

# Minutes of the Pastoral Parish Council Meeting of St Cuthbert and the First Martyrs of Rome

held on Wednesday, July 19th 2017 at St Cuthbert's Unity Hall.

**Meeting commenced at** 5.30 pm

**Present:** Anne Balson (AB)-Chair, Yvonne Coppin (YC), Hermie Davy (HD), Mary Gilmartin (MG), Gregory Knowles (GK), Mick Moriarty (MM), Philip Walsh (PW), James Wierzbicki (JW), Christine Walker (CW) and Jo Geoghegan (JG)-Secretary.

**In Attendance:** David Somerville (DS)

## 1 Welcome and Opening Prayer

AB welcomed everybody to the meeting and asked Fr. Gregory to lead us in an opening prayer.

## 2 Apologies for Absence

Eileen Boyle (EB) Patricia Featherstone (PF) & Liz Firth (LF)

## 3 Minutes of meeting May 17<sup>th</sup> 2016

These were accepted as a true record, proposed YC, seconded by MG.

## 4 Matters Arising

None.

## 5 Property-PW

### Front Garden at St Cuthbert's Church

JW & DS have been clearing up the front garden at St Cuthbert's Church. MM suggested a small task force could be set up to cover this-4/5 people-to maintain it on a regular basis. J Morris and M Ellis have volunteered to join it. A request could go in the bulletin to request further volunteers. It was suggested that the Property Group should discuss the layout of the area to lesson future maintenance.

### First Martyrs' Kitchen

This needs clearing out as it seems to be being used as a dumping ground. YC will arrange a date with HD, AB, CW & EB to attend to this and arrange a thorough clean and clear out. The deposit is being raised on hiring charges to encourage users to clean up after an event.

### St Cuthbert's Hall bar storeroom

The storeroom is in need of a vigorous clear out with the agreement of its regular users.

### Disabled Access at First Martyrs

This item is ongoing with the Diocese.

## 6 Financial Summary-PW

A comparison report was tabled for the years 2015-16 and 2016-17; the summary shows that for the latter year income is down but so are expenses.

There is still a deficit. A drive on the use of the Gift Aid Scheme will take place in October.

## 7 Social Activities-MM

### Calendar of Events and Support for Good Causes

It was suggested that each event should be earmarked for a specific named cause. At the moment it is done on an Ad Hoc basis but parishioners might like to know what they are supporting by attending or even by suggesting themselves causes for support. This was agreed in principle by members and this would be put to the parish and the Open Meeting.

## 8 Parish Life

### Safeguarding

A safeguarding Officer has been appointed-Roxanna Drake. Low key upgrading will take place shortly. Notices will appear on noticeboards.

### Altar Servers

Gregory has this in hand.

Music at St Cuthbert This is an ongoing discussion from the last PPC meeting. With the retirement of Austin Pickering after long and faithful service there is little or no music at the Vigil weekend Mass. Occasionally Christine Walsh plays at St Cuthbert's. It would be appreciated if someone could play more regularly and it would be lovely if the Choir from First Martyrs' would sing and lead the singing sometimes too. It is envisaged that is would

### Action

MM

YC &  
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be instead of First Martyrs' rather than as well as it is understood that organ players and choir members have other commitments. This is not asking for something extra. It might encourage those attending St Cuthbert's regularly to join the Choir or there may be an organist just waiting to be asked! This is the single Parish of St Cuthbert's and the First Martyrs of Rome with two churches; it would be good to have music in both churches.

## 9 Pastoral Parish Council Formation

It was agreed that the annual Open Meeting for the past year would take place on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at First Martyrs' after the 10.30 am Mass. This year YC, LF, JW & PW are due to step down. All except LF are available for re-election if necessary. The Council should broadly represent groups within the parish and be able to report back on activities. It was pointed out that the two areas which need specific representation at this time are parish Music and Justice & Peace/Churches together. Each member present took away a nomination slip in an effort to ask parishioners if they would be able to join the Council. It was decided that the format for the Open Meeting would be in two parts: reports from groups activities and a short session for consultation with parishioners.

## 10 Group Reports

Rainbows/Brownies/Guides-LF still going strong, fewer members from our primary school so were at Church Parade. An increasing number of Muslim girls joining which makes for a diverse group. LF wishes to stepdown as leader due to personal commitments so a new leader is sought. Thanks were expressed to Liz for all she has done with young people in the Parish.

SVP Activities linked up with St William's Parish. In September there will be awareness raising weekend; as usual new members are needed and would be most welcome! There will be a Race Night to cover the district. All welcome; tickets will be on sale shortly. A trip to Salford Quays is arranged for 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2017; details are in the bulletin.

St Cuthbert's Players-TH via email

A panto "Snow White" was performed in April-players age range 5-85. This as well as the play about Bradfordian Margaret McMillan were well supported. The next show will be "Oliver" in early 2018.

Hospitality-no current report

UCM-MG MG reported that there was now formal UCM group but 4 'private' members carry on the usual activities. They had decided that the remaining money in the group's fund-£150-had been sent to the Diocesan Priests' Training Fund. The support of the Parish is much appreciated.

Children's' Liturgy CW The group has 12 members working on a rota. Number of children attending has gone down as has the age range but it works well and is very varied. The 'report-back' towards the end of Mass is most enjoyable!

Justice & Peace/Churches Together-DS The group met in May 2017. Gregory is investigating if the Parish could join the INN-CHURCHES scheme. Messy Church continues every half term. Toilet Twinning is in both church halls. Food Bank is well supported. Green Tip appears in the weekly newsletter. The local Council of Churches organised Holy Week ceremonies of Easter Sunday on Heaton Hill, Palm Sunday at Haworth Road Methodist Church with procession to FM. Early morning meditation took place at 4 churches including St Cuthbert's during Holy week as well as Lent group meetings. Pentecost was celebrated in Lister Park on 4<sup>th</sup> June. CAFOD lunches continue and Fair Trade continues with products sold every month. The Christian Aid collection raised £5,000.

Flower Team-YC

The team is as active as ever with fewer members. More members are needed. Thanks were expressed for the work of groups in our parish. Perhaps this could be recorded more regularly rather than just at Christmas.

## 11 Parent Training for the Bradford Deanery

A flyer had been received in the Parish about this and information would appear in the weekly bulletin.

## 12 Date & Place for the next Meeting

Parish Open Meeting at FM 30<sup>th</sup> July 2017

1<sup>st</sup> meeting for 2017-18 at FM 13<sup>th</sup> September at 5.30pm.

**Action  
AGM**

**AGM**

**Parish  
Secretary**