St Peter's and Our Lady's Collaborative Pastoral Council (CPC) Minutes

10 July 2025

Present: Fr Stephen Day (Fr S), Martin Foley (MF), Paul Milton (PM), Ira Winter (IW) (Via Zoom)

1. **Opening prayer**

   Led by Fr S

2. **Ideas for realising the St. Peter's parish vision. – non buildings related**
3. **Next steps**

The two agenda items were taken together. MF explained that a St. Peter's only CPC meeting had been convened to consider non-buildings related ideas, responses and offers of help from St. Peter's parishioners. Gill Ayers-Hunt and Simon Tibke were leading on a similar exercise for Our Lady's. More specifically, the meeting provides an opportunity to consider the top priorities of the Walking Together group, alongside other ideas from the AGM and since, including the post-it boards at the back of the Church. It was agreed that these boards would remain at the back of the Church until the end of July, whereupon Fr S will take them down. Fr S will place a note in the newsletter to this effect. AE agreed to collate all the post-it notes and present them to the CPC.

ACTION: FR S & AE

Each of the Walking Together top priorities (in italics) was considered in turn:

- *Special masses for groups such as those bereaved in the last year, or celebrating a special anniversary, linked with keeping touch with those who have been bereaved.*

It was agreed that we should explore setting up a parish bereavement group, one of whose responsibilities should be an annual parish Mass for the deceased in November, to which all the relatives of deceased parishioners should be invited. AE offered to speak to Carmel Cleary about creating this group.

ACTION: AE

- *Promotion and support of ecumenical activities, Christian Unity Week, Street Pastors*

The CPC expressed strong support for ecumenical activities. It was agreed that we should offer to host the ecumenical service during the week of prayer for Christian Unity in January 2026.

ACTION: FR S

- *Issues related to and of interest to young people -- social action, climate change*

The CPC commended the work of the Young Adults Group and the Youth Group and expressed thanks to all those involved. Bearing in mind the vast

range of issues related to and of interest to young children and adults, it was agreed that, in the first instance, MF should approach the Young Adults Group and ask how the CPC and wider parish can support them

ACTION: MF

Looking at mission and evangelisation more broadly, it was agreed that MF should explore the options for a parish mission, reporting back to the CPC. The last parish mission was in 1995.

ACTION: MF

Also, it was agreed that MF will explore the idea of a series of Lenten Talks with our Cluster. It was recognised that such an initiative, perhaps hosted at St. Peter's, is ideally suited to the Cluster. Contemporary Issues of relevance to the Church and wider society could be explored with the help of expert speakers.

ACTION: MF

- *Joint working for sacramental preparations between parish and school. (This might be linked with promotion of the training of more people in catechesis)*

It was noted that this is already happening at Our Lady's, thanks to the excellent direction of Mary Rouse. It was agreed that joint working represents the future for sacramental preparation. It was also noted that both parishes now have children's liturgy on Sunday.

Fr S shared information about a new diocesan catechetical programme, 'Something Greater' which is to start in our Deanery in September. Parishioners will be encouraged to participate.

- *Multi-cultural events on a regular basis to engage minority groups.*

The diversity of our congregations was discussed and celebrated. There is much we would like to do. To start, it was agreed that MF should explore how we might support our Indian community in a parish celebration of the feast of St. Thomas, the patron saint of Kerala.

ACTION: MF

- *Disabled access to whatever premises we shall be using in the medium term.*

It was agreed that whatever the future holds in terms of buildings alterations, disabled access must be a priority. In fact, modern planning regulations insist on disabled access being provided in new building work. Fr S agreed to create a poster for the porch and notice for the newsletter indicating that there is level access via the West Doors.

ACTION: FR S

4. Communication to parish

The minutes of the meeting, once posted on the parish website, will inform the parish what has been discussed and agreed.

5. Completion of National Churches Trust survey

It was agreed that we should complete the survey for St. Peter's (Our Lady's is completing a separate survey for their parish), but that MF should request an extension to the deadline for submission.

ACTION: MF

6. **AOB**

   Fr S reported that the parish architect had visited earlier that day to inspect the parish hall. The architect has proposed undertaking a feasibility study, including costings, of various options regarding the future of the hall. The cost of the study would be approximately £12,000. A detailed quotation is awaited from the architect. Fr S explained that the feasibility study would be shared with parishioners to enable us to reach an informed decision on the hall's future. Notwithstanding the cost, the CPC agreed that the study would be both important and useful. However, rather than pay for the study from parish funds, it was agreed we should establish, as soon as possible, a St. Peter's Grants Fundraising Group, to contribute toward the study and other future projects. Parishioners with experience and knowledge of grant fundraising would be invited to contribute to this action group. MF agreed to approach a grants fundraiser who is a friend for assistance.

   ACTION: MF

7. **Date of next full CPC meeting**

   10 September 2025 @ 7pm

8. **Closing prayer and blessing**

   Led by Fr S