

## **Minutes Parish Council Meeting Tuesday March 16<sup>th</sup> 2021.**

**Present:** Father Walsh; Russell Brynes (chair); Catherine Evans; Dominic and Theresa Rice; Kathleen Baster; Columba Timmins (minutes).

**Apologies:** Peter Delamere.

Opening prayer.

**Opening for Mass:** Steward rota, no issues.

An extra Saturday evening public Mass is not currently required – although Sunday morning is usually full, the evening Mass has spare capacity.

**The cleaning** of the church continues as advised by Diocesan guidelines, with additional cleaning as required if needed.

The regular church cleaning arrangements will require reviewing and re-establishing when attendance returns to normal (June 2021 if national roadmap out of lockdown proceeds as planned.)

**A 'Roadmap' document** relevant to church opening has been received from the Diocese. No implications for the next month. To be discussed at next meeting.

**Bookings:** Sunday morning booking slots are being filled in advance of the deadline. Those who have to be refused are assured of a place if they book for the following Sunday morning. Anyone turning up to morning Mass without booking and finding there is no room, is advised that space is likely to be available at the Sunday evening Mass.

The mobile phone booking system is not being used.

Details of booking arrangements for the Easter Triduum have been publicised via bulletin, website and email update. Liturgy arrangements discussed.

**First Holy Communion:** the catechists have made plans for Communion preparation sessions for this year's group. These plans will be adapted according to the national timetable of easing lockdown restrictions.

**Confirmation:** Communication maintained via a whatsapp group for the families concerned. Again, preparation plans will be adapted as/if/when restrictions on group meetings are eased. In the first instance parents will be preparing their own children for the sacrament. A variety of online suggestions to assist with this have been provided for parents to choose from, including material from [formed.org](http://formed.org) [sycamore.fm](http://sycamore.fm) and [cafod.org](http://cafod.org). It was suggested that Father review some of the material and that websites used be collated and listed in the bulletin/on the parish website.

**Arise:** This is a Sheffield ecumenical effort to pray for the city and its people street by street, and to reach out to those who might wish to contact a local church. An Easter card will be posted to each house in the city with a contact phone number for area church groups. We do not know yet which

church in Crookes is to act as first contact and signpost to other churches in the area, but St. Vincent's will provide its mass booking mobile number for anyone seeking a Catholic link locally.

**Community Sponsorship Scheme for a refugee family:** The Diocese has received applications from 26 volunteers for this scheme. The next meeting will take place after Easter.

**Covenant with the Poor:** existing activity in the parish which might come under this umbrella include St. Justin's; Cafod; St. Wilfrid's; SVP; UCM projects; work done by the CMS; Justice and Peace initiatives (eg raising awareness of the causes of local and global poverty, migration, modern day slavery.) The annual Pantomime and Christmas Bazaar are charity fundraisers.

It is agreed that charity law would not be transgressed if money given by the parish, as a charity, goes to another charity with the same values and aims.

As noted previously, parish income is currently affected by lack of Mass attendance and activities during the last year.

It was agreed to put together an information piece for the parish along with a proposal for raising funds for a list of potential beneficiaries-for example through an annual second collection.

Proceeding with a Covenant will depend on feedback from parishioners.

**Diocese of Hallam Strategic Fundraising Document, March 21** received by the parish. The Diocese is currently seeking ideas for support for the elderly. See church website for the newsletter.

**Rebuilding Communities:** children's activities suggested for outside for Easter and Spring. Online social with quiz proposed for weekend after Easter.

**Living Simply as a parish:** As lockdown eases and normal church activities resume, shall we continue efforts to align the parish with values that care for creation? For example 'housekeeping' which uses cleaning materials gentle on the environment and reduces energy and plastic use; appreciation and care for the church grounds; raising awareness of the implications of our habits as consumers.

Based on the Lenten principles of Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving.

**AOB.** Discussed a parishioner query about being able to identify Council members. Those present agree to have their name and photo on the website. Currently the Chairperson is the only member with a named role, although others attending have greater or lesser input to regular discussion items. Contact with council members can be made through Father or the chairperson (Russell Brynes) through the church email address which is readily found on bulletin, website and parish updates.

**Monthly Minutes** of past Parish meetings are available on St. Vincent's website from January 2021. Minutes of meetings from January 2020 can be provided by ColumbaTimmins via email to Father.

**Date of Next Meeting Tuesday 13 April 2021 7.30 pm**

