

**Saint Edmund's Parish Pastoral Council**  
**Draft minutes of a meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021.**

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**Present:** Father Vincent, Tricia Davies, Elizabeth Hitchens, Kathleen Joyce, Christine Martin, Helen Murphy, Teresa Quinn, Brigid Rodgers.  
Paul Blake (Clerk).

**Apologies:** Tony Matthews

The meeting opened with a prayer at 7.30.p.m.

**Election of Chairperson:**

Brigid Rodgers was elected as Chairperson of the Parish Pastoral Council.  
Teresa Quinn was thanked for her years of service as Chairperson.

**Minutes of meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021:**

These minutes were approved.

**Steps to re-build and re-energise the parish:**

A discussion took place on further steps that the Parish Pastoral Council could take to re-build and re-energise the parish as the national Covid-19 restrictions are lifted. The list of volunteers which had been in the church porch was reviewed. Material from the Diocese, "Refresh, Renew, Re-engage: Re-building our parishes after lockdown", were received. Resource sheets were available for those undertaking various ministries.

It was agreed that:

A meeting of readers should be held. Brigid Rodgers will contact Father Michael Fountaine to see if he could lead such a meeting.

A meeting, or meetings, of Welcomers should be held. Teresa Quinn will try to organise this.

Teresa Quinn will contact Gabrielle Pickford regarding the children's liturgy of the Word.  
Brigid Rodgers will contact Jane Murphy regarding music ministry.

Father Vincent will contact those responsible for flower arranging.

The bringing forward of the bread and wine will be re-introduced into the offertory procession.

Weekday Masses will recommence towards the end of September along with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Fridays.

The church hall can be used by outside groups, providing present Covid-19 guidelines are followed.

Teresa Quinn will prepare an item for the newsletter regarding the Diocesan materials, "Refresh, Renew, Re-engage: Re-building our parishes after lockdown", the planned webinars and making various resource sheets available in the church porch.

Kathleen Joyce suggested that works should be undertaken to improve and refurbish the kitchen in the church hall. This matter will be referred to the Finance Committee.

Christine Martin suggested that a computer projector and screen should be purchased for use by the parish. This could be used to support adult formation courses. Christine Martin will make further enquiries and then refer this to the Finance Committee.

The CaFE course could be planned to take place either at the end of September/start of October or during Advent. If the church hall were to be used for this course a computer projector and screen would be needed. As well as publicity through the newsletter a speaker at the end of Masses would encourage participation, and an invitation could be extended to parishioners from Saint Anthony's, Melksham.

**Arrangements for a shared lunch after a Sunday Mass:**

This event had been postponed from August. It was agreed that plans could perhaps be made for a parish social event to be held at the school in the autumn. This will be discussed at the meeting to be held with Louise Brown the Headteacher of Saint Edmund's Primary School.

**Plans for meeting to be held with Louise Brown the Headteacher of Saint Edmund's Primary School:**

Brigid Rodgers will contact Louise Brown. Such a meeting could be held earlier in the day, sometime after 4.15.p.m. Suggested dates are Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September or in the week starting 4<sup>th</sup> October.

**Items from Calne Partnership of Churches:**

Elizabeth Hitchens reported that the Partnership are planning a Zoom Advent service. It would be good to involve a wider group of parishioners in making the Saint Edmund's contribution. She will place an item in the church newsletter appealing for volunteers.

**Any other business:**

Father Vincent reported that five baptisms are booked. A memorial Mass for the late Audrey Tickner will be celebrated on 30<sup>th</sup> October at 12 noon with a visiting priest. An organiser for the 100 club is needed, this will be referred to the Finance Committee. In relation to the shortage of priests in the diocese, three priests are leaving the diocese, one is very ill and two are due to retire next year.

A two-year 'synodal' process is taking place from September 2021 that culminates in the final Synod Gathering of Bishops in Rome in October 2023. The overall theme is "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission". The bishop will be arranging meetings regarding this early next year.

**Date of next meeting:**

The next ordinary meeting will be held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 7.00.p.m. in the church hall.

The meeting ended at 9.00.p.m. with a closing prayer.