

ST PETER'S PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 8 FEBRUARY 2016 IN THE PARISH ROOM

Present

Monsignor Kerr (President)	Stephen Dolan	Jacqueline Heron
Peter Nicholson (Chairman)	Alan Chudziak	Anne Donnelly
Aga Allan	Mark Dorrian (Secretary)	

Apologies

1. Apologies were received from Council members Ian Stewart, Agnes Dolan and Roger Eggins.

Opening prayer

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

Minutes of the meeting on 9 November 2015 and matters arising

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

4. Matters arising from the minutes

4.1 Procedures for receiving newcomers to the parish. John Wastle to be approached again re taking a contact number from newcomers.

4.12 John had welcomed the idea of holding an annual get together for newcomers to the parish. The date needed to be agreed though. After some discussion, the date of Sunday 22 May was agreed by the Parish Council. It was felt that the get together should be held directly after Mass in the Parish room, with a slideshow presentation of images of St Peter's running on a loop (the one used for Doors Open Days) and an optional tour of the Church at the end which Mark Dorrian volunteered to do. All members of the Parish Council were encouraged to attend. The get together would finish by 2pm. Peter Nicholson agreed to invite Father Brown and to ask Mary Wastle to advertise the date in the Newsletter.

4.2 Jacqueline Heron was commended for getting sponsorship towards the publication of the Annual report on parish activities. 100 were printed at a cost of less than £100. It was commented that the annual report was a very user-friendly and attractive publication. Mark Dorrian to contact John Wastle to get the timetable to start the process of collecting in contributions for the new annual report.

4.14. Stephen Dolan had created a Facebook Page. An unofficial Facebook Page for St Peter's would be brought into the new Facebook Page. Stephen had been busy populating the new Page and hoped that it would get more likes and be more widely used over the coming weeks and months. The Address of the new page was now included in the header of the Newsletter. Monsignor Kerr commended Stephen for his effort.

5. **Parish clusters**

A meeting had been held with the Archbishop on 5 December. It was extremely well

attended with over 160 people present. The Archbishop gave a presentation and then answered questions. There will be three meetings of the cluster over the coming months. The first meeting is at Sacred Heart on **Saturday 27 February between 10 and 12**. Those Parishioners wishing to attend should read “We have found the Messiah” and also the booklet which has been published for the three meetings. One booklet will cover all three meetings. The booklet was available on the parish website and Facebook page. The next two meetings will take place between 10 and 12 on 11 June at the Gillis Centre, and 8 October in St Columba’s.

6. Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy

A lot was happening in Lent. Details of which were set out in the Lenten letter.

7. McLellan Commission Report

The current policies for safeguarding were being considered with a view to them being strengthened.

8. Syrian Refugee Appeal

St Columba’s said to be “rather in limbo” until the Archdiocese finalises its policy. Discussion took place regarding sending aid to refugees in camps nearer Syria, but it was not known whether there is an organised relief effort that we could be part of.

9. Lenten activities

There was a lot going on in Lent and this was set out in the Lenten letter.

10. Reports from sub-group leaders

10.1 Liturgy Links

No recent meeting..

10.2 Parish survey: fabric, technology and information

A detailed report on all the works going on in the church was submitted by Alan Chudziak. Alan was commended for looking after the fabric of the building so well.

10.3 Consideration of social events

It was felt that the Newcomers event would act as a new social event. It could become an annual event and be referred to a “Welcoming Sunday”.

11. Reports on current parish pastoral activities

In addition to activities reported with the papers for the meeting, the Eco-congregation group’s photo exhibition was underway and had had a high number of participants

12. Date of next meeting

The next meeting would be held on **Monday, 11 April**.

13. Any other business

The sisters of St Elizabeth Convent in Belarus would once again visit St Peter’s and hold a stall at Mass on Tuesday 9 February with their crafts to sell in aid of funds for the poor of Minsk, especially those with mental health problems.

The question was posed if St Peter’s had any links to the shelter of homeless people at the Sacred Heart in Lauriston. The answer was that we do not. It was felt that a lot of work was being done for the Fresh Start Project and that we shouldn’t spread ourselves too thinly.

14. Monsignor Kerr closed the meeting with prayer.