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**Meeting 126**

**May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018**

**Notes**

**Those present were:** Brian Austin, Janice Austin, Christa-Maria Cross, Anne Elson, Wilf Feely (Chair of the meeting) and Jonathan Holden.

**Apologies:** Jenny Armstrong, Anna Godwin and Lynda Gould.

The meeting opened with the SPAN prayer and a reflection on the gospel for Trinity Sunday (Year B), Matthew 28: 16-20.

**1. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> April.**

- Anne Elson joined the Eco Fun Day walk but missed the display of electric vehicles because it was inside the Pump Rooms not in the Gardens as she had expected.
- Brian distributed copies of the letter from Matt Western MP on Climate Change referred to last month and of his reply to it dated 17 May 2018, inviting the MP to visit St Peter's during or soon after the Climate Coalition's 'Speak Up Week of Action' (30 June – 8 July) for a discussion of the Government's implementation of COP 21.

**2. Rosary intention for June.**

- 'We pray for peace and justice in Israel and Palestine.'

**Anna to put on the J&P noticeboard in the church; Jonathan to enter in the Newsletter and on the website.**

**3. Poverty and Homelessness**

- Janice passed round a copy of the Warwick District Poverty Forum Directory of contacts for services to homeless and disadvantaged people in the Leamington area. Since it had been widely distributed already, she would ask for additional copies for the Catholic Leamington clergy, while recognising that it needed to be kept up to date. In addition she would prepare an addendum, based on the existing list held in the Parish Office, of other relevant contacts (such as the SVP) not included in the Poverty Forum booklet.  
**Janice to obtain copies of the Directory and to prepare an addendum.**
- Anne Elson repeated Chris Johnson's report to the last SPAN meeting that Warwick District, Stratford, Rugby and Nuneaton (but not Coventry) were among the 80 councils receiving grants (totalling £30 million) to support rough sleepers; it was hoped that it would fund a shelter open 24/7 with support for mental health and addictions.

**5. LiveSimply**

- Brian reported that the LiveSimply team were organizing a CAFOD 'Share the Journey' **walk in solidarity with migrants** round Newbold Comyn just after Refugee Week, meeting at 5 pm on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June at the Newbold Comyn Arms; and they had proposed to Fr John a **LiveSimply mass in solidarity with the poor**, involving parish organizations involved in any way with the poor – suggested dates were Sunday 28 October or Sunday 4 November.
- They hoped that someone else in the parish would organize a parish picnic during the summer.

**6. Peace Festival (June 16-17)**

- Despite some difficulty in communicating with the Festival organizers, Brian had had confirmation that his advertisement for St Peter's Church would be in the Festival Programme, and that we had two speaking slots booked. It was thought that Alan Pratten had offered to take one slot, and Jonathan would be available for the other, to speak about the Catholic

Social Teaching on peace, based on material to be provided by Brian. Brian had also established that there would be no weddings in St Peter's that weekend but one baptism after the Sunday mass.

**Brian to prepare CST material, and also to contact Alan to confirm his availability to speak.**

- Anna Godwin had emailed Jonathan apologising for her absence at the meeting and saying that she had collected some lovely display materials from St Anthony's School for use in the church over the Festival weekend, including children's prayers for peace, photographs of making 'peace bracelets' and some 3D paper windmills. She would need display boards, and she planned to liaise with Lynda about putting the display up, as she herself would be away from the 8<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> June. Those present believed that Lynda had already gone abroad and were uncertain whether she would return before Anna's departure. It was not known whether Lynda had contacted Erin about a display by Trinity or the Summit Group, nor whether Mary Wilde had asked at St Patrick's. Brian confirmed that both red and blue sets of display boards were available in the parish. Anne offered to contact Erin. [She did so the day after the meeting, and Erin promised to reply by the end of the week. Also Wilf subsequently contacted Mary Wilde who said she was expecting a positive response from the Head Teacher of St Patrick's.]

**Jenny or Brian to follow up with Anna, and Anne to keep in contact with Erin. Jenny, Brian and Janice to ensure J&P Lenten Stations and any peace displays are put up before the Festival weekend.**

## **7. Any Other Business**

- Brian distributed copies of a statement by Pax Christi International, passed to him by the Diocesan J&P Commission, headed 'A Monumental Tragedy', describing President Trump's withdrawal of the USA from the Iran nuclear agreement (JCPOA) and urging the other signatories to the agreement to honour and implement it. Those present agreed that Brian should sign the statement on behalf of St Peter's Justice & Peace. [A copy of the statement can be viewed at <https://mail.rscj.org/statement-presidents-decision-end-united-states-participation-iran-deal>.]

## **8. Future Meetings**

- The next monthly meeting will be at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June **in the Davenport Room** (upstairs in the main Parish Centre building), when the reflection will be on the gospel for the 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Year B, Mark 5: 21-43.
- Subsequent meetings in 2018 will be at 7.30pm in the Davenport Room (except as shown) on: July 23<sup>rd</sup>, September 4<sup>th</sup> (at 2 pm - review of the year), September 24<sup>th</sup> (in St Joseph's church hall, jointly with the St Joseph's J&P Group), October 29<sup>th</sup>, and November 26<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting closed with the Pax Christi prayer.