

St. Vincent's Pastoral Parish Council 08/06/2022.

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

Apologies: Theresa Rice; Peter Delamere.

Re mailing list for minutes: CT checked verbally with MH and CH that they are able to access the minutes online.

Meeting opened with a prayer.

Matters from previous meeting: First Holy Communion preparation underway. To take place in September.

Parish Mission with Franciscan Fathers not yet followed up.

At Father's request, Dominic is arranging a meeting for Communion ministers.

Liaison with Finance Committee remains an issue. Father will raise item at next Finance Committee meeting in September.

AGENDA PROPER.

Pastoral Parish Council –Terms of Reference.

The Council in its current form was shaped during the Covid pandemic by the need to manage church activity and parish communication. In March 2020, interested parishioners had been meeting with Father for several months and were looking at Terms of Reference for setting up a pastoral council. See document St. Vincent's Terms of Reference for Pastoral Council.

See also minutes Parish Meeting 10/03/20 for terms of reference discussion pre lockdown.

Points considered of particular relevance: the terms of reference suggest members serve for a period of 3 years, following which they may be reappointed or replaced. The current members will have been meeting for 3 years this autumn.

There should be one open meeting each year for the whole parish.

It was decided that the parish should be informed of the development of the pastoral council into its current form, both by bulletin note and brief talk after Sunday Masses. (Columba to follow up).

An open Parish Meeting will be held in September to seek comment and discuss further membership.

The parish meeting will also seek thoughts on how we want St. Vincent's to develop as a parish community, now that we have the opportunity to renew ourselves after the pandemic.

We reminded ourselves that prior to lockdown restrictions we had discussed making council member names and photos available in the Narthex.

Synodal Process. How to take forward. There are mixed feelings about how the Synodal Process has played out so far. St. Vincent's received 72 responses to the 240 questionnaires sent out, which was considered a good proportion. But we don't know if we have reached people who have disengaged with the church altogether, and consider probably not. Have young people's voices been heard? The parish response has been published on the parish website.

Attendance at the evening meeting called to give an overview of the parish response was disappointing (9 people). The listening exercise undertaken at that meeting was considered very useful, and worth repeating for a larger audience.

What changes, if any, would we like to bring to our church? What changes can we work on now in our own parish community? How can we open up conversations within the parish?

It was decided this could be a theme for the September parish meeting: 'What do we want our church to be now that the pandemic is over?'

Diocesan- wide Youth Group – for young people aged 14-18 years. Members to be led in formation by a youth team, to sit as members of various Diocesan committees, developing their faith and involvement in the church.

Information to be shared with Confirmation group; parish to promote the idea and identify young people who might be interested in membership.

Catechists: applicants sought for CCRS course and Certificate in Pastoral Ministry. This has been advertised in the parish bulletin, and a volunteer has come forward. To continue with individual approaches to people who might be interested.

Hallam News: Now online. A new Diocesan communications officer, Catalina Cagua, has been appointed. She is seeking submissions and news for the Diocesan website and ideas for its development. There has been a lack of awareness that the paper copy was to stop publication, and concern about exclusion of those without digital access or know-how. Cost has been the overriding issue. Russell will write on behalf of the council to urge that some paper version of Diocesan News be made available at a regular interval during the year.

Mass and Liturgies. Thoughts for Sunday evening Mass: set aside a monthly Mass for the youth (teenagers) of the parish to organize - readings and music, and refreshments afterwards.

Rebuilding Communities. The benefits of visiting people in the parish who have been unable to resume mass attendance were mentioned.

Padley Pilgrimage to be encouraged as a parish event – suggesting either meeting at Grindleford Station for the walk to the chapel, or undertaking a longer walk starting at Ringinglow. Columba and Catherine to follow up.

Road closures around church. These seemed to happen without acknowledgment of the church presence in the vicinity. Road signs to the church, (paid for by St. Vincent's) have been removed without consultation, and there is confusion about how to approach and leave the church by car. It was agreed Russell would write to the Council: while the parish supports traffic calming, there should have been more warning and consultation with St. Vincent's about the effect the closures would have. Signs on roads in the vicinity warning of road closure ahead would be helpful.

Updates on **Home from Home Hallam** and **Justice and Peace** issues were not discussed for reasons of time.

HHH –Syrian family arriving mid June. Contact –SVP.

Cafod: current campaign 'Fix the Food System' - St. Vincent's Cafod link people looking how we might promote this. Contact – Columba.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 27th July in parish meeting room.