

St Vincent's Parish Council

Minutes of meeting on 18 September 2024

Present: Russell Brynes (Chair), Fr Patrick Walsh, Dominic Rice, Theresa Rice, Dominic Simon, Catherine Livingston (Minutes)

1. **Opening Prayer** – said by Fr Walsh

2. **Apologies:** Catherine Evans, Louise Heaton, Maria Mawson, Lizanne Rana

3. **Actions & matters arising from previous minutes:** No actions

Deacons – Fr Walsh said there was no news regarding advertising for a deacon.

Diocesan statistical analysis: RB requested that Fr Walsh give an interim update to the parish on the outcome of the meeting with the Bishops and Clergy. Fr Walsh to give a brief update later in the meeting. No full update was yet available as no decisions have been made regarding what is going to happen re parishes within the Diocese.

Disability Questionnaire CL to request an update from Katharine Ryan-Murray regarding publishing the outcome. **Action CL**

Adoremus event One of our parishioners, Jacqui Stacey had represented the parish at this on Saturday 14 September to support preparations for the Jubilee 2025. Fr Walsh to contact JS to get an update **Action Fr Walsh**

4. The Mass

a) **First Holy Communion Mass** – update from RB. It was suggested that when preparing children for their First Holy Communion, certain practicalities should be emphasised to parents by Fr Walsh and the Catechists regarding the following:

- behaviour in church during the mass
- the taking of photos during mass

It was suggested that there should be a meeting with catechists well before the first preparation class in order to discuss and clarify the guidance as to what is appropriate behaviour and what is not. At our previous meeting it had also been suggested that notices in church regarding the use of mobile phones would also be helpful.

b) **Live Streaming** – Fr Walsh reported that all connections are now in place, should we wish to live stream the First Holy Communion mass next year. Fr Walsh is now looking for a technical person to attach the camera. A discussion ensued and it was agreed that Fr would ask Fr Declan for his advice. **Action: Fr Walsh** It was suggested also, that a request should go out in the bulletin for a technical person. Ravi and Thom were the two names suggested.

5. Diocesan Statistical Questionnaire: Update

Feedback from Fr Walsh: all priests were positive about their own parishes RB asked if we could see the Dean's summary of what was discussed. Fr Walsh is going to feedback to St Vincent's parishioners about what happened at the meeting. **Action Fr Walsh**

Year of Prayer and Jubilee 2025

Prayer Book CL reported that LR and LH have been working hard on a parish prayer book for the Year of Prayer, which Fr Walsh confirmed would be published in December 2024. Fr Walsh was delighted with what he had seen so far. RB mentioned that he had enjoyed reading the prayers on the parish website and wondered if some of these might be included.

It was proposed that we could say the Jubilee Prayer after the bidding prayers, as from the 1st Sunday of Advent? Length of time this would continue to be determined
Action LR, LH and Fr Walsh

A discussion was held regarding some of the responses on the Year of Prayer questionnaire which CL had sent out earlier in the year.

CL reported that she was still in discussion with Jaquie Stacey (re Novena to St Joseph), Louise Finnigan (re Parish Retreat) and would feed back at the next meeting **Action CL**

CL mentioned that both respondents had suggested the use of more technology in church during mass and for the purposes of aiding reflection. Some committee members voiced their opinions saying it would be a good idea to project the words of hymns on the walls either side/on one side of the altar. It was also mentioned that this use of technology worked well in churches of other denominations. Fr Walsh stated that he did not believe that the introduction of projectors in St Vincent's church would be a positive move.

CL also to contact Katharine Ryan-Murray regarding an update on a Diocesan Year of Prayer and Jubilee 2025. CL suggested that KRM should be invited to attend the next parish council meeting to give an update **Action CL**

CL had received an email from Columba Timmins regarding the praying of the Rosary during the Season of Creation. In summary, Columba felt that the low turnout to recently arranged Rosary meetings meant that she did not feel it would be well attended so she had decided not to go ahead and arrange one this time around.

CL also to discuss with KRM re Physical Accessibility in church and also to look at online accessibility (RNIB a good starting point) **Action CL**

Annual Parish Meeting

Suggested date for this was Wednesday 23 October at 7 pm. Post-it notes could be used again for parishioners to make suggestions and give feedback. A note to go in the bulletin.

Action Fr Walsh – Update - *This date has now been confirmed. The notice regarding the Parish meeting went in the bulletin this week*

Terms of Reference

DR said that these had all been agreed by members of the Parish Council and no more discussion was necessary. The revised ToR are now on the parish website

Live Simply Mass

All preparations are in hand. Bishop Ralph will be saying mass with Fr Walsh. Angela Powell from CAFOD has been invited to present the award. Gerry Burke is writing the liturgy. It was suggested that Thom Flint could be asked to take photographs after mass.

Safeguarding – No items

AOB

It was suggested that the timing of Baptisms on a Sunday should be looked at. An unfortunate overlap with teas and coffees after mass in the hall the previous week had occurred when a baptism was held at 11.00 am. It was agreed that 12 pm would be the earliest convenient time for a Baptism, given that parishioners were often chatting in the hall over tea and coffee for quite a while after 9.30 am mass had finished. **Action Fr Walsh**

International Food Event

CL informed those present that discussions regarding this were underway, and after the Car Boot Sale on 21 September, she would start to advertise this event in the parish.

UPDATE 1/10/2024 In the bulletin of 29 September it was announced that the Parish Bazaar would take place on 30 November. It was also mentioned that an International Food event would feature again, following on from the success it had enjoyed last year. CL would like to propose that the sub-committee might offer to help with this event at the Bazaar, rather than arranging two separate food events.

CL suggested a new title for the bulletin could be 'The Vincentian'. The parish at St Francis have 'The Franciscan', which gave her the idea. It was agreed that this could be an item on the agenda for discussion at the Annual Parish Meeting in October.

The new Missal/Lectionary

It was suggested that Matthew Hazell should be asked to explain the new versions of these at a meeting of parishioners. A date in early November would be preferable. *UPDATE 02.10.24: We have now learned that the diocese is holding two training sessions (in October and November) for readers regarding the new Lectionary, and we will promote these to readers in the first instance.* **Action Fr Walsh**

Date of next meeting: 30 October 2024

