

St Aidan's Parish Pastoral Council
Minutes of Meeting held 5th June 2019 at 7.00pm in the Presbytery.

1. Present: John Hannacher (JH, Chair), Fr Ken (KP), Shadia Anderson (SA), Dcn Peter Collins (PC), Sue Finch (SF), Brian Gallagher (BG), Vivianne Gattoc (VG), Peter Kirk (PK), Deirdre Lay (DL), Finbarr O'Donohue (FO), Anne Parsons (AP) & Vince Smith (VS).

Apologies: Louise Moss (LM)

2. Prayer and welcome: JH welcomed all, and the meeting commenced with a prayer from Fr. Ken.

3. Minutes: Minutes of the last meeting 13th March 2019 were approved.

4. Ministry reports and discussion as necessary:

4.1 Finance. SF - see Financial Account for the year 2018-19, and a draft Financial Statement for the AGM based on these figures.

Summary:

- SF drew attention to significant differences in income and expenditure from the previous year.
- Expenditure of significance has been the installation of acoustic tiles on ceiling of parish hall, but these have been covered by a donation for which we are most grateful.
- Money in the diocesan account amounts to £99,830
- There has been an increase in the parish reserves of £30,000
- The return to the council for the raffle that was held Nov/Dec 2018 should have been made and a record placed either on line or in the parish office. **Action: DL** to confirm.

4.2 Liturgy. VS

VS had nothing to report as the last meeting of the Liturgy team had been cancelled
DL reported that we have enough AV operators for the Saturday evening Mass but only 2 for the Sunday Mass. New registration forms may indicate some new volunteers. **Action: LM**

4.3 Formation. BG - see report

Summary:

The First Holy Communion

26 children received the sacrament for the first time. They will be seen again as a group on 23 June 2019 at the feast of Corpus Christi.

Confirmation:

The candidates are doing well. The Sacrament will be administered by Bishop Peter at St Joseph's Church on 23 June 2019, the feast of Corpus Christi at 5pm for St Aidan's candidates (the St Joseph's candidates will receive the Sacrament at a 2pm Mass). There are two masses because of the number of candidates and families involved.

There are still some sessions to go and they include going to confession, as well as a rehearsal. On the day there is likely to be a big crowd and there should be parking available at the school.

4.4 Social and Cultural. DL

Monthly lunches are continuing.

Action: DL to explore an event for the Feast of St Aidan similar to last year.

4.5 Maintenance. FO

Flat roofs above bay window and outside kitchen have now been replaced

Work still outstanding:

- **The Tree stump** near the boundary wall needs to be dealt with by the Highways Agency. Afterwards wall ties will be used on the cracks in the boundary wall to stabilise it.
- **Facia board over front door.** Scaffolding or towers will be necessary. **Action LM** to speak to Joan at St Joseph's again to ask for contact details of the person they use for external maintenance work.
- **Drains:** The Diocese have commissioned a firm to examine the drains of diocesan properties. The findings at St Aidan's are that our drains are in bad condition with root ingress, and in some places the slope is not substantial enough. Major work will have to be carried out at the instigation of the diocese.
- **The tree line of Beel House with the boundary of St Aidan's.** The roots of these trees are causing cracks in the concrete paving and also affecting the drains by the parish hall. The new owners, we have been informed, are planning to deal with the trees.
- **Rain water Gully covers.** Some of these are loose and need fixing, or replacing. **Action: FO**
- **Stair Carpet.** After an inspection of the presbytery by the diocesan rep for health and safety, it was recommended that the carpet on the stairs and in the sitting room were replaced, because of their age and that they were loose in places, causing a potential hazard. Fr Ken has agreed that the stair/landing carpet can be replaced, but he does not want the upheaval of replacing the carpet in the sitting room. **Action: LM**

4.6 Ecumenical. VG – see report

Summary:

- Good Friday Walk for Witness and Service went as planned and attended by few parishioners.
- Cake Sale for Christian Aid Week [12-18 May 2019] held on Sunday 12th May was very successful raising £160. Thanks to Deirdre Lay and Clare Reed for their marvellous effort and generosity.
- Forthcoming events

Village Day – 15 June 11.00 am to 4.00 pm. We will make available leaflets to be displayed on the Methodist table, and the event will be advertised in the newsletter. **Action LM**
Children's activities at Westwood Park, Little Chalfont. The Pavilion will be opened in the month of August, 11 am to 4.00 pm; Tuesdays [St Georges] and Wednesdays [Little Chalfont Methodist]. Any help would be welcome.

Chenies Baptist Church Art Exhibition – 25 August 2019 starts at 2pm

St Michael's Annual Garden Party - 26 August 2019

4.7 Youth. SA

Youth Fest will be held on 29th June and we have a poster to promote the event. Once we receive the booking form for the website, we will be able to promote this more fully. SA and BC suggested that we have a sign up at the back of the church to try to encourage the teenagers to come along. **Action SA & BC**

4.8 Pastoral Area Council. PK

The Pastoral Area Council met on 14 June 2019 at Immaculate Heart of Mary. BG attended.

- There will be a visit from a number of Ecuadorians which mirrors the visit to Ecuador that took place last year. All are over 18yrs and will stay with local families. They will undertake work in schools.
- Considerable discussion was had in relation to Youth matters and the Youth fest will take place on 29 June 2019 at Our Lady's Church beginning at 2pm.
- Consideration was given to the PAC engaging a Pastoral Worker / co-ordinator to promote Youth ministry.
- The next meeting will be on 9 July 2019 at St Aidan's.

BG attended a **Pastoral Area Councils' Day**, held at Thornton hall on 9th March 2019. Bishop Peter reflected on his vision for the Diocese when he was appointed Bishop in 2005, He mentioned the initiatives that had been undertaken in his years as Bishop and also how the Diocese is now exploring the possibility of a more formal lay leadership with the necessary training in partnership with the clergy.

Pastoral Area Day of reflection to be held on 14th September.

BG and PC reported on a Pastoral Area Day of reflection to be held on 14th September. In preparation for this day it is proposed to hold a **Parish Day of Reflection on 20th July** at St Aidan's. This would be a day where all parishioners interested in Lay Ministry would be welcome and encouraged to attend. **Action: BG.** From this day it would be hoped that a minimum of 6 parishioners could be identified and agree to represent St Aidan's vision for lay ministry at the Pastoral Area Reflection where Ian Barratt has agreed to be a facilitator for St Aidan's. The venue for this has still to be decided.

5. AOB

- CAFOD Creation Mass, on 19th May 2019
Deborah Caufield, the diocesan rep for CAFOD was delighted by this Mass hosted by St Aidan's. She has posted pictures on the CAFOD section of the diocesan Web. There will also be an article in the Vine.
- JH produced a draft agenda for the Parish AGM. It was agreed that there will be only be 2 reports presented at the meeting – Finance & the Chairman's summary. JH requested that Ministry reports, brief highlights/comments, are sent to him by the end of June. DL will be on holiday on the day of the AGM.
- AP and VG agreed to stay on as Parish reps.
- JH and VS agreed to stay on at Fr Ken's reps.
- JH asked that should anyone wish to resign, could they please find a replacement for continuation of the ministry.

6. Future Meetings

The date of the AGM will be Sunday 7th July 2019 directly after Mass. This will be followed by a short meeting to elect the Chair and Vice Chair

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 25th September 2019.

7. Prayer and Close

Fr Ken closed the meeting with a prayer at 8.30pm.

Sue Finch
7th June 2019