

Minutes of the Isle of Wight Pastoral Council 22nd September

Present:

Fr Gerard, Fr Anthony, , Fr PJ, Sister Stella, Rev Peter Doran, Diane Blake, Jack Perkins, Kevin McGuigan, Maureen Briscoe, Pete Walkden (Vice Chair), Yvonne Rowles, Dominic FitzPatrick (Chairman), Alistair Drain (Secretary), Angela Hewkin.

Apologies:

Fr Luke, Fr Brian, Fr Michael, Sister Bernadette, Eve Pollon, Lorraine Blair, Maria de la Portilla, Michael White, Rosamond Poncia.

1. Opening Prayer

The meeting was opened with prayers and a reading.

2. Welcome to Fr PJ

Fr PJ was warmly welcomed to the meeting and his new ministry on the Island.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting, matters arising.

The minutes of the meeting held on 21st July were approved and signed after the minutes had been amended to state in section 7, "*Janice and Michael Douse have agreed to join in with the Spirituality Group*".

4. Draft Diocesan Guidelines

- PAPC Representation and Constitution.

A discussion on the future role, purpose and "make-up" of the PAPC followed using the summary of the Draft Diocesan Guidelines for Pastoral Councils. There was a wide and challenging debate as it was known that the Bishop didn't favour a constitution or the need to have membership by election, from the local parish councils. After much discussion it was agreed that there must be a "*strong local group*" in each worshipping community and that the PAPC should continue "*to lead, co-ordinate and fashion*" the pastoral mission on the island. It was also agreed that communications still needed to be improved and the PAPC would strive to do this.

5. One Parish Enterprise Progress

- Communications/Website/Newsletter.

The group were introduced to Mary Ransom who had worked on the website and the newsletter. The newsletter had stalled awaiting decisions about the cost and quality of the final print product. The council were of the view that they wanted a professional looking piece of literature, as it was considered to be a *Pastoral Priority*. It was agreed

that Mary should bring some “mock-ups” to the next meeting so that an informed decision could be made. Alistair would report the feelings of the PAPC to the Treasurers Group.

- Pastoral Area Day

The pastoral Area Day has now been deferred till next spring; as yet a new date has not been confirmed.

- Parish Council Congress

A new date has been agreed on 11/12/10 at Verbum Dei. Fr Gerard said it would be good to invite the Island Treasurers Group, *(this idea was later changed as it was felt the numbers would get too large)*. The meeting will be used to discuss how to improve communications between the different groups and the wider catholic community.

- Youth Day.

Pete Walkden outlined the plans for the “*GENER 8*” youth day on the 17th October at Christ the King College. He distributed posters and said how he had been working closely with the school to generate interest. He also said that for next year there were some preliminary plans to invite a “Rapping Priest” called Fr Stan Fortuna from the USA. Pete said he would prepare a budget and programme for a future meeting.

- Feedback to be given to the Diocesan Pastoral Council (October).

Dominic will provide feedback at the October meeting.

6. Notes from the Co-ordinating Pastor

Fr Gerard again welcomed Fr PJ. He then informed the Council that a second “joint School” has opened. St Francis Catholic and Church of England School will have its official opening on 4/10/10.

7. Report on the Treasurers Group

All worshipping communities were now sharing details of their budgets and working within the agreed “Budgeting Principles”.

8. Worshipping Communities

This item was deferred due to lack of time however, should any community have an event that needed all island support, would they notify either the Chairman or Secretary to help with publicity.

9. Spirituality Group

Sister Bernadette and Gary May will meet with Michael and Janice Douse to discuss the work of the Spirituality Group. It is hoped that with their efforts and prayers of those involved that this group will become very active in the future. Michael Douse, whom was attending the meeting, used the opportunity to inform the Council that an afternoon tea was being arranged at Springhill Convent on the 19th October in support of Vocations, all were welcomed and encouraged to attend.

10. Disability Representative

It was agreed that the Fr. Gerard would ask Ann Thorpe if she would become the Pastoral Area representative for Disability fellowship.

11. Honour Village

Fr Gerard briefly outlined the work being done by Sue Wiggans in Cambodia. She would be returning to the island next March and would be speaking about her project in schools. Fr Gerard also agreed to provide Fr Anthony with her email details as he would like to learn more about the project.

12. Street Pastors

Fr Anthony agreed to research further the work of the street pastors and report back.

Date of the next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 30th November at Ryde Parish.

Chairman