

St. Aidan's Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes of Meeting held 16th September 2024, 7.00pm at St. Aidan's Presbytery

1. **In attendance:** John Hannacher, Fr Roy Karakkattu, Sue Finch, Vivianne Gattoc, David Curtis, Vince Smith, Peter Kirk, Deirdre Lay,

Apologies: Finbarr O'Donoghue, Debbie Rogers

2. **Prayer & Welcome:** JH welcomed everyone, and the meeting commenced with a prayer from Fr. Roy.
3. **Approval of Minutes of the last meeting:** The Minutes of the meeting held 17th June 2024, were approved, having been proposed by Peter Kirk and seconded by Susan Finch.

4. Ministry reports and discussion as necessary.

4.1 Finance – Sue Finch

1st Quarter End June, the figures are not correct there are entries that do not relate to St Aidan's. As such we are not able to report our figures for the end of Q1. SF will contact the Finance Office and ask for an explanation and for the numbers to be corrected.

4.2 Liturgy – Vince Smith

No major developments. The choir are holding regular practice sessions after Mass on the last Sunday of the month. We have been encouraging the older Youth to be on the AV. They will not be asked to go solo and there will always be an adult to take responsibility. Greydon is now a regular operator on a Sunday.

Fr Roy requested that we have 2 hymns for communion on a Sunday as there are often people still taking communion after the hymn has finished. It was agreed that Vince would talk to Tina re second hymn. It was also agreed that we would look into the use of hymns/music on CD's to support the music. This would be beneficial especially for Masses where we do not have a choir or musicians. Action VS and DL

New Lectionary will be used from the beginning of Advent. There will be handouts in November. Training has been given to Priests and Deacons and there will be training sessions held within the parish for Readers.

4.3 Formation

First Holy Communion classes are scheduled and begin in October. There will be 2 groups one for St Aidan's currently, 14 names on the list, and one for Our Lady's. The first parents meeting will take place in the hall on 30th September and will be run by Deacon David. First Holy Communion will take place on Saturday 10th May 2025 at 12noon.

4.4 Social & Cultural – Deirdre Lay

Feast of St Aidan Walk and BBQ held on 8th September was a great success. The weather was kind to us, no rain until we were clearing up at the end. Money coming in was £330.00. 80 attendees of which 60 were paying adults, plus £30 donations. Expenses £291.00. Tombola raised £237.00 and Raffle £109.00. Total raised £384.77. Congratulations were passed onto the team.

Quiz Night will be 15th November at Restore Restore Hope Latimer. Information will be given out mid-October.

4.5 **Maintenance – Finbarr O’Donoghue**

Trees – the Pine Trees that needed felling have been taken down and removed. Thanks given to JH for organising.

Drains – Full survey of Drains to be arranged – DL

Gutters – the gutters have a lot of ‘greenery’ growing in them and need clearing. MKWS came out but unfortunately could not do the job as the person did not have the correct equipment. We asked for a quote and new date to be supplied but as yet not received. DL to follow up

Tarmac – Fr Roy has had 2 quotes for the replacement of tarmac from the entrance across the front to the hall and the driveway. O’Hara’s also quoted but unfortunately we were unable to open the quote. This will be followed up. It was felt that it might be too late in the year to do the resurfacing but that it would be worth going to the diocese for the approval.

Lighting in the Church several of the up and down lights in the church have gone and need replacing. Maz has recommended that we change to LED lights. The initial cost will be considerably higher but saving on replacing the bulbs and electricity will be noticeable. It was agreed that we should go ahead. Fr Roy

Emergency Lighting in the Hall Maz has quoted to upgrade the emergency lighting in the hall, replace lights that are no longer working and upgrade the sensor in the Ladies toilet and carry out an EICR on the fixed electrical wiring. Cost £676.48. It was agreed to accept the quote and ask Maz to go ahead - DL

4.6 **Ecumenical – Vivianne Gattoc**

The next meeting will be on 24th September. Remembrance Service and Carols on the Green will be discussed and plans shared.

4.7 **Youth**

Flame 2025 will be on 15th March. David will ask Debbie to inform our youth that are eligible to attend, to consider doing so, especially the Altar Servers. NYMO have 100 tickets and Deacon David will enquire to the availability for our use.

Children’s Mass 24th December – Brian Gallagher has agreed to lead the children this year and will be helped by Sharon and Sunith Dsouza who will hopefully agree to take over going forward.

4.8 **Pastoral Area Council – Peter Kirk**

Day for Priests was held in Luton on the 4th July. Brendan Gearing gave a talk about well-being and building a sense of fraternity in the clergy.

Youth Ministry Worker is being recruited between our 4 parishes. There will be a fixed venue for all events.

Next meeting will be held on 24th September.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Thurible Stand – Jim Jenkins is currently making a thurible stand, his work is finished, and it now needs to be chrome coated.

Garden of Remembrance Listing – Jim will shortly start on the notice board to hold the list of those whose ashes are in the memorial garden. This will be an alphabetical list.

Chalice - we have been left a legacy which will be used to purchase a new chalice. Fr Roy has been looking at options.

Family Fast Day in October, Brian Gallagher will do the appeal at both Masses.

Safeguarding - should be an integral part of the PPC and as such Eileen will be invited to join future PPC meetings.

Next Meeting will be on 2nd December 2024