

# Our Lady of the Annunciation, Addiscombe

## Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

Thursday 14th September 2023 at 8.00 pm in the Parish Resource Centre

### Minutes

1. Opening Prayer: (Fr Keith)

2. Present: Fr. Keith, Marie Tross, Mary Ann McGuigan, Peter McGuigan,  
Fr. Tomasz, Nike Arowobusoye

Apologies: Paul Donovan, Jennifer Da Silva, Jenny Mitchener, Terry Braim

Clare Buxton\* and Arthur Hughes\* (\*also confirmed resignations)

3. **Reports about matters arising from the minutes** (*meeting updates in italics*):

**Fr Keith** had reported the following:

**Safeguarding:** Former committee members have been contacted and a meeting date is being negotiated. The Diocesan office will be contacted for advice and support and to clarify the skills/knowledge required to be the parish lead for this area.

**Plant works:** One approximate quote for the fire escape ramp from Gary Lally is for about £10k. Tim Rosario is getting a second quote. Consideration is still being given to installing a concrete slope.

A lighter, and possibly cheaper, alternative design for the church ceiling repairs is being considered. Suitability yet to be confirmed.

Preparation work to replace the boilers supplying the top of the presbytery and small hall are in progress and installation will follow shortly.

Hall Kitchen snagging is ongoing. Addition of coat hooks has been proposed.

The negotiation of specifications and quotes for works and maintenance is being delegated more, making better use of the talents available in the parish.

**Training:** Following the recent sessions for servers, readers and EME, Fr Keith is resolved to ensure regular updates for each of these as required. Fr Keith has informed Terry Braim about some procedural changes for Communion, and these have been communicated to EMEs. Fr Tomasz is being given feedback regarding microphone use and is making appropriate adjustments.

**Hall Committee:** Fr Keith is still negotiating the need for and scope of a committee and is in discussion with Michael Hennessey, Ben Cahill and Pat Winston.

**Music Groups:** Fr Keith is liaising with the leaders of these groups. *A meeting has been arranged to discuss liturgy.*

**Recent departure and arrival 'dos':** These were successfully organised and implemented, particularly when bearing in mind capacity limitations, expressed preferences and diocesan protocols. Thanks are expressed for the support given by the UCM and the Social Club.

**P McG** had reported the following:

**Security Grants:** Having checked the conditions relating to these grants, it is clear that our parish does not qualify.

**Publication of Minutes:** Minutes of previous PPC meetings are now published on the parish website

**PPC presentation for Autumn Fayre:** An appropriate display board is being prepared in readiness for the fayre.

**Adult Catechesis:** Fr Keith has reported that Fr Tomasz Margol has expressed interest in this area, but will need time to gauge the ways in which he might be involved. Detailed discussion of this and related topics will therefore be held over until next meeting.

*Fr. Keith added that Fr Tomasz is already considering possibilities, perhaps including Wednesday mornings and/or Thursday evenings.*

#### **4. More plant works -**

Church ceiling - A lightweight alternative method is being looked into. This may be easier and cheaper, but durability needs to be confirmed.

Hall roof - As this is actually leaking, this is now the more urgent job. One estimate for the work is about £32k, with a likely lifespan of about 30 years. An alternative is being investigated which may last about twice as long, but is likely to cost about twice as much.

#### **5. PPC photographs -**

It has not been possible to get everyone together for a group photograph, but most members have had individual pictures taken. Any displays will be groups of photographs.

#### **6. Use of Technology in liturgy -**

Nike has identified some suitably equipped churches which she will visit, and will contact Edwin and possibly Tim to gather more information. Terry suggested that we might contact Jason Kelsall as he has been involved with previous installations.

#### **7. Appreciation of the work of Arthur Hughes -**

Fr Keith will produce a suitable vote of thanks for Arthur in recognition of his many years of service in the parish and in establishing the PPC.

#### **8. Brainstorming:** (Ideas for further discussion later)

(a) We have many groups active in the parish. Some are thriving, whereas others are gradually dwindling. Some of our groups need a stronger parish connection. To revitalise some areas of parish life we brainstormed ideas for consideration as possible new or updated groups and other input. Ideas included:

Knights of St Columba	Catenians	Gardening Group
Men of St Joseph	Maintenance Group	YCW

Input for the Youth Club, discussions, 'praise and worship'

Liturgical involvement from the Youth Club and other groups

(b) Some of our groups have had difficulty recruiting organisers as well as members. We discussed what might be done to improve recruitment to existing parish groups. It was clear that communicating up to date information about the groups was essential. Marie volunteered to contact the various groups in the parish to ensure the information on the website is complete and up to date.

It was also suggested that we might encourage the various groups to use the newsletter page 3 facility to give an occasional update on recent activity.

The possible use of centralised rather than personal email contact addresses was discussed. Fr Keith will investigate how feasible this might be.

The planned PPC notice board at the parish Fayre will help to promote our parish groups.

## **9. A O B**

Nike reported that she has been contacted by the SVP and is arranging to meet with them to discuss their approaches to interaction with ethnic groups.

Fr Keith suggested we will need to give serious consideration to the serious issues involved in 'preparing for the future'. These issues include dwindling church attendance, financial constraints, reducing vocations, diocesan centralisation etc.... Fr Keith also referred to 'Evangelii Gaudium' and Vatican II - as now detailed in the newsletter page 3 issued on 17th September.

## **10. Date of next meeting**

This was set for 23rd November at 8.00pm

## **11. Fr Keith closed the meeting with a prayer**