**St. Francis Parish Council Meeting Minutes**

13 June 2019

Attendees: Philip MacDonald (PMcD, Chair); Father Kevin (Fr. K); Sue Roche (SR); Tony Berkeley (TB); Jonathan Kasinski (JK); Paul Worthington (PW); Tom Cornish (TC); Erin Conte (EC)

Apologies: Kate Camp

AP= Action point

1. Meeting started with a reading of the Gospel of John –wisdom is the pre-existent Christ; as this reading speaks of the coming of the Holy Spirit, we think about how even before Jesus and the Holy Spirit came to us, all God’s wisdom was in place to
2. **P MacD**
   1. discussion of previous meeting’s minutes which were amended to reflect the blessing of the animals during the St. Francis weekend will not be during mass that weekend but at a separate time
   2. **TB** has a few extra business points to add that will require a time slot for purposeful discussion—AOB to add at the end of the meeting
3. **FR. K** Report
   1. Confirmation and communion season coming to a close
      1. Children have been giving a lot of thought to their confessions
      2. Grateful to all who have helped with both programmes
      3. We have come of Easter season into ordinary time with a lot to look forward to
   2. We have received the date for the Bishop’s visit: **Tuesday, 15 October @ 7:30**—Bishop would like this to be simple liturgy rather than a mess to dedicate the new window
      1. 1 hour in length maximum with opportunity to meet and greet after
      2. **P MacD**—can we have the maker of the window present?
      3. **Fr K.—**can we have external lighting for the window to show it off as it will likely be dark at this time?

Father will be going to visit the Bishop in September at New Place in Hampshire

* + 1. **PW**—the windows of the church tell a story—are there brochures available for this?

**Fr K.-** there was a book but should look for it; we can put something together

**SR**- there definitely are brochures for the coloured windows somewhere

**AP--Should the Stonor Family be invited to Bishop’s visit?**

1. **P MacD**.: Previously, TB raised issue of mission to young people—what more can be done?

Historically (18 months ago), there was discussion of youth officer across deanery but couldn’t go ahead—not aware if that’s coming up again

**SR**- Wendy had a brochure through for events in our immediate area but there are time clashes and the events are ecumenical

1. **Fr.K**- first heard of it when someone came to the door with a flyer a week ago stating that Sacred Heart in Sunningdale was going to host this event along with 2 Anglican churches in Sunninghill and Sunningdale

🡪 What’s the purpose of these events?

* First one is tomorrow; assuming it’s weekly after that

1. **PMacD**- if there is someone in area willing to put the effort into running a young persons’ initiative, even if it’s cross-denominational, we should get involved

**SR**- Wendy has seen young people’s events through Portsmouth Diocese—we have the info so it’s what we want to do with it

**TB**—St. Joseph’s runs a weekly club—we need to have someone attend and borrow their best practices

**PMacD**—we need someone who can coordinate this and organise it—KC has mentioned that her children might be interested in attending Sacred Heart group—if so, could they find out more about it for us?

**TB**—put out something for kids who would like to join youth group

**PW**- get people together in a quorum and have them decide themselves what they want a youth group to be

**PMacD**—other parishes have halls which we don’t; check other groups and see if anyone from our parish already goes there (St. Joseph’s)

**AP--**Look at whether the interest justifies the demand

**AP--** Have that conversation with Kate to see what her children are interested in doing

**PMacD** has connections at St. Joseph’s from SVP that can help him ID who coordinates in other places to see what they have to say

**TC**—need to figure out age needs first

**JK**—should have a 3 year maximum age span between groups

**PMacD**—suggestion from before that confirmation group should/could be a focus group or be a carry-on group

**SR**—use that group but it’s only for a short time before they go away again

**TB— AP—**speak to Michele at confirmation group to see if she can pull in interests of the children

**AP**—find out what other parishes are doing

**AP—**find out what the Sacred Heart events are

**AP—**SR to talk to Michele and see about working with confirmation group—set up a reunion and/or social with those children to talk to them about what they’d like the parish to do for them

1. **PMacD**--2020 Year of the Bible
   1. Bishop’s latest pastoral letter outlines a few things the diocese will do (copies of this letter distributed to council)
   2. Should we start to think about how we would engage with the initiative?
   3. Suggestions:
      * 1. would the parish sponsor class set of Bibles to the school?
        2. Running Bible study days?
        3. Special days and events for readers
        4. Fr. K’s in-house talks

**FrK**— What’s the objective?

What will the diocese provide?

Bible Alive! and Day by Day materials explain scriptures

**TB**—Fr. Adrian used to have focussed retreats if this is something we could consider doing; what is interesting is trying to relate the Bible to modern-day

**PMacD**—want to enrich Liturgy of the Word through this initiative

**PW**—in South Africa, 2nd Vatican Council was very in favour of anthropologists checking the accuracy of Biblical translations

-there is a newer version of the Bible printed in US to reflect these translations

-Is there a Bible that is particularly favoured?

**EC**—just need to be careful in choosing a particular Bible version as different groups promote different Bibles to further agendas based on the strictness/leniency of the interpretations

1. **PMacD**—Parish 130th Anniversary

Updates:

* 1. Still getting responses from service coordinators—going to send a 2nd email advising that not every parish group will need to have a table w/ a big display but we still would like each group to be identifiable
  2. Would be good to get a little working group meeting together
     1. PMacD isnt’ back from holiday until 21/9
     2. SR to lead
     3. TB will lead on budget
  3. Wine sponsorship is handled

**SR**—timings—Angela McCarthy and school choir would be interested—should we look at 6:30 onwards?

**PW**—a lot will depend on catering

**TB**—is sub-committee to grain back a draft programme. => **YES**

**--**need another person for the sub-committee—TC? KC?

**SR--** in sub -committee—need to see what is being done and contact people in charge of each element

**PMacD**—set up a to-do list first

--school hall is booked for **Friday and Saturday**

--**Saturday** —show film in the hall

--2 possible films—Brother Sun, Sister Moon (1970s film about St. Francis)

--**Sunday** --afternoon pet blessing

**PW**—endorses film as it focusses on Francis’s charity

* Reminder that a few Franciscans were to be invited to the Saturday mass so timings for film must be considered if the mass runs long

**Fr. K**—Bishop’s visit is a final extension of 130th anniversary and shouldn’t be looked at in isolation

**Next Meetings: 24/9, 19/11**

1. **AOB—TB**
   1. Resurfacing of the car park—discussed
   2. Annual report w/ accounts published—was supposed to happen last January
      1. Want to put 2-3 lines in the newsletter with cost and income lines to keep up transparency
   3. Suggest bereavement group to come to Parish Council meeting to see if they need training to better support those who need it
      1. **PMacD**—probably can’t get this in before November meeting

Meeting ended with a prayer and blessing.