

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL OF OUR LADY'S CHURCH ACOMB AND
ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH GREEN HAMMERTON
Minutes of the meeting of 15 March 2016**

Present: David Barber, Angela Clarke, Joe Dale, John Kesterton (Vice-Chair in the Chair/ Chair), Paul Lanfear, Marek Lichtarowicz, Kath Lyall, Kevin Melody O.Carm, Gareth Morgan, Giles Nightingale, Rosemary Phizackerley, Nan Saeki, Amanda Sturdy, Claire Young.

1. Opening reading and prayer were said by Kevin Melody

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from David Copeland, Rebecca Elliott and Peter Warren.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 20 January 2016 were approved.

**4. Matters arising from the minutes and
Notification of items for Any Other Business**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

5. Election of Chair

John Kesterton was nominated for Chair of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) by Marek Lichtarowicz.

Number of votes in favour: 12 (including a proxy vote for Rebecca Elliott by Claire Young)
2 abstentions.

John Kesterton was therefore elected as Chair of the Parish Pastoral Council .

Nomination and election of Vice-Chair – deferred

That it be noted that Gareth Morgan will act as secretary when Rosemary Phizackerley is unable to attend – deferred.

[Gareth Morgan present from 8.00 pm]

6. Final comments and adoption of the Constitution

The Chair informed members that the sub-group working on the Constitution had now produced the final draft. The following final points were clarified:

- In answer to a question concerning the PPC's responsibility for finance, Kevin Melody clarified that the Finance Committee, which was a statutory body, was in abeyance. He was currently convening a new committee. The new Finance Committee would not be a sub-group of the PPC, but the Council could feed into it.
- The Chair confirmed that finance was relevant to the work of the Council, and that members may have ideas for fundraising. However, the Council was not responsible for the finance of the parish which would remain with the Finance Committee.

The Chair asked the Council to approve the adoption of the draft Constitution.

Members of the Council voted unanimously to adopt it.

7. Matters arising not on the agenda

Provision for young children and teenagers

Claire Young reported that a number of meetings had taken place. The aim of the scheme was to provide a mutually supportive community in the parish which could be owned by children and

young people, where they felt able to contribute their own ideas and concerns. In time, they could go on to contribute to the parish community as a group. Whilst adult supervision would be present, their role would essentially be a consultative one. The scheme aimed to be inclusive, although a walk-in approach was unlikely to be feasible due to safety concerns. The scheme potentially involved pupils in schools across the city, so the launch would need to be city-wide. In the meantime, Marek Lichtarowicz would work with Year 5 pupils and the subject leader for religious education at All Saints also supported the work being done in the parish.

Teens were not likely to be attracted to the idea in the first instance, and it was therefore sensible to adopt a gradual approach. The project was still at an exploratory stage, and those involved with it were assessing whether or not it was viable. Claire Young said that she would update the PPC as it progressed.

Agreed That updates be provided as and when there was progress to report on the scheme.

Parish Evangelization Team (PET)

Gareth Morgan reported that the group had met on 26 January. The focus remained on prayer evangelization and exploration of helpful forms of prayer. At the meeting it was reported that the community engagement event Redeeming Our Communities (ROC) organized by One Voice York would take place in York on 3 March. ROC supported the development of church engagement with the local authority on issues such as regeneration. The event was attended by David Copeland.

Ideas for outreach had also been discussed. The following comments were made:

- Giles Nightingale pointed out that local authorities had suffered severe financial cutbacks in recent years and were unlikely to contribute more than the provision of essential statutory services in the future. Gareth Morgan drew attention to the ethical question this raised about the provision of services by the voluntary in place of the statutory sector.
- Nan Saeki informed members that refugees would shortly arrive in York, a project for which there was an alliance between the City of York Council and faith groups which supported York as a City of Sanctuary. Plans were in place to resource these refugees.

Agreed: That the verbal report be noted.

Foodbank

Kath Lyall reported that she had attended the training for voucher distribution at St Aelred's Church, and now had the vouchers. She would be working with the teacher responsible for vulnerable families at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs School. Kevin Melody could also distribute the vouchers in case of need. Anyone applying for them was entitled to three vouchers over a six month period, although no-one in need would be turned away. Those needing it could also access advice from CAB and debt counselling. The scheme was run by the Gateway Church. A designated phone number was available for contact.

A notice would be put in the school and parish newsletters advertising the telephone number.

Agreed:

- That the meeting record its thanks to Kath Lyall for the work she is undertaking, and for what she has achieved.
- That a notice be put in the parish newsletter with the contact telephone number for the vouchers.

Access Audit

Rosemary Phizackerley reported on progress made with the Access Audit. She had met with managers of Mind in York who had provided useful advice. Some more interviews would be undertaken before the audit was completed. She aimed to complete the Audit in time for the next meeting.

Gareth Morgan asked that attention be paid to the effectiveness of the hearing loops in the church.

Agreed: That progress on the Audit and the finishing date be noted.

Photographs

The PPC noted that photographs of members were not yet available on the website together with names of individuals.

Marek Lichtarowicz offered to undertake to photograph members or they could submit their own.

Agreed: That Marek Lichtarowicz co-ordinate posting of photographs of members of the PPC on the parish website.

8. Dates of meetings for 2016

Members noted the dates for meeting of the PPC in 2016. It was agreed that the meeting on 6 July 2016 be held at St Joseph's Green Hammerton.

Agreed: That the dates and venues of the PPC meetings for 2016 be noted.

9. Any other business

AGM

It was agreed that the AGM for the PPC along with other parish groups be held on Sunday 16 October 2016 after the 9.30 am Mass. A sub-group would work with Kevin Melody to arrange the event and advertise it.

Agreed: That a sub-group comprising the Chair, secretary and Paul Lanfear (representing St Joseph's, Green Hammerton) work with Kevin Melody to organize the parish AGM for 16 October 2016.

Coffee Rota

No volunteers had been found to take over the coffee rota from David Copeland. The Chair informed members that if no replacement could be found, a rota would have to be worked out by the PPC at the next meeting.

Agreed:

- That the Chair speak with David Copeland to find out who has already been approached.
- That Members of the PPC approach anyone they think may be willing to take on the organization of the coffee rota.
- That a notice be put in the parish newsletter asking for volunteers.

Music at Mass

The secretary reported that she had received an email about singing and playing at the 9.30 am Sunday Mass and that this had been circulated to all PPC members. The sender requested a little more quiet time during the service. The example given was the music played at the Mass for children making their First Holy Communion where it was felt that the balance had tipped towards too much music and not enough silence.

The PPC considered the email to be a helpful introduction to addressing the balance between music and silence in the liturgy. Members endorsed the acknowledgement set out in the email about the time and effort which had helped to make that particular Mass relevant to the children taking part. Members noted that the Sunday morning Mass was attended by the greatest number of children as well as many adults with different liturgical preferences. Therefore it was not possible to please everyone simultaneously. It was agreed that further consideration be given to this issue at the next PPC meeting and that parishioners be consulted.

Agreed:

- That the PPC record its thanks for the issues raised in the email.

- That the issues set out in the email be brought to the next meeting of the PPC for further consideration and that the views of parishioners be sought.
- That Kevin Melody write a response to the email.

10. Closing blessing

Kevin Melody gave the closing blessing.

The meeting ended at 9.00 pm.