

ST PETER'S PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 14 SEPTEMBER 2015 IN THE PARISH ROOM

Present

Monsignor Kerr (President)
Peter Nicholson (Chairman)
Aga Allan

Stephen Dolan
Agnes Dolan
Mark Dorrian

Roger Eggins
Alan Chudziak

Apologies

1. Apologies were received from Council members Anne Donnelly, Ian Stewart, and Jacqueline Heron. Monsignor Kerr and the Chairman welcomed Agnieszka (Aga) Allan as a new member of the Parish Pastoral Council.

Appointment of secretary

2. Mark Dorrian volunteered to act as Secretary to the Parish Pastoral Council.

Opening prayer

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

Minutes of the meeting on 8 June 2015 and matters arising

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

5. Matters arising from the minutes

5.1 paragraph 5 – procedures for receiving newcomers to the parish
The procedures were being drafted by John Wastle. Chairman to follow up with John.
(**Peter Nicholson**)

5.2 paragraph 5 – arrangements for reporting outcome of parish survey responses to parishioners

It was agreed that a two-page summary would be included as an attachment to the Parish Newsletter. (**Peter Nicholson**)

5.3 paragraph 9 – Volunteering Sunday

The Parish Council was extremely grateful to Roger Eggins for this idea which had had a number of positive outcomes. The Music Group attracted 4 new members and an offer of instruments. The “holy dusters” attracted two new members. Youth Rock also attracted two new members. It was commented that Monsignor Kerr’s homily had been very encouraging. Some other feedback received was that it might be better to hold it in the courtyard next year and thereby “catch” all parishioners leaving Mass. It was also felt to have been a little cramped for some groups. More feedback would be sought before the 2016 event.

5.4 paragraph 10 – Extraordinary Jubilee Holy Year of Mercy

It was commented that parishioners should keep watch for information from the

archdiocese.

6. **Printed annual report on parish activities**
It was commented that the Council should try to get some advertising added to the report and thereby finance the publication. **(Peter Nicholson to speak to Bruce Royan and Jackie Heron)**
7. **Organisation of parish clusters in the Archdiocese**
No new information.
8. **Doors Open Day**
St Peter's was to open its doors for the first time for Doors Open Days on the weekend of 26/27 September. It was commented that there had been over 20 volunteers taking part and that there was a real buzz surrounding the event. However, it was emphasised that it was simply impossible to predict how many people would turn up on the weekend. The Parish Pastoral Council greatly appreciated the considerable work of the organising committee, in particular Pat Napier, Liz Brown, Bruce Royan and Alan Chudziak.
9. **Reports from sub-group leaders**
 - 9.1 **Liturgy Links**
The next meeting was scheduled for October. Members were invited to propose agenda items, in addition to remaining matters arising from the parish survey.
 - 9.2 **Parish survey: organisations and activities**
The Ceilidh at Lauriston involving four parishes had been a huge success for SCIAF. It might serve as a model for future social events.
 - 9.3 **Parish survey: fabric, technology and information**
Alan Chudziak was commended once again for all the work he had carried out and for undertaking the report which was submitted to the Council about the fabric of St Peter's.
10. **Reports on current parish pastoral activities**
The Outreach Group reported that they had made three deliveries to Fresh Start and that they were regularly asked to take goods from house clearances.
Youth Rock had 14 members and 6 meetings were planned.
11. **McLellan Commission Report**
It was commented that safeguarding should be a priority in all parish activity. Parish Council Members were encouraged to lead by example and attend the safeguarding event on 23 September.
12. **Consultation on Morningside primary schools**
No action required. All parents had been informed.
13. **Date of next meeting**
Monday 9 November at 7:30.

14. **Any other business**

The Parish Pastoral Council was asked if any action was planned by the parish as regards taking in refugee families. It was commented that the Outreach Group was looking into this.

A number of members of the Parish Council had recently attended a workshop run by the Archdiocese on Social Media. At it, all parishes were encouraged to start a Facebook page in preference to opening a Twitter Account. Feedback from the workshop was mixed. Some felt that Facebook would be an excellent tool to get parish messages out to parishoners and beyond. Others felt that social media was not something the parish should get heavily involved in as it was felt to be quite an anti-social phenomenon. After some discussion, Stephen Dolan volunteered to build a Facebook page for St Peter's. He was asked to contact the Communications Director of the Archdiocese as they were devising a starter pack for parishes new to Facebook.

15. **Closing prayer.**