

## **Saint Edmund's Parish Pastoral Council**

### **Draft minutes of a meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

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

**Apologies:** Tricia Davies, Tony Matthews.

The meeting opened with a prayer at 7.00.p.m.

#### **Minutes of meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022.**

These minutes were approved.

Matters arising: It was agreed that no booking system will be needed for attendance at the Holy Week and Easter services. Items are being placed in the school newsletter about the dates of folk Masses.

#### **Follow up from the meeting with Readers held on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and the meetings with Welcomers held on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> January 2022.**

Summary notes from the meeting with Readers had been distributed and copies were available in the church porch. Tricia Davies had undertaken to produce a similar document for Welcomers. Once this was available both documents will be posted on the porch notice boards and it was suggested that copies be distributed with the next set of rotas. If any parishioners wish to minister as Reader and have reduced mobility it was noted that a different microphone and stand are available.

#### **Co-ordination of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion taking Communion to the sick and housebound.**

There are several Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion with the necessary safeguarding clearances to take Holy Communion to the sick and housebound and a rota is on display in the sacristy. Kathleen Joyce agreed to contact Father Michael Fountaine, parish priest of Chippenham and Corsham, to see if he would be willing to run a renewal and refresher meeting for the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.

#### **Sacramental preparation: Baptisms, First Communions.**

The preparation for Baptism course had gone very well, and several new friendships had been made. All the Baptisms had either taken place or were booked to take place. The First Communion course had been running for three weeks with ten children and parents taking part.

#### **The CaFE course on Celtic Spirituality.**

The first two sessions of this course had been well attended. There was some concern about the limited content of the course materials. Christine Martin will review these and adjust as necessary.

#### **The Parish Project for 2022, The Harbour Project.**

Claire Garrett the CEO of the Harbour Project had spoken at Masses. The raffle had raised over £100 and proceeds from the Lent Lunches would be given to this Parish Project. Rob Pickford offered to host a parish social and barn dance on either 25<sup>th</sup> June or 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2022 to support this project. He also undertook to provide 'Lenten Challenge' envelopes to be distributed at Masses. A parish event in the presbytery garden was suggested for later in the year and an offer had been received from parishioner Victoria Nye to host a social event in her garden.

**Parish participation in the Synod: “For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission”.**

Twenty-Four parishioners attended an open parish meeting which was held on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2022 to discuss this; a summary of contributions had been posted on the parish website. In addition four individual written responses had been received. Arising from the comments made discussion took place on how best to informally organise a parent and toddler group gathering. It was noted that the Calne Partnership of Churches plan to introduce Street Pastors has not come to fruition. It was agreed that each meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council would, in addition to prayer, start with a Scripture reading and reflection. Kathleen Joyce will choose the reading for the next meeting.

**The church porch area: restocking and updating of items in the repository and access to the main porch notice boards.**

It was agreed that the repository cabinets should be repositioned at the back of the church porch where the main notice boards are at present. A volunteer will be sought to look after the repository and re-stock as necessary. Spare space in the cabinets will be made available to display Traidcraft products. The main notice boards will be repositioned where the repository cabinets are at present. Paul Blake will co-ordinate volunteers to undertake these works.

**Items from Calne Partnership of Churches.**

Plans are being considered for a town event for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee with the involvement of the local churches. Several Ministers of local churches are either leaving or retiring. In relation to the leaflet about Saint Edmund’s Church which is in the Calne Partnership folder, no suggestions were forthcoming for additional items to be included.

It was suggested at this Parish Pastoral Council meeting that the Good Friday Walk of Witness should and could be reinstated in 2023, walking through the town to meet up with the Cherhill Good Friday procession.

**Any other business**

Kathleen Joyce repeated her request made at a previous meeting for refurbishment of the church hall. Father Vincent indicated that this will not take place. However replacement and repair of minor items can take place. A request to purchase a stand/trolley for the projector and a laptop was agreed.

The Diocese is considering its response to the Ukrainian refugee crisis. There is a possibility that the presbytery at Melksham could be made available to house refugees.

It was agreed that the children’s Liturgy of the Word should not recommence at the present time with the low numbers of young children attending Masses.

**Date of next meeting:**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 7.00.p.m. in the church hall.

The meeting ended at 8.40.p.m. with a closing prayer.