

ST. PETER'S PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 11 SEPTEMBER 2017 IN THE PARISH ROOM

Present

Father Douglas (President), Josephine Beech-Brandt (Chairperson), Liz Brown (Secretary), Aga Allan, Salvatore Callea, Joyce Cullen, Anne Donnelly, Ros Macaskill, Annie Royan, Ian Stewart.

In attendance: Francis Katamba, Bruce Royan and (from item 8) Sophie Bennett.

Welcome

1. The Chairperson welcomed all to the meeting.

Apologies

2. Alan Chudziak, Jacqueline Heron

Opening prayer

3. Father Douglas led those present in the Parish Pastoral Council Prayer.

Minutes of the meeting on 12 June 2017

4. Minutes were approved.

Matters arising

5.1 Facebook page – Stephen Dolan has indicated that he wishes to resume administration of the page. It was agreed that it was necessary to have only one person in charge of the page, but that we do have another possible candidate if Stephen feels that the workload becomes too much. **ACTION: Jo Beech-Brandt** will ask him to post as a minimum:

- A link to weekly newsletter
- A link to announcements of the Archdiocesan Facebook page
- Any requests for a post from parishioners e.g. Parish Picnic 27 August

5.2 Parish Dance - It was decided to form a sub committee to see if St. Columba's Hall was available for an all ages Ceilidh around the dates of St. Andrew's Day or Burns Night. **ACTION: Father Douglas, Jo Beech-Brandt and Annie Royan**

5.3 Doors Open Day – Saturday 23 September 1pm-6pm – 22 volunteers will be ready to welcome visitors. It has come to light that the opening times in the printed brochure are incorrect. This is the fault of the Cockburn Association who will print a notice for visitors accepting blame. A small team will be available to explain to visitors who are relying on printed information only, that only limited access is available until the official opening times, with particular attention to the usual Saturday Adoration, Confessions and Mass. Online details and local advertising by us will show the correct times. **ACTION: Doors Open Planning Team**

5.4 Mass times – Scope for an additional weekend Mass was raised at the June AGM, this topic is to be reviewed by Father Douglas and Liturgy Links Group, and will be reported to PPC in due course. **ACTION: Ian Stewart**

5.5 Volunteering Sunday – This was reported as a success with several ministries attracting new volunteers. We will review annually. **ACTION: Liz Brown**

5.6 Library – A detailed paper had been submitted for discussion and is attached to these minutes for information. Long-term proposal is that the space should be returned to use as a chapel, which will involve restoration work. In the short-term, there is a detailed plan for removal of items that have been stored in the room, and work on this has already begun. Medium term, the debate about the best location and content of the Library collection continues, as does the need for extra meeting room space. **ACTION: Bruce Royan is leading the working group of room users.**

5.7 Parish Directory – now out of date – see 7. Below

Reports from parish organizations/activities

6. Reports were received from:

- Property – As ever a highly detailed and helpful account had been received from Alan Chudziak (attached), which is indicative of the amount of work that has been undertaken by him. Alan is moving to a new parish, and John Wastle and the Property Committee will take over his responsibilities. **All in attendance at PPC wished to record their appreciation for all he has contributed in his role at St. Peter's. Thank you Alan.**
- Freshstart – Donations continued throughout the summer and justified several deliveries to the warehouse in Pilton. Parishioners seem to have adopted the habit of donating appropriate goods irrespective of the monthly appeal.
- Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults – the session held in Parish Room on 10th May was well attended and received good feedback. Joyce Cullen reported an Archdiocesan change in procedure, which will necessitate training of volunteers **before** taking up duties. That will mean there could be another training session for everyone coming soon.
- Hospitality – the team effectively stands down during the summer months, starting up again once the school term starts. Notwithstanding this, seven events have been catered for over the summer holiday period.

Annual Report of Parish Activities 2016/2017

7. Subject to a few very small changes, and with very grateful thanks to Peter Nicholson, the editing process has been completed and the document is ready for publishing. **ACTION: Liz Brown will liaise with Jacqueline Heron.**

It was explained that contact details formerly in the Parish Directory, had been included in the Annual Report this time. The Parish Directory is now out of date and remaining copies will be withdrawn. Where possible, we seek to direct people to the St. Peter's website which is updated at least weekly, in a way that paper documents cannot be. Ministry leaders are asked for updates to their website entries in January, annually (although updates can be requested at any time.) From January 2018, it is planned to seek submissions for the Annual Report in the same month. Reports will cover the preceding 12 months (2017). **ACTION: Liz Brown**

Changes in the Archdiocese

8. A helpful exchange of views occurred and for more information, it would be best to consult the Archbishop's statement on the matter. The statement dated 7 August 2017 can be found on the Archdiocesan website http://www.archdiocese-edinburgh.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=825:renewal-of-curia-&catid=65:news&Itemid=193

ACTION: Jo Beech-Brandt to draft a letter from the PPC explaining the anxiety created by the choice of communication of the changes and also requesting the outcome to the "Cluster Parishes Together" Programme.

ACTION: Fr. Kevin to seek clarification about the use of the Hall at the Gillis Centre, particularly for the twice yearly Mass for the Sick and Elderly.

Re-introducing the organ at Sunday Mass

9. This item will be debated further through Liturgy Links Group, who will report back to PPC. **ACTION: Ian Stewart.** There is concern that we are restricted in delivering variety in the liturgy by having only one Sunday Mass. The Music Group is well supported by volunteers at present. In previous years, much effort and expense was spent in ensuring that the organ was playable, and it is still used, mostly on occasions such as weddings and funerals. The organ was also used for Sunday Mass to cover holiday absences over the summer period.

Dates of meetings in Session 2017/2018

10. Monday 6 November, Monday 4 December (only if required), Monday 5 February, Monday 23 April.
AGM Monday 11 June

AOB

11. Letters had been received from a concerned parishioner about the frequency of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. It has been suggested, that it would be beneficial to some to have a special session explaining the ritual and where appropriate, rehearsing the responses. **ACTION: Ian Stewart**

The introduction of the Salve, Regina (Hail Holy Queen) was also mentioned and a request was made for the words to be available in Latin so that all attendees could take part. Since noted with thanks that these words are available at back of Church.