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

held on Sunday, July 12th 2015 in First Martyrs Hall.

1 Welcome and Opening Prayer
Tony Hanney (TH) welcomed everybody to the 8th Annual General Meeting of the Pastoral Parish Council and invited Fr Eamonn to lead us in prayer

2 Present
40+ parishioners registered as being present at the meeting. List available from the minute secretary.

3 Apologies for Absence
Liz Firth & Martin Walker.

4 Any Other Business to be discussed
Father Eamonn: Provision of Early Years' places & the new Parish Website.

5 Minutes of the Meeting of July 14th 2013
Tony Hanney (TH) outlined last year's minutes which were accepted as a true record: proposed Patrick Geoghegan (PG), seconded Yvonne Coppin (YC).

6 Review of the last 12 months

Finance: Philip Walsh (PW)
A summary was handed out by PW from accounts kept by Dick Stamp (DS) which showed a very similar picture to last year-a deficit of £12,058.29. Costs were more than last year due to repairs and maintenance although some of this has been offset by successful insurance claims. There are fewer Mass attendees this year but offertory collections have been maintained. Gas expenditure was less; this could be due to lower prices or timing of billing dates. The repository had had less income-a good stock held and bar income was lower due to less use of bar facilities.
Thanks were expressed to P W & D S for the preparation of these accounts.

Youth: Christine Walker (CW) and Liz Firth (LF)
CW: Children's Liturgy continues to prosper every Sunday in term time at the 10.30 Mass at First Martyrs'. 13 leaders work on a rota basis following the daily prayers and Gospel from the Kevin Mayhew Children's Liturgy book. A few toddlers attend but mostly it is children from Reception to Year 6 and a few Year 7s; the children are always eager to take part. Additional leaders are always welcome, no previous experience is needed. A Disclosure Baring Service Certificate is required.
LF: The Guides, Brownies and Rainbows are thriving with a positive inclusion of girls from outside the parish which makes for a diverse group. There are 4 adult leaders- Liz Firth, Clare Bussingham, Susan Mitchell & Emma Halfpenny together with young leaders Hannah, Lucy, Laura & Aneesa. The group has managed to remain financially solvent-just! This is because the parish has been very generous to them financially for which LF is very thankful and for the support and encouragement which Father Eamonn has given them. A range of activities has been undertaken; camping, Comic Relief fundraising, games evening, cooking, trips to local parks, archery and the annual water fight night. For some children the camp is the only holiday they might have; fees are kept low and the group try to help families whenever they can so that all girls get the same opportunities.
Thanks were expressed to CW & LF for these reports.

Flower Team: Yvonne Coppin (YC)
A small group of 11 works to arrange flowers in both churches for weekly services and for other events in the parish. The group will do flower arrangements for special occasions such as anniversaries for a small fee. The activity is quite time-consuming but enjoyable: buying flowers, preparation, arranging and

maintenance by regular watering. Mostly self-funded, the special collections at Christmas and Easter provide the main income. New arrangers, men included, are always welcome!
Thanks were expressed to YC and all the team for making the churches beautiful.

S.V.P: Philip Walsh
The S.V.P has 6 members and the membership is in need of rejuvenation! The group will help anyone in need-usually for reasons of poverty or loneliness-regardless of faith or none.
Thanks were expressed to the S.V.P. from the parish.

U.C.M: Mary Gilmartin (MG)
The Foundation within the parish has 4 members. There are no regular meetings but representatives attend diocesan meetings. They are involved in the 'Inn Churches Project for the Homeless', the Bradford Court and Hospital Chaplaincies, the Women's World Day of Prayer, the Easter Dawn Service on Heaton Hill, Safari Suppers, the parish Raffle and the annual pilgrimage to Walsingham. In August they will run the book sale in aid of the Sylvia Wright Trust in India, in October there will be the annual Rosary Day and the diocesan event 'Living with dementia', and in December the Christmas Baubles 'New to You' stall for the poor in Lima, Peru. The UCM appreciates the support of parishioners to enable this programme of activities to happen.
Thanks were expressed to the U.C.M. from the parish.

Coffee Morning and Kitchen: Mollie Somerville (MS) and Eileen Boyle (EB)
MS: Coffee Mornings after Masses and CAFOD Lunches in Lent, Advent and First Fridays are reported on regularly to each Parish Council Meeting. After expenses, money is sent to CAFOD
EB: Donations for coffee after deductions have raised £723.83 (TH has a copy of these receipts). Three items of expenditure are requested: non-slip flooring, a new hot water system and new pans in First Martyrs' kitchen. These are all urgent 'health and safety' needs. Peter Sherlock (PS) pointed out that Chordiality would like to make a donation to the parish and this could go towards these items. The proposal to fund these items with these donations was carried unanimously.
Thanks were expressed to those who are on the Coffee/Kitchen team and to Chordiality for their generosity and entertaining us with their excellent music throughout the year. A note of thanks should be made also to our organists at both churches and our choir for their music.

Social: Catherine Taylor
Catherine Taylor (CT) reported on successful activities both socially and augmenting parish funds, during the year with thanks to those who ran them-CT, EB and Steve Ingham (SI) and those who supported them. It would be satisfying to see a greater variety of people and numbers attending. A questionnaire, prepared by Mick Moriarty (MM), has been inserted in the weekly bulletin this weekend in order to try and ascertain the social needs of the parish. Collection points for completed forms would be provided at Masses next weekend. New people and ideas would be really welcome.
Our parish priest-to-be Father Gregory Knowles attended the BBQ last Sunday and expressed his interest in a socially interactive parish; he made the suggestion of a 'Murder Mystery' evening which he would be prepared to host.
Thanks were expressed to Catherine and her team and to those who attend events to make them a success.

Property: James Wierzbicki
There was a flood last August at St Cuthbert's which because of work done it is hoped it won't happen again! Lead Flashing has been replaced at St Cuthbert's too. Plans are still in hand to provide a barrier/gate to the entrance to the car park.
The wall and gate post at First Martyrs has been rebuilt after an accident.
Thanks were expressed to JW for his hard work in fixing building problems at both churches.

Outreach: David Somerville
David Somerville (DS) reported on the setting up of a Justice and Peace Group in the parish since April which has met several times. 15-18 members have attended and have set priorities to work on: isolation, peace and disarmament, climate change and food poverty with Central and Eastern Europeans. In June the group wrote bidding prayers and David and Mollie Somerville went on the climate change parliamentary lobby. LF and others organised a 'Messy Church' trial event, aimed at low-cost holiday fun for whole families with small children; it wasn't organised without difficulties with co-ordinating volunteers

and the availability of interpreters. Two further 'Messy Church' events are planned for the 1st (at First Martyrs) and 15th August (at Chellowfield Court). Speakers to the meetings have included John Battle of the Leeds Diocesan Justice and Peace Commission and Keith Thomson of the Metropolitan Food Bank. Charlene Henegan of the local police has joined the group. LF is hoping to take 2 young people to the Justice & Peace National Conference at Swanwick. The group tend to communicate by email but everybody is welcome to attend the meetings which are noted in the weekly parish bulletin.
DS also reported on the Council of Churches which has 10 member churches who have taken part in the following activities:
Racial Justice Sunday, Carol Singing in December in 3 areas, Inn Churches at St Paul's, Watchnight Service on December 31st at Trinity Methodist, Inn churches at St Martin's, Unity Services during Christian Unity Week in January, Lent house and church groups on different topics, Women's World Day of Prayer, Holy Week meditations and breakfasts, Easter Day Dawn Service on Heaton Hill, Safari Supper and house-to-house collections in Christian Aid week. The group run The Ark Charity Shop and help to manage the Manningham Project Advice Centre on Lumb Lane. Next year's plans include an Ascension Service at St Paul's and a 'Pentecost in the Park' at the bandstand in Lister Park.

Chair's Report: Tony Hanney
Tony reported with a snapshot of activities not mentioned elsewhere: Lantern Parade for the Guides & Brownies-October 2014, the parish pilgrimage to Liverpool-August 2014, Heritage Day at St Cuthbert's-September 2014, a successful November fayre, the October clean-up of the car park, Chordiality's annual Christmas Concert-December 2014, St Cuthbert's Players' production of 'Scrooge' in December 2014, January's outreach event for the homeless at St Martin's, St Patrick's night-March 2015, Parish Quiz, Bingo and the General Election Hustings. The Kumon group and a dance class have continued to hire St Cuthbert's Unity Hall on a regular basis. This year's pilgrimage in August is to York with Mass at the Bar Convent, a vist to Blessed Margaret's Shrine in the Shambles and Evensong at the Minster.

7 Council for 2015-14.
Mick Moriarty is to join the parish Council from September. 3 members were due to step down but it was agreed subject to then being willing that they should stay on as members.

8 Any Other Business
Fr Eamonn has been approached by Bradford Council who wants to provide Early Learning Years places for the under-2s in the area. It has been suggested that the former scout hut base would be a suitable site. The Diocese has been consulted and is in agreement with the plan but it wants the approval of the parish first. The proposal is to provide accommodation with facilities for 16 places for mornings and afternoon sessions Monday-Friday, term-time only with access from the car park. Father Gregory would have to be consulted and planning permission is needed. The known terms were discussed (e.g.10-year lease, run by tendered childcare providers, insurance needs) and it was agreed unanimously that it should go ahead after the fine detail has been examined.

Fr Eamonn also announced that the new parish website will be online later today.

Fr Eamonn expressed his thanks for all those people who do things for the parish. Without them there wouldn't be a parish! He also said that he had had 7 happy years in Heaton.
In conclusion Tony expressed a huge 'thank you' to Father Eamonn for being our Parish Priest for the last 7 years. Under his care he has helped the then newly-formed parish to grow and develop into what it is today. From these minutes it can be seen that it is truly alive. He has provided guidance for the parish to be a pastoral entity as well providing us with spiritual nourishment not only in the form of daily and Sunday Mases but with all the 'extras' such as the Lenten and Advent talks and the opportunities for the parish to reach out beyond itself. We wish him well in his new parish.

9 Date of the next meeting
October 14th at St Cuthbert's Unity Hall at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 12.54pm with a thank you to those attending.