

## **St Vincent's Parish Council**

*"The parish council helps the priest to serve the people"*

### **Meeting minutes 19 April 2023**

**Present:** Russell Brynes (Chair), Kathleen Baster, Catherine Evans, Maria Mawson (Minutes), Dominic Rice, Theresa Rice, Columba Timmins, Fr. Walsh

#### **1. Opening prayer**

#### **2. Apologies**

#### **3. Actions & matters arising from the previous meeting not covered by the agenda**

SVP anniversary Mass 22 April 6pm. TR has made arrangements for music, and readers and ministers are also in place.

Posters. CE has shared the draft parish groups poster, and the poster on ministries is now up in the narthex. KB has finished & displayed the Parish Council poster.

#### **4. The Mass**

Extraordinary Ministers

The meeting took place 19 March, and the main area for discussion was taking communion to the housebound and sick. Agreed actions and answers to questions raised have been circulated to all Ministers involved. It was confirmed that visiting in pairs is guidance rather than a requirement. If two people visit together, guidance is that only one needs to be DBS checked. The second person must be over the age of 18.

Fr Walsh reported that there is a training and commissioning/ recommissioning day for new and continuing Ministers on 3 June at the Pastoral Centre 10-4.

Reverence for the Eucharist

Following on from the previous meeting, there was further discussion about receiving communion respectfully.

RB agreed to look at the General Instruction of the Roman Missal for relevant guidance and Fr. Walsh will incorporate into a sermon at an appropriate point.

#### **Action: RB & Fr. Walsh**

There was also some discussion about reintroducing communion under both kinds, as this has happened in some parishes. Fr. Walsh does not intend to take this forward for now.

Lent & Easter review

Starting the Palm Sunday Procession in the Hall worked well and Fr Walsh proposes to continue this in future. The additional readers used during Lent had also worked very well. Fr. Walsh had reminded the parish that ideally we should attend all the Triduum services and all services were very well attended. More booklets will be needed next year as they ran out at the Vigil. The music had been widely praised.

A number of people had arrived thinking that Easter Sunday Mass started at 10 instead of 9.30, but it wasn't clear where they had found this information.

There was some disappointment that the hall booking for a baptism that took place at 11.30 on Easter Sunday had disrupted the usual parish Sunday morning coffee.

TR suggested that Sunday morning coffee should be added to the Hall booking diary every week to avoid any similar clashes in the future and this was agreed. **Action: Fr. Walsh**

## 5. The Church

Contactless collection.

Fr. Walsh has been in touch with Dona and has asked Dominic Baster to take this forward.

First Holy Communion

This will take place on 11 June, and preparation is under way led by Jacqueline Diaz. A WhatsApp group has been set up for parents.

Confirmation

Fr Walsh confirmed that preparation will start in September with a view to Confirmation taking place in December. Catechists will be needed, and ideally younger people should be approached to do this. RB confirmed that the Mission Hub is not in a position to help at the moment. Fr. Walsh will think about who could be approached, and will also put a notice in the bulletin to ask for volunteers. **Action: Fr. Walsh**

CE mentioned the importance of evangelisation in addition to catechesis.

## 6. Building the Community

### Welcoming

Fr. Walsh asked that welcomers ensure that any second collection basket is visible at the end of Mass.

MM had been approached by one of the other welcomers about access to the articles for sale in the locked case. Fr. Walsh confirmed that a key for the case is available in the Sink Room. MM suggested that welcomers could provide access, and could make a small notice to this effect for the case.

**Action: Fr. Walsh to discuss with Peter Twomey and put him in touch with MM for further discussion if necessary. MM to provide notice for the cabinet. We'll also need to inform welcomers.**

Display boards

There is limited notice board space, and CT asked if a digital screen in the narthex had ever been considered. This would need further thought and somebody to maintain it.

CE offered to tidy up the notice boards to remove anything out of date. **Action: CE**

Parish booklet

Ongoing. DR now has most of the information, and will aim to get it done by early September. It will be available on the website but a small quantity will also be copied or printed.

Contact card

These are being used and the parish register is being updated by Fr. Walsh. There was a discussion about adding people to the WhatsApp group and CT/KB agreed to do this. For data protection reasons, the box should be checked regularly, and the cards should be disposed of as soon as they have been dealt with.

**Action: Fr. Walsh to update register and pass on any cards for people wanting to join the WhatsApp group to CT/KB.**

Mission

This is not going ahead but Fr. Walsh will continue to look for other options.

## **7. Children and young people**

Sue McDonald is coming again on Sunday 23 April to meet young people after evening Mass.

## **8. Live Simply**

Katharine Ryan-Murray is now updating the Live Simply section of the web site.

There will be a short update on Live Simply at Mass on 21 May.

For possible future consideration, CT mentioned that funds may be available for things like solar panels and EV charging points.

## **9. Safeguarding**

There has been a communication about altar servers changing facilities. There are no issues with this as the sacristy door is open and the robes go over usual clothes.

## **Any other business**

There was clarification about the coffee morning on 14 May, this is a parish event, not an external event. CT will ask Marie Miller to draft an updated notice for the bulletin.

**Action: CT**

CT gave notice that she would be standing down from the Parish Council in the autumn. Parish Council membership will be added to the agenda for the May PC meeting.

**Action: RB**

The next full Parish meeting will take place in October and will be added to the agenda for further discussion at the May PC meeting. **Action: RB**

**Next meetings:** 31 May, 12 July, 13 September all at 7pm in the Parish Room

**Closing prayer.**