
Minutes of meeting of the Parish Coordinating Group, 26 May 2009

Present : Fr Kieron O'Brien – chair
Fr Royston Pegley, Susan Line, Geoff Breeze, Marion Coombes-Shrubb, Brian Pointer, Ged Lavery, Finola Brennan
Rebecca Slevin

1. Prayer & welcome

2. Apologies

Dot Leaver

3. Minutes of last meeting

◦ News from the Churches – Bosham

§ Correction: Garden event is a luncheon not a supper.

§ Children's mass is being postponed to the Autumn as no appropriate date could be found before the holidays.

◦ News from the Churches – St Richard's

§ Bookings for the Walsingham trip are about to close. The cost of the coach has been covered.

◦ Matters arising – Youth Worker

§ This is being pursued. Becky Monteith, Martin Downy, Marion Coombes-Shrubb and Fr Kieron are meeting on 14 July.

4. Matters arising

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5. News from the Churches

◦ St Peter's

§ The school run starts next week, running three days per week. 12 users at present, more due in September.

§ The bus may also be used to take a trip to Arundel for the Carpet of Flowers.

◦ Bosham

§ £568.38 raised by the Barn Dance; £275 from the Safari Supper.

§ Total of £33.5K is now available for project.

§ A MAD subgroup is writing terms of reference for the group.

6. Follow-up from Parish Meeting

Feedback received:

- SL: query from a parishioner who did not feel that it was a really open meeting – with opportunities for questions etc. Also she would have like to have received a statement of accounts. In particular she would like to know why there were fees of £22K for work costing only £50K.

§ Fr Kieron: The accounts are usually published by the time the Parish meeting is held but this year they have not yet been published, which is why there were not available at or before the meeting. They will be published shortly.

- SL: query from parishioner: could the pillars in the Chapel be restored to their original gold?
 - § Fr Kieron: Only one could be restored (in the centre of the chapel); in theory this could be restored but it was clad to match the rest.
- SL: query from parishioner: glass doors at the back of the nave – would they really allow more light into the Church? Parishioner feels it is more important to open up the transept.
 - § Fr Kieron: The basilica plan additions to the Church would achieve the opening up of the transept but funding is needed for that.
 - § The glass doors are for visibility and welcome etc, not for light.
 - § In answer to the earlier point: the fees of £22K were for the complete plans, not just for the work already done, which is why they were so high.
- SL: from parishioner: is the repository closing and why?
 - § Fr Kieron: possibility is relocation not closure and would in Phase II/III, to allow for the larger narthex.
- Fr Kieron: with regards to Phase II/III in general, Fr Kieron stated that he does not feel there is sufficient support within the parish for the necessary funds to be raised at present.
- BP: comments received regarding the format of the meeting, which was felt to be too controlled, with no chance for discussion.
- The PCG discussed the possibility of a forum style meeting in addition to the normal parish meeting. The forum would be an opportunity for discussion though not for decision making and could potentially take place shortly before next year's parish meeting.
- Fr Kieron: Cabrini – Fr Kieron restated that the Parish meeting was not the appropriate time for full discussion for the issues surrounding support for Cabrini but there will be a debate held on the subject later in the year. A representative from Cabrini will attend; a chair and a representative to present the other side of the argument are needed.
 - § Action: BP to follow up possibility of Canon Fogarty as second representative.

7. Hilary Parsons' Mass

- Fr Kieron: There have been some problems with resourcing of the liturgy but these should be resolved shortly. An order of service will be produced. Catering has been organised. A gift is needed – possibly a picture and a charity gift?

8. St Paul Celebration

- 29 June, 7.30 at St Peter's.
- BP: Marysia Dembinski is compiling a list of people who participated in the Lent Course, so that invitations can be sent.
- Fr Kieron to celebrate the mass; reader and minster from each Church is needed.
- Susan will liaise with Linda Jolly regarding music.
- 'Bring a plate' style shared supper – will be indicated on the invitations.
- Brian will put a notice in the Newsletter this week.
- Invitations to be sent next week.
- Liturgy will be that of the Feast of SS Peter and Paul.

9. Deanery Course

- BP: a meeting is coming up and the 6-week course will be starting in October, aimed at catechists, potential catechists and others who are interested. Potential leaders have been identified. This 6-week course will be content based. In the new year, the second module will be run; it will focus on the practice of catechisis and will be based on a course used for 6th formers at St Philip Howard school, adapted for use with adults. The course is likely to be held at SPH school.

10. Parish mass & picnic

- Fr Kieron: Penny Finn and team are organising setup for the mass and picnic. The event will also be an open day for St Richard's School. The 1st Communion children will receive their certificates during the mass. The event has been advertised in the Newsletter already and a flyer will appear in the Newsletter soon.

11. AOB

- SL: query received from a parishioner regarding school admissions: why has there not been more action on expansion, double classes, portacabins etc.
 - § Fr Kieron: the School cannot fix this problem on its own – the Local Authority and the Diocese are also involved. There have been discussions with both bodies this year but the LA is not supportive of expansion for St Richard's because other schools in the city are undersubscribed.
 - § There were 9 appeals by parents whose children did not get places this year; all were found in the School's favour. While this is not necessarily 'right,' it does validate the School's admissions procedure.
 - § BP: the parents who appealed are taking their case to the Schools Adjudicator, to challenge the School's net capacity assessment.
 - § Based on the size of the site, only one more classroom could be built; even if this were done and the other room previously used were turned back into a classroom (it is currently used as an inclusion room), this would not provide space for an extra class in every year of the School so is not a useful solution.
 - § Baptism figures no longer allow for accurate prediction of school places needed.
 - § A Church school in the Witterings is not likely to be created soon as the existing non-Church school in the Witterings is undersubscribed.
 - § The School may hold an open meeting to explain the admissions and capacity situation.
- MC-S: A member of the MAD committee has mentioned their disappointment that the School fête was not in the Newsletter.
 - § SL: the School did not give details to the Parish office until after that week's Newsletter had been printed.
- BP: RCIA has finished for this year. There are five potential candidates for next year.

Next meeting: 30 June, Bosham.