

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
OUR LADY'S CHURCH ACOMB, AND ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, GREEN HAMMERTON
TUESDAY 23RD JANUARY 2018, Our Lady's Fr Kelly Room**

MINUTES

Present: John Kesterton (Chair), David Barber, David Copeland, Fr Tony Lester, Kath Lyall, Giles Nightingale, Rosemary Phizackerley, Nan Saeki, Amanda Sturdy, Sue Parkes (notetaker)

1. Opening prayer led by Fr Tony Lester

2. Apologies and notification of items for Any Other Business

Apologies were received from Rebecca Kramm, Marek Lichtarowicz , Peter Warren, Claire Young

3. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 May were approved as a true record and signed by JK.

4. Matters arising

Liturgy: on going

Constitution:

Amendment to 1.6 insertion of 'normally' JK proposed, DB seconded, carried unanimously.

1.6 '**Normally** Lay Members should be baptized and confirmed Catholics, aged 16 years and over'.

Amendment to 2.5 insertion of 'normally' . JK proposed, DC seconded, no abstentions.

2.5 '**Normally** Elected Officers are to serve for two years, and may be re-elected for a second term, but not for a third term without a break'.

JK asked the Council to note that he will have served 2 years in March and some consideration should be given to future planning.

It was clarified that Non Elected Officers may serve for 3 years.

Action: SP to amend constitution and send to Bishop

Website and Social Media Security:

TL said that the open facebook group for Our Lady's was under Marek's ownership. Ideally this should be a moderated group so that postings were checked before they appear. There are potential safeguarding issues if pictures of children appear.

Action: JK to follow up with Marek

Acomb Churches Together:

DC to maintain links with this group and share bullet points at next meeting. Events to be publicised in weekly newsletter.

Parish Directory:

It was agreed that a new Parish directory should be published in printed format which should comply with the data protection act.

Action: DC to liaise with SP to produce new copy.

5. AGM Minutes and items for PPC attention

It was noted that the previous year's AGM minutes were not checked and had not been adopted.

It was felt that more clarity was needed from the Finance Committee. TL advised that once the Finance Committee was re-convened reports would be submitted to the PPC.

JK suggested that progress on action points in the AGM minutes should be discussed at PPC meetings rather than waiting for the next AGM.

It was agreed that the next AGM would be held in the Fr Kelly room with refreshments.

Everyone agreed that the Christmas services were successful and the involvement of the children was very positive. As the Church was so full it was difficult for the late arrivals to find seats, though these were available at the front. It was noted that some attendees were not regular worshipers and it was felt that a printed sheet may be helpful next year so that they may follow proceedings, or the priest explain what was to happen next.

Action: Appoint marshalls to seat people, particularly those arriving late

TL advised that the Welcome Statement had been strongly supported by the Parish and the Polish community has requested that it be translated into Polish.

Action: TL to organise for Welcome Statement to be translated and put on Parish website

TL asked AS if children at Our Lady's and English Martyrs schools could take a copy of the Welcome Statement home.

Action: AS to discuss with Head teacher

Inclusive Church: JK handed out 'Guidance for registered churches' and asked that members feed back on this at the next meeting. TL advised that for the parish to be registered as an Inclusive Church it needs to be approved by the PPC.

Action: SP to place on agenda for next meeting

6. Member updates

Updates were received from KL and NS – copies attached. KL commented that acknowledgement of donations was ever received from India. TL encouraged her to seek reports on what donations had been spent on in order to ensure the money was going to legitimate causes.

NS reported funds had been sent to our link parish in Peru.

AS reported that the Youth Group had not met since before Christmas. A meeting was planned for February around the theme of 'Ready Steady Cook'. The majority of the children do not attend Church, so this is initially an opportunity to meet socially. Nine children are preparing for confirmation.

Action: To explore ideas for children to contribute to mass on 30 September

GN reported that All Saints was financially viable. He advised that the Head teacher had successfully expanded the 6th form by 50% due to extending the curriculum which had attracted pupils from the private sector. Amalgamating junior schools had put pressure on finances.

DC advised that the music monthly planning meetings were continuing. He advised that younger musicians were needed and asked PPC members to speak to parishioners to encourage them to come forward. An additional organist was particularly needed.

7. Planning ahead – Counting our Blessings

The PPC approved the 'Counting our Blessings' programme. It was agreed to add harvest, a youth mass in September, and a couples mass to the planning ahead programme. Rebecca (not present) has asked for the dates to be publicised early.

Action: 23 or 30 September to be moved into October to allow for harvest

8. Any other business

DC asked if the organist could be spared from collecting the children from the hall.

Action: JK and DC to speak to liturgists to move things forward

TL advised that during 2018 the Sanctuary is to be made more accessible.

Action: Advice being sought from Linda Corkhill, discussions to take place with
Diocese.

The meeting closed with a prayer led by TL.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 14 March 2018