



HOLY CROSS PASTORAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 13th March 2019

ATTENDEES:

Fr. P.C. President
C.W. Chair
V.F. Secretary
R.T.
D.B.
B.F.
S.H.
E.H.
K.S
Z.B.
A.H.
J.C.
O.B.

APOLOGIES:

S.C.
M.H.
M.U.
G.F.

MINUTES

Opening prayer was followed by apologies and approval of the Minutes of the last meeting held on 12th December, 2018. It was agreed that the Minutes were a true and correct interpretation of the meeting.

CW welcomed members of the Finance Committee who were in attendance to look at the tenders submitted for the Disabled Toilet building work.

Matters Arising

WF asked if a control could be added to the heating system but it had been dismissed by the previous PP as there had been risk of tampering. Comments were made on the great improvement to the gardens with the addition of grassed areas.

POINTS FOR DISCUSSION

Plant & Buildings

Allan Joyce architects had drawn up plans which were sent out to four different builders to tender.

Any building work has to be approved by the Buildings and Sites committee for the diocese. Their report was read out by Fr. Paul and approved. Ashfield Borough Council will be informed when the building starts.

EH pointed out the drain is not where it is marked on the plan. He suggested a better position where the water supply can be accessed more easily. EH did not have to divulge this information but did so in the best interest of the parish. He passed this to the architects who informed all other companies involved. In the architect's opinion all companies are sound and financially secure. Hanson's have done work within the parish to a very high standard in the past. The lowest quote submitted was without VAT.

Quotes with VAT were as follows:

Tanbry	£23,870.40
Cyfren	£26,759.20
Hansons	£32,841.90
McCane	£35,616.00

This is a high specification job and is to include all fixtures and fittings. Drawings and specifications have been submitted to the diocese but not the tenders. It is the duty of the PPC to give their honest opinion. O.B. who is an estimator by profession pointed out that the PPC should consider assumptions made in the quotations as additional costs could be applied during the building work.

AH voiced his concern that this was the first sight the finance committee had had of the tenders as they had only been received the day before the meeting and requested an adjournment for all attendees to have time to look at them. This was agreed and an extraordinary meeting of the PPC was set for Tuesday 26th March. Members of the finance committee were then excused and the meeting continued.

Planning the Future of our Parish

Dave Wells was a teacher in our diocese and is now an International speaker. He had agreed to speak on three priorities; Encounter, Discipleship, and Missionary Discipleship. CW has written concise notes

for us. This is a challenge for us to show presence in our parish and community and reflects on what our bishop and the Pope say. This is a good way of grounding us and will bring spiritual renewal in our diocese.

'In Retrospect' Report

The final paragraph of Dr. Graham Foster's history of the parish was circulated. There are challenges ahead. In our discussions about the way forward, clustering, merging, can we hang on to our identity? Fr. Paul had attended an Extraordinary Deanery meeting with the Nottingham parishes under the Dean. How to look after clergy and get support to ensure services are continued was discussed.

Planning for the Future of our Parish

There used to be two Deaneries in the Nottingham area covering Nottingham East and Nottingham West. The Bishop has created one big Deanery comprising 17 parishes. There is a meeting tomorrow 14th March to see how it is going to work. The number of priests will decrease dramatically within the next few years with at least 6 fewer priests than we have currently. Meetings are taking place to look at the various scenarios. It is unlikely the bishop will be able to supply a replacement to this parish when a priest retires. This will mean a reduction in Masses once two parishes have been linked. The two parishes will need to collaborate and services will be shared. Parishioners will need to be able to travel. When Living Stones was published it was proposed that we were linked with Eastwood, but the view is now that it would be more appropriate for Hucknall to be linked with Bulwell. Transport links would work better and a decision will be made within the next few years. K.S. suggested lay people should undergo skills training to ensure we have guidance and support to help us with advance planning. Members of the PPC to attend Deanery meetings when appropriate. Proposals to be thrashed out by the clergy and presented to the parish. By the end of this year we need something definite to put before the people. All our parishes have capable people to look after finance, liturgy and health and safety issues. We need to identify gaps and work in partnership with the Parish Priest. Fr. Paul said priests don't turn down good ideas and we need to put our trust in the PPC.

Liturgy & Worship

Holy week and Easter Liturgies are powerful as they are and therefore will be more or less the same as last year.

The Procession of Witness on Good Friday is to be advertised in the Newsletter as well as an appeal for donations for flowers.

Lenten Review – Social Outreach

K.S. has been nominated by Father Paul to submit a response. We need to reach out to the poor and marginalised and recover a social outreach. K.S. also suggested we should all be supporting the Lunch Club, Churches Together, the Justice and Peace Commission and to create a Town of Sanctuary in Hucknall. All suggestions of how this can be taken forward should be sent to K.S. It was also suggested that an appeal for one tin of food be brought in by each parishioner each month for the Food Bank.

Boundary Wall

The firm commissioned by the car showroom next to the church car park are disputing there is a problem. A copy of a letter sent by the diocese has been submitted and legal proceeding may follow if they do not comply.

RCIA

The director of the RCIA, Julia Palmer has retired and the vacancy is to be filled. The bishop has requested thoughts from the parish as to what goes into the job description. Ideas about what is need to support their work of evangelisation, catechesis and adult faith education etc. in writing to Fr. Paul please.

AOB

Engage Gifts – have appealed for help with the rent for their premises, which has been advertised in the weekly newsletter and on a poster at the back of church. It was agreed that it is good to have a Christian presence in Hucknall. It was requested that attendees read and feedback.

An extraordinary meeting of the PPC will take place in the Meeting Room at 7.30 p.m. Tuesday 26th March 2019 to select a company to carry out the building work required to provide a disabled access toilet in the narthex.

C.W. thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed.