

ST PETER'S PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 8 JUNE 2015 IN THE PARISH ROOM

Present

Monsignor Kerr (President)	Stephen Dolan	Roger Eggins
Peter Nicholson (Chairman)	Trish Dolan	Jacqueline Heron
John Wastle (Secretary)	Mark Dorrian	Ian Stewart
Alan Chudziak		

Introduction

1. The Chairman explained that a short ordinary business meeting to wind up the Council's 2014-15 Session would be followed immediately by the Annual General Meeting. He extended a warm welcome to those parishioners who were attending for the AGM:

Margaret Addly	Joyce Cullen	Ann Royan
Liz Brown	Eileen McCamley	Bruce Royan
Alex Cameron		

Apologies

2. Apologies were received from Council members Agnes Dolan, Anne Donnelly and Paul Gilmour; and from Josephine Beech-Brandt.

Opening prayer

3. Mgr Kerr led those present in the Parish Pastoral Council Prayer.

Minutes of the meeting on 13 April 2015 and matters arising

4. The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

5. The following matters arising from the minutes were addressed:

- paragraph 4 - the print version of the parish directory had been distributed to parishioners after Mass on 10 May; copies are available in the stand at the back of church
- paragraph 4 - procedures for receiving newcomers to the parish are currently being drafted
- paragraphs 7-9 - the meeting noted that, while a great deal of time-consuming work had been done by the Council's sub-groups in collating and analysing the responses gathered in the parish survey taken in November 2013, no substantive report had yet been made to the parish. It was agreed that a draft report should be available for consideration at the next PPC meeting on 14 September [**Action: Chairman**].

Organisation of parish clusters in the Archdiocese

6. The Secretary reported on developments since the last PPC meeting on 13 April (paragraph 5 of the minutes). As planned, an open meeting had been held in the parish room on 22 April, with 31 parishioners attending. As recorded in the note of the meeting, the discussion was wide-ranging and constructive and formed the basis of a comprehensive letter (dated 4 May 2015) to the Archbishop in response to the proposals in his letter of 10 January 2015. Copies of the note of the meeting and the letter were distributed to parishioners at Sunday Mass on 10 May, and were also posted in the parish room and on the website.

7. The Archbishop sent a short letter of acknowledgement on 15 May, adding that he planned to visit each cluster in the coming months and looked forward to discussing the way ahead. The terms of this response were recorded in the parish newsletter on 31 May. It was understood that the series of meetings with clusters would start in the autumn and continue into 2016.

Date of next meeting

8. The next meeting of the Council was arranged for Monday 14 September at 7.30pm.

Any other business

9. Members welcomed Roger Eggins' proposal for a *Volunteers' Sunday* to promote the various Ministries, organisations and activities in the parish and to drum up new volunteers for them. The respective leaders would be invited to make themselves available to give advice and information in the courtyard and the parish room. It was agreed that the event would be held on Sunday 6 September with advance information given in the newsletter and from the altar [**Action: Chairman**].

10. Stephen Dolan had earlier asked what the parish could and would do to mark the *Extraordinary Jubilee Holy Year of Mercy* which will run from the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on 8 December 2015 through to the Feast of Christ the King on 20 November 2016. Stephen noted that there would be many events in Rome and that a special Papal dispensation for "major sins" had been announced. It was recalled that the Archdiocese had put forward a programme for the Year of Faith into which the parish had added its own initiatives. Mgr Kerr confirmed that the Holy Year would put an emphasis on the Sacrament of Penance, but there had been no announcement about plans from the Archdiocese so far. It was agreed that meantime the PPC would maintain a watching brief on the matter, with particular attention to the Holy Year website. It was suggested that Youth Rock might come up with some suggestions for involving younger parishioners in the Holy Year.

11. There being no other business, the Chairman closed the ordinary meeting and proceeded immediately to the business of the Annual General Meeting.