

Saint Edmund's Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd May 2019

Present: Father Vincent, Tricia Davies, Kathleen Joyce, Christine Martin, Tony Matthews, Teresa Quinn.
Paul Blake (Clerk).

Apologies: Helen Murphy

The meeting opened with a prayer at 7.30.p.m. with Tricia Davies taking the Chair.

Tricia Davies asked that the Parish Council's thanks be recorded to Teresa Quinn for her years of service as Chair of the Parish Council.

Changes to membership of the Parish Pastoral Council:

It was reported that Anne Morgan-Jones has resigned and Tony Matthews appointed as a new member.

Minutes of the meeting held on 7th March 2019:

These minutes were approved and signed. Anne Morgan-Jones was thanked for her work in connection with the new blinds in the church hall.

Deanery and Parish structures:

An open meeting for all parishioners in the deanery will be held on Saturday 1st June from 10.30.a.m. to 3.00.p.m. at Saint John's Parish, Trowbridge. Christine Martin shared an exchange of emails with Father Tom Finnegan and Father Martin Queenan. She had asked for an agenda for the meeting and details of how the discussions would be organised but had only received a broad indication of the format of this meeting. Despite general dissatisfaction with the way in which the meeting appeared to be planned, members of the Parish Council felt it important that people actually attended.

Father Vincent's 30th anniversary of Ordination:

To celebrate this anniversary a garden party will be held with the parishioners of Saint Anthony's Parish, Melksham on Sunday 9th June 2019 in the presbytery garden from noon to 3.00.p.m. Teresa Quinn outlined plans for this celebration. It was agreed that Tricia Davies would speak after Mass on Saturday 25th May and Anne Morgan-Jones be asked to speak after Mass on Sunday 2nd June, to encourage parishioners to support this event.

Children's Liturgy of the Word:

It was agreed that Teresa Quinn would contact Sarah Adams, the Diocesan Director of Adult Formation, to request that training for future leaders of the Children's Liturgy of the Word take place within the parish in September. This could be made open to other local parishes. It was also suggested that if such training were to take place consideration should be given to providing crèche facilities to enable young parents to attend.

Items from Calne Partnership of Churches:

It was noted that the day of prayer 'Thy Kingdom Come' takes place on Saturday 1st June at the Parish Church. Kathleen Joyce reported on the hour of prayer being planned focused on Our Lady. Booklets in connection with this will be made available in the church porch.

Two ecumenical walks are being planned; the first to Bowood taking place on Sunday 9th June.

Any other business:

The organisers of Calne Music and Arts Festival had requested that the church be open to enable members of the public to view the Stations of the Cross during the Festival week. It was agreed that the church would be open on Saturday 5th and Saturday 12th October. A request would be made nearer the date to ask that parishioners be available to act as stewards during the day in the church.

The high quality of the ecumenical lent talks was noted.

Tricia Davies reported that she had been informed that the Friends of Saint Edmund's School, (FOSE) was receiving little support from parents at the school, and that no joint events with the parish were planned at present.

In connection with the Parish Project, 'Mary's Meals', just over £400 had been sent to the charity following the Lenten Challenge and Lent Lunches. Donations received at the parish event on 9th June would go to the charity and a quantity of raffle prizes was still available for a further raffle later in the year.

Date of next meeting:

The next meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council will be held on Thursday 1st August 2019 with Elizabeth Hitchens taking the Chair.

The meeting closed with a prayer at 8.30.p.m.