

The Sacred Heart & St Therese of Lisieux, Ringwood

THE PARISH CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 22nd April 2021

7pm on Zoom

Prayer and Reflection

Present Canon Paul, Mary Short, Melissa Hildreth, Barbara Geatrell, Bridie Gray, David Saunders, Maggie Spiers, Mary Richardson

Apologies Helen and John Rawlings, Margaret Pointon and John-Paul Carpenter.

Minutes of the meeting held on 21st January 2021

Matters Arising The cost of digital equipment in the church - Canon Paul said that he would wait until there was a definite plan in place and then make an appeal for financial help from the parish.

Financial update Bridie read through the financial statement that had been circulated. It showed funds held as £36,000 compared with £27,000 last year. This increase of £9,000 over the year should be enough to meet the regular outgoing of the parish.

Standing orders have increased to 44 which shows an increase of 50%. Cash offerings have decreased due to people not having been attending mass. Canon Paul said he would continue to encourage people to change to standing orders.

Mary thanked Bridie and added that hopefully more people would be attending mass soon and therefore income would increase further.

Property Health and Safety The committee was informed that Phil Rogers had made a list of jobs that needed to be routinely done in both parishes.

Canon Paul reported that the church had been the victim of a graffiti attack on Sunday afternoon 18th April. Satanic symbols had been painted either side of the front entrance. The police described it as a "hate crime". David has painted over the graffiti but unfortunately was unable to find the exact colour. Enquiries would have to be made as to the exact colour of the render.

Cards Barbara reported that the card sales continued to be extremely popular, she has sold over 100 cards since January showing a £40 profit. She asked the committee if they felt that she should continue selling the cards online or should she revert to having them displayed in the church porch. It was agreed that online was the better way.

Joint Parish Councils Proposal Discussion documents had been circulated by David. He outlined the issues, in particular the lack of catechesis activities in both parishes. The following comments were made or received –

Maggie was to start a joint prayer group and represent the parish on STAR, a Churches Together initiative.

Helen, although absent had expressed a wish to concentrate on joint parish issues.

John would continue to advise on technical issues and help with property maintenance in both parishes.

Mary R said she would like to take on the First Communion preparation in both parishes

Canon Paul was concerned that all parishes should have resource groups for Baptisms, 1st Communion, Marriage and RCIA. Currently neither parish has these. He hoped that jointly these resources could be made available

Canon Paul also would like to develop joint ministries including Ecumenism and Ministry to the Sick. Also for joint fund raising.

Both Barbara and Melissa commented that it was good to have separate groups but there needed to be an “umbrella” PPC to which people could take problems etc. Barbara stressed that communication must be a priority. Parishioners should know what the PCC are doing so that they feel involved and included.

Mary S said that over the past year Covid had interfered with all parish activities including communication. She also agreed that it would perhaps be reasonable to have an umbrella PCC to bring all parish activities and organisations together. She suggested that it would be sensible to keep the existing PCC until Covid restrictions had been lifted, then decide if one was necessary and how often it should meet.

David wishes to concentrate on the people who “got things done”, ensuring that they felt valued and were able to continue their present activities. At the same time he would encourage others to help in any way they could.

Churches Together Maggie reported that Poulner Baptist church were looking for volunteers to deliver the Hope magazine. Mary S said she would be happy to help.

Maggie went on to say that a charitable foundation has been set up in Bournemouth to help people with drug addiction problems. The foundation would like to extend the scheme and plan to set up the next pilot in Ringwood. Churches Together have been asked to help run this, each church providing one representative and support with prayers.

Other Business Melissa told the committee that the parish photocopier needed to be replaced. She asked what specifications it should have. Mary S and Mary R said that the children’s Liturgy only used A4 paper and colour wasn’t necessary. Bridie said that it should be wireless and she would need a scanner and wifi.

Melissa added that the old photocopier would have to be taken away. Maggie offered her husband’s advice and help.

John Paul sent a message to say that the organ has been serviced.

Due to pressures of work John Paul has had to resign from the committee. However he would like to be kept informed and is happy to be involved and help in any way he can.

Margaret feels that as this is a time of change it would be a good time for her to resign.

Mary R reported that she had been on the PCC for at least 12 years and asked if there was anything in the constitution saying how long members were allowed to serve. Canon Paul suggested that as she was taking over the 1st Communion programme it was a good time to leave the PCC. Mary agreed to stay until the new joint PCC proposals had been finalised.

With reference to communications David suggested that the minutes of the PCC meeting could be put on the notice board at the back of the church. Melissa said she could also put them on the web page.

Helen and John Rawlings were thanked for hosting the on-line Wellbeing Course which was very well received and judged to be a great success by all who participated in it.

Date of next meeting Thursday 24th June 7pm in the presbytery

