

## St Vincent's Parish Council

*"The parish council works with the priest to serve the people"*

### Meeting minutes 30 August 2023

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

#### 1. Opening prayer

#### 2. Apologies: Kathleen Baster

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

- A notice had been placed in the bulletin to advise parishioners not to rely on the Catholic Clocks web site if they are travelling elsewhere as it is often out of date. The information for St Vincent's has been updated by DR.
- ⑩ Following an appeal in the bulletin, Val Brock volunteered to open the Repository after morning Mass.
- Digital exclusion. Print copies of the bulletin have occasionally run out at evening Mass. It was agreed to continue printing 80 for now and monitor.

#### 4. The Mass

- ⑩ Recommissioning Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist. Following the meeting, it was agreed that this will take place on the First Sunday of Advent, 3 December at the end of both Masses. **Action: DR & Fr Walsh**
- ⑩ Reverence for the Eucharist. Fr Walsh will speak about this at Masses, and the meeting discussed points to cover, such as fasting before receiving Holy Communion and receiving reverently. **Action: Fr Walsh**
- ⑩ Readers. A parishioner had asked about having two readers for the Scripture readings at morning Mass. We agreed that this is the ideal but there is an issue with numbers of readers at the moment. We need to appeal for more parishioners to be involved in all the Ministries, through more bulletin announcements, making personal approaches, and discussion at the general parish meeting. **Action: Josh to repeat the appeal in the bulletin**

#### 5. The Church

- Contactless collection update. The terminal is working well, and Fr Walsh wished to record his thanks to Dominic Baster and Josh for their work in getting it installed and working. It has been used for second collections, and could also be used for tea and coffee donations to St Justin's, providing that payments are sent direct to St Justin's and not the Parish Group. **Action: CE to provide details of St Justin's account and Josh will set up in the terminal.**
- Confirmation. Jacqui Diaz and Stuart Astill are willing to help with preparation, and various resources are available. Weekly meetings will be held after Sunday evening Mass from 17 September. In the past there has also been a day retreat at the Mission Hub, which Josh offered to help with. After the meeting, and following discussion with the Bishops Office, the date for Confirmation has been set 26 November, the Feast of Christ the King. **Action: Fr Walsh will continue to take this forward.**
- Prayer services. A few parishioners have asked for Adoration before weekday Masses and this will start on 5 September. The Rosary will be prayed at the

Wednesday morning Mass for the Season of Creation, 1 September to 4 October, led by CT and Fr Walsh. **Action: Fr Walsh, CT**

## 6. Building the Community

- Welcoming. Agreed this is still very successful, although ideally with more people as with other Ministries.
- Offertory procession. Agreed that the bread and wine should be taken up before the children process, and that those taking the gifts should be in place before the bidding prayers finish. Fr Walsh would like more feedback about the children processing at the Offertory and it was agreed that this would be discussed at the parish meeting.
- Parish booklet is almost ready. It was agreed that in addition to the web version there would be some printed copies possibly with photographs.
- Older people and inclusivity. The meeting discussed ways of reaching those who may not be able to get to Mass or who may find attending Mass challenging. CE suggested a monthly coffee morning, and would be willing to help organise this. RB suggested that the SVP may also be able to help with this. The meeting also discussed ways to promote tea and coffee after Masses, including the bulletin and Fr Walsh giving a reminder at the end of Mass. **Action: CE and RB to look into the idea of a monthly coffee morning.**

## 7. Parish Council and Parish meeting

- The Parish Annual General Meeting will take place on Wednesday 27 September at 7pm. **Action: Josh to put an invitation in the bulletin as soon as possible.**
- Items for the agenda: attracting more people for the different Ministries, children's participation in the offertory procession following the children's liturgy.
- The minutes of the last AGM will be summarised at the start of the meeting, highlighting what has been actioned. DR and other PC members to look through previous minutes to check that everything has been done. **Action: All**
- ⑩ New members. CT suggested a possible new member. **Action: RB will approach.**
- Parish Council membership poster & bulletin items. Following a suggestion from a parishioner, future notices relating to the Parish Council in the bulletin will mention the Parish Council members poster. There are two posters, one in the narthex, one in the hall. **Action: CE will look at moving the one in the narthex to eye level.**
- Parish Council Mission Statement. A parishioner has suggested an alternative form of words. After a short discussion it was agreed to change the statement to: "The Parish Council works with the priest to serve the people".
- There was a short discussion about sharing key decisions and actions from Parish Council meetings in the bulletin. **Action: Josh to include something in the bulletin as soon as practical.**

## 8. Children and young people

Young people are reading at Sunday evening Mass on the first Sunday every month. The Bishop is convening a group of young people age 14-18 to help with diocesan decision making. Josh has further information and will speak to young people after Mass on 3 September.

## 9. Live Simply

The Crookes joint eco church event will be on Sunday 1 October 3-5pm on the Bolehills. **Action: CT will provide further information in due course**

## **10. Road closures update**

Fr Walsh had a positive meeting with the Leader of the Council and the Head of Transport Committee on 29 August. Decisions on the trial are expected in September

## **11. Safeguarding**

CE reported that a Prayer intention display by victims of abuse is available for display in parish churches. It was agreed that it should be displayed in St Vincent's if possible.

**Action: CE to investigate further.**

## **Any other business**

- The meeting discussed the recent WhatsApp message from Melinda about a group of young asylum seekers. Various suggestions for support have been made and the SVP is also aware. It was agreed that Melinda will be invited to speak on 17 September about some of the issues. **Action: RB**
- A parishioner has suggested that it would be useful to have solar panels on St Vincent's roof and this will be discussed at a future meeting.
- CE highlighted an exhibition at St Michael's Wombwell "Little Bits of God Mosaic". This will be on display until 29 September.
- A Bible study session on St Marks Gospel will take place on 20 September. It was not clear if this is intended to be a weekly meeting. **Action: Josh to clarify.**

## **Dates for next meetings**

27 Sept (Parish Annual General Meeting), 25 October, 29 November. All 7pm