a. Thanks to Julie McDonagh
 - b. See update (see **addendum 2**)
 - c. Thank parishioner for £100 donation for the coffee mornings.
 - d. Charity table
 - e. Fundraising request from parishioner Tanya Leonard on behalf of 'Read easy Lambeth' (see **addendum 3**)
 - f. To discuss with Julie: frequency? Are we able to make it weekly?
10. Card readers; communication, next steps
11. President's Report, any items not covered above
12. Finance Report
13. Closing Prayer

Next Meeting: Wednesday 8 November - PPC Meeting 19:30

Addendum 1: Noise and Noise abatement

Over the summer, we had a series of very serious meetings with Lambeth Council over our neighbours (fully justified and evidenced) complaints about noise from parties in the Hall. This is a very serious matter: most importantly morally (we should not be upsetting our neighbours – at all, let alone to the point of misery, 'where I don't want to come home' as one said) but also legally, as Lambeth are very close to taking the Parish to court.

These recommendations were approved by Lambeth and I recommend in the strongest terms that we urge Fr Deo to adopt them urgently.

To advise Fr Deo to consider:

- Having a number for residents to call if complaints need to be made when the events take place

- To consider whether a member of staff should be on site when the events take place.
- To think about a leaflet drop to the community, both to apologise and to provide the number to call when events were taking place.
- To consider examining and making changes to the contracts people sign when hiring the hall: we note that this may involve the diocesan property section.
- To consider installing air conditioning
- To consider bringing back our own sound system (possibly with a sound limiter)
- To consider disallowing external speakers and to consider whether built-in speakers maybe feasible
- It was mentioned that the back door and windows on that side were historically closed and locked. It would be a good idea to ensure this continues rather than relying on the good will of party goers.
- to consider laminating some signs and placing them in key positions. Such as:
 1. A sign indicating where the speaker/s should be placed.
 2. A sign for any door that is used for entry/exit, asking for it to be kept closed.

Addendum 2: Coffee mornings

An update from Julie McDonagh on who is hosting the coffee mornings for the rest of the year:

24th September	Daughters of Divine Love Sisters Fundraiser
8th October	Confirmandi
29th October	Julie ("Me and my Ladies")
12th November	Confirmandi
26th November	Likely to be cancelled as it's Confirmation Mass at 12
10th December	Bart's Cleaning Team

ADDENDUM 3: Bake sale for the local charity?

I spoke to Deacon Ged this evening after 6:15pm mass about organising a **fundraising bake sale for the local charity** that I volunteer for in my spare time, *Read Easy Lambeth* who provide free volunteer-led one-to-one coaching for adults who struggle to read. We are a new charity set up last December 2022 and since July 2023 we have 8 coaches working with readers, including a gig worker wanting to improve their employment prospects and a mum wanting to learn to read before her children go to secondary school. We have a waiting list of 25 adults referred for coaching, with new referrals every week. Our mission is to address inequalities in the borough by enabling all adults to have the literacy skills to achieve their potential and live life to the fullest. There are no literacy statistics for Lambeth, but 22.7% adults in the borough lack essential skills. As the Fundraiser for the group, I have been applying for grant applications and have unfortunately not been very successful, so I am looking at alternative options and I mentioned to Deacon Ged about the possibility of hosting a bake sale after the Sunday masses who mentioned that it would be worth getting in touch and trying to organise this and find out availability as I understand the coffee mornings are currently scheduled in. I would appreciate any help or assistance you could provide in organising this and finding a suitable date. Tanya Leonard, Fundraiser, **Read Easy Lambeth**