

Our Lady of Lourdes Pastoral Parish Council

14th January 2019 –Our Lady of Lourdes Pastoral Centre

Membership: President: Father Patrick Sammon; Chair: Fiona Christison; Vice-Chair: Frank Adesehga; Secretary: Lisa Affleck; Members: Elizabeth Marks, Cathy Francis, Philippe Freund, Jonathan Blakesley, Anne Marie Fox, Augusta Joseph, Michaela Mouquet, Jane Smith (Social Committee Rep), Bernie Dando (Health & Safety)

Opening Prayer.

1. **Apologies for absence/membership:** Apologies received from Elizabeth Marks, Cathy Francis, Jane Smith & Jonathan Blakesley.
Michaela Mouquet was also welcomed as a new member of the committee.
Lisa to add Michaela & Bernie to PPC WhatsApp group
2. **Minutes of last meeting & matters arising:** Minutes of the last meeting were approved. Action points discussed as follows:
 - Bernie not present to report back on Health & Safety – to be covered at next meeting. Lisa to ask Bernie status of First Aid training
 - Hands-on Columbia has now been confirmed as the CAFOD group's current project
 - Augusta advised Father Pat about the parish in Poland, which was discussed at the last meeting. She will raise the subject again if/when the parish organise a visit to London
 - RCIA update from Father Pat – Judith Francis now running the programme. Only 3 people attend the course this year, which is less than usual
 - Cashless giving – the Finance Committee met with the providers. It would be more complicated to install than previously thought. Bob Fox looking into options
 - Winter night shelter for homeless – Lisa & Michaela advised that it is up and running and that quite a few members of the parish were included on the volunteer rota. The shelter will run once a week at Christchurch until the end of March. So far there have been 15-20 guests each night, with a food and bedding provided
3. **CAFOD Report:** Pat Pugh to provide update at next meeting
4. **Social Committee update:** In Jane's absence, she sent the following update:
 - Upcoming dates:
 - 1 Feb Gospel Choir
 - 14 March Quiz
 - 12 April Easter Bonnet & Raffle
 - 16 May Ball
 - 27 June Car Boot Sale
 - 27 Sept Cake Sale (plus more planned for the year, dates TBC)
 - 10 Oct Music event (TBC)
 - 21/22 Nov Craft Fayre
 - Dec Christmas Raffle
 - ABBA night great success – profit of £1777. It was held at the Cricket Club & felt worthwhile to hold events outside of parish centre

- Autumn Fayre – profit £2464, down on last year by £250. More money was made on the Sat night, not many attended on the Sunday
The school fayre was held at the same weekend, so this could have had an impact. Those present felt that this could definitely have affected the church fayre. Fiona to give date of next year's fayre to school PTA to ensure a clash doesn't happen this year
- Christmas Raffle raised £960, roughly same as last year

5. Health & Safety Report: Bernie to provide full report at next meeting

Father Pat advised that the tiles in the Sanctuary of the church are either lifting or sinking. A company is due to assess them and provide a quote

6. Sacramental Programmes update:

- Father Pat advised that this year is the Year of the Word of God, which will be a theme through Lent and Advent
- The house group hosted by Ann Marie is going very well
- Lisa advised that youth club continues to go well. Numbers have dropped, but that is usual for this time of year compared to the busy first term. Bowling trip planned for February
- Michaela advised of an upcoming climate initiative from 5-29 Feb when a green heart can be filled in with a pledge and then sent to the local MP requesting that they match with their own pledge. She suggested that the parish could be asked to join in – Lisa to look into it
- Michaela provided a report on her role as Catechetical co-ordinator. Highlights as follows:
 - **Baptism:** Core team of 3 who provide bi-monthly courses. 12 families currently on programme
 - **Children's Liturgy:** Michaela has taken over the rota. Liturgy runs for 3-7 year olds every Sunday during term time
 - **First Holy Communion:** Programme started in September, there are currently 60 candidates. The programme is very short of catechists – it has dropped from 12 to 6 adults. The PPC were asked to encourage other parishioners to come forward for this important ministry
 - **Confirmation:** 36 young people in Year 10 are on the programme; 9 were readers at the Christmas carol concert; 35 attended the retreat at Walsingham House. The group will meet most Sundays at 4.30pm leading up to Pentecost
There has been significant interest from the young people to join BCYS at Lourdes in the summer. PPC members asked the cost of this and it was agreed that it would be a shame for the cost to prevent anyone from going. It was suggested that the PPC fundraises to support the cost of the trip
 - **Advent prayer talks:** 3 talks organised during Advent, which were well attended. Resources were also published on the parish social media accounts
 - **Creation Celebration Mass:** organised by 3 people – special items were provided for the offering at Mass along with tailored bidding prayers. The school CAFOD group also presented some posters they had prepared. Fairtrade teas & coffees were served after Mass with homemade cakes - £40 proceeds were donated to CAFOD. A good number of signatures was also gathered on a CAFOD environmental petition to the government
 - **National Youth Sunday:** Michaela organised speakers at the Masses and set up a display illustrating the provision made for young people in the parish

7. Update on Parish partnerships:

- Meeting due on Thursday with Father Dominic to progress idea of shared youth leader
- Steven Webb to be invited to next PPC meeting for discussion of future of partnership

8. Syria project: Michaela provided the following update:

- The project is proceeding well at Christchurch. 3 members of our parish are on the committee of 12. They will be overseeing Education, English as second language & Benefits. Once these areas require assistance of more than 1 person, they will reach out to the parish for volunteers
- £2k has so far been raised by our parish
- A family will be allocated from a refugee camp by July

9. PPC projects: The following projects were discussed:

Disco for primary age children – The date of Saturday 28th March 3-5pm was set. Disco to be open to all primary age children; tickets to be sold on a first come first served basis, at least 1 adult to stay at disco to supervise their own children.

It was agreed that funds raised from the event would go towards the Confirmation group's BCYS Lourdes trip (see item 6)

Fiona to organise a meeting for PPC members to proceed with organising the event

CAFOD *livesimply* Award – Discussed in the last meeting during Pat & Chris' CAFOD visit. The PPC agreed to begin working towards this award. Lisa to contact Pat Pugh to ask her how she would like to proceed

10. Any Other Business: None to be discussed

11. Dates of Next Parish Council Meetings:

- Tuesday 28th April, 8pm in the Pastoral Centre
- Tuesday 22nd September, 8pm in the Pastoral Centre
- Tuesday 15th December, 8pm in the Pastoral Centre
- *Informal meetings TBA for Steven Webb discussion & disco*

12. Closing Prayer.

Summary of Actions

Action	Name
Investigate whether parish centre lighting could be fitted with sensors, to make energy usage more efficient	Bernie
Consider an awning for buggies as an alternative to buggy huts	Bernie
First Aid training to be organised	Bernie (Lisa to ask for update before next mtg)
Michaela & Bernie to be added to PPC WhatsApp group	Lisa
Advise Suzi Harnett of date for church Autumn Fayre (21/22 Nov) to avoid clash with school fayre	Fiona
Steven Webb to be invited to next PPC meeting	Ann-Marie
Green Heart climate campaign	Lisa
Encourage parishioners to come forward to assist with FHC programme	All members
CAFOD <i>livesimply</i> award	Lisa to discuss with Pat Pugh
Primary school disco 28 th March – organise planning meeting	Fiona