



Meeting 117

June 26th, 2017

Notes

Those present were: Jenny Armstrong, Brian Austin, Janice Austin, Christa-Maria Cross, Anne Elson, Lynda Gould, Jonathan Holden, and Mary Wilde.

Apologies: Anna Godwin and Alan Pratten.

The meeting opened with the SPAN prayer and a reflection on the gospel for the 13th Sunday of Year A, Matthew 10: 37-42.

1. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- Anne reported on the **election hustings** in All Saints church, where she had seen about 10 other St Peter's parishioners out of 50-60 people present. The Rev Christopher Wilson chaired the meeting, giving each candidate a strict time allocation to make an opening statement and to answer each question that had been submitted in advance; there were no questions allowed from the floor. The candidates showed great courtesy to each other. In Anne's perception, Chris White's demeanour suggested he was not confident of winning, perhaps because he felt unable to defend all his government's policies; Matt Western spoke well, Jonathan Chilvers was well applauded, but the UKIP and Lib Dem candidates showed their inexperience.
- Reviewing the **Peace Festival**, Jenny said Jean Daly had reported a steady stream of visitors to the church including some who had visited in previous years. Lynda said Trudie Pabor had put up the Trinity College display despite having been made redundant by Trinity and her sister being in hospital with a brain tumour – she had promised to give Lynda a link to her successor when known. Janice and Brian had met two Africans from Bo at the Festival and had invited them into the church and introduced them to a number of people including Fr Noel. The use of Brian's Peace bidding prayers and prayer at the end of mass for peace had been patchy, vying with First Holy Communions and Corpus Christi prayers. The same weekend, Jenny, Lynda and Mary had attended a talk at All Saints by Michael Mansfield on Palestine (and one by his daughter on an initiative to prevent suicides).
- At the **Praise in the Park** event, Brian and Alan had mounted a display of SPAN, St Peter's J&P, Fair Trade and SVP, but were not sure whether anyone saw it as rain interrupted the event.
- Jane Knight had told Janice and Brian that their presentations to the '**Helping Families Manage**' meeting had been effective in informing prominent people about the SFG and Way Ahead Project.

2. Rosary Intention for July

- 'We pray for all those suffering or in fear as a result of fire hazards to their homes, while thanking God for the loving community response evoked in London.'
- The prominence given to the monthly rosary intention in the Newsletter was welcomed. Because it was also posted on the J&P notice board, and since Peter Dimambro did not think it appropriate to announce it in the daily rosary group in the church, it was agreed that there was no need to communicate it to him personally.

Lynda to put the intention on the J&P noticeboard and in the Prayer Intentions Book; Jonathan to include in the newsletter.

3. **Poverty and Homelessness**

- Janice announced that the **Saturday Friendship Group** planning meeting would be the following evening to enable people employed during the day to attend.
- She said that the **Poverty Forum** had appointed a new Chair and Secretary, who planned to produce an information leaflet and poster.
- She had spoken to the **Kindaid meeting** on 8 June and hoped that volunteers to the SFG might eventually come forward, but gained the impression that Kindaid was not in a position to support SFG financially at present.
- As reported last month, the **Leamington Night Shelter** will open only one night a week in July and August; the shelter run by Warwick Uni medical students hoped to continue throughout the summer but were short of volunteers in the vacation, and the organizer had qualified as a doctor and left the area.

4. **Climate Change – Green Energy – Letter to MP**

- For the CAFOD and Climate Coalition 'Speak Up Week of Action', Brian had drafted a letter to the newly elected MP for Warwick and Leamington, Matt Western. In discussion some amendments were proposed, and Brian offered to circulate an amended version promptly to those present, and send out the amended version in their name subject to their replies.
- He also distributed copies of the Birmingham Diocese J&P Commission Summer newsletter containing an article by him on switching to green energy.

5. **Christmas Cards for Prisoners of Conscience**

- Jenny proposed that she, Diana O'Reilly and others might talk to Mary Grayling's confirmation preparation group on 8 July about helping to make greeting cards or to prepare a display for the signing of cards to prisoners of conscience shortly before Christmas.

6. **Any Other Business**

- Brian recommended an article in the Birmingham J&P Commission summer newsletter on the Columban Missionaries' **Vocation for Justice magazine**, and their website (mentioned in another article) containing '**Creation Time**' resources, which could help us promote Pope Francis' World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation on 1 September and subsequent 'Creation Time' up to the Feast of St Francis on 4 October.
[Lynda to research the Columbans' resources and report back to next meeting.](#)
- Brian noted also that **CAFOD** had changed their climate change campaign title from 'One World, One Climate' to the less immediately meaningful 'The Power to Be', and their objective to getting the World Bank to pay for renewable energy to support education in poorer countries.

9. **Future Meetings**

- The next meeting will be in the Flint Room at 7.30 pm on Monday 24 July 2017, when the reflection will be on the gospel for the 17th Sunday of year A, Matthew 13: 44-52.
- Subsequent meetings will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday 5 September (Review of Year, in the Davenport Room), then (in the Flint Room) at 7.30 p.m. on Mondays 25 September, 23 October and 27 November 2017.

The meeting closed with the Pax Christi prayer.