

Saint Edmund's Parish Pastoral Council

Draft minutes of a meeting held on 10th March 2023

Present: Father Vincent, Elizabeth Hitchens, Tony Matthews, Helen Murphy, Teresa Quinn, Brigid Rodgers, (Chair).
Paul Blake (Clerk).

Apologies: Tricia Davies, Kathleen Joyce, Christine Martin.

The meeting opened with a prayer at 7.10.p.m.

Minutes of meeting held on 1st December 2022.

These minutes were approved.

Matters arising from these minutes:

There was no further information regarding Father Michael Fountaine, the Parish Priest at Corsham and Chippenham leading a day for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.

A new list has been placed in the church porch seeking volunteers to act as readers or welcomers.

Ticket sales for the RISE Theatre production on 15th March 2023 have been relatively low.

Update on the Parish Project.

There were many prizes donated for the raffle for the Parish Project. A further raffle will take place later in the year. Donations made at the Lent Lunches and at the Lent Course will be given to the Parish Project.

Update on First Communion preparation programme.

The preparation programme for First Communions has started with some 6 or 7 children and their families. Sessions take place in the church hall at 10.00.a.m. on Sundays in March and at 11.00.a.m. on Sundays thereafter. Members felt it was a pity that sessions to be held at 11.00.a.m. on a Sunday in the church hall would deny candidates and families the opportunity to attend the Sunday Mass. Father Vincent agreed to speak to the catechists about this.

Plans for the meeting with the Headteacher of Saint Edmund's School.

The meeting is due to take place on Thursday 16th March 2023 at 4.15.p.m. Items to be discussed at this meeting will include availability of the school newsletters, the consultation regarding the school joining a Multi-academy Trust, preparation for the school's Section 48 denominational inspection, and ways in which the school and parish can work together.

What 'mission' for the parish might mean in practical terms.

The 'Terms of Reference' of the Parish Pastoral Council were referred to and circulated. It was agreed that one of each of the fourteen areas identified in the diocesan 'Called to be a People of Hope' document would be added to the agenda of each future meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council to be discussed.

It was noted that the Parent and Toddler group which had met on Wednesday mornings in the church hall was no longer meeting.

Items from Calne Partnership of Churches.

A new Methodist Minister is in place but at present there is no Minister at the Baptist church. Ecumenical Lent groups are meeting. No plans have been made for a specific Calne Partnership of Churches Good Friday 'Walk of Witness' but people are invited to join the 'Walk of Witness' at Cherhill on Good Friday. Tricia Davies has stood down as one of the parish representatives on the Calne Partnership of Churches.

Any other business.

Father Vincent reported that he had read that Communion under both kinds may be re-introduced soon. He is awaiting further information.

Transport to the Chrism Mass at Clifton Cathedral will be shared with Saint Anthony's Parish, Melksham.

Following the joint meeting with the Parish Pastoral Council of Saint Anthony's, Melksham arrangements have been made to support them with music.

Date of next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 25th May 2023 at 7.00.p.m. in the church hall.

The meeting ended at 8.10.p.m. with a closing prayer.