St Peter's and Our Lady's Collaborative Pastoral Council (CPC) Minutes
12 November 2024

Present: Fr Stephen Day (Fr S), Martin Foley (MF), Anne Elson (AE), Paul Milton (PM), Gill Ayershunt (GA), Ira Winter (IW), Simon Tibke (ST).

Apologies: None

1 Opening prayer – led by Fr S

2 Welcome and introductions
All council members were present.

3 Minutes of the last meeting
There were no corrections to either the minutes or the Constitution.

4 Matters arising
Fr S reported that the minutes of CPC meetings and names of CPC members were now on the Catholic Leamington website, together with the Constitution. AE agreed to arrange for copies of the minutes and Constitution to be put in the red folders at the back of each church.

ACTION: AE

5 Membership and communication to parish communities
Members recognised the importance of ensuring the CPC represents the rich diversity across Catholic Leamington. Increasing awareness of the CPC across both parishes is a priority, with a view to individuals putting themselves forward for consideration for membership, alongside members of the CPC approaching prospective members. ST agreed to draft a template members' pen portrait, to be inserted into the newsletter, enabling parishioners to know more about the CPC, its members and how to get involved. It was also agreed that the first CPC AGM, to which all parishioners are invited, would be held in Spring 2025. This will provide an opportunity to discuss CPC membership. In the meantime, membership will be a standing agenda item.

ACTION: ST

6 Relationship with Walking Together
Members thanked the Walking Together group for all its work during the Synodal process. AE advised that once the Walking Together group had completed its consideration of the 100 questions emerging from the working groups, it was likely to be dissolved. Members recognised that the good work of the Walking Together group (and by extension all those involved in the process) and many of the issues emerging from the working groups need to be taken forward by the CPC. Therefore AE, on behalf of the CPC, agreed to ask the Walking Together group, once it has completed its consideration of the 100 questions, to submit a summary report to the CPC detailing its top ten priorities for the CPC to consider. The CPC will report back to parishioners at the Spring AGM. In the meantime, it was agreed that the minutes of the Walking Together group meetings should be sent to the chair of the CPC.

ACTION: AE

7 Buildings and Resources

Regarding St. Peter's, Fr S reported that he has had no word yet from Savills regarding the Presbytery, or regarding the Hall. There was much discussion.

Regarding Our Lady's, Fr S reported that he was waiting for a further two quotes for the roof, to provide the requisite three quotes before the project can be authorised.

Both parishes face significant financial challenges related to the upkeep of parish properties. Failure to meet these challenges places both parishes at serious financial risk.

Members discussed how the CPC might act as a catalyst for practical action to address the urgent challenges relating to buildings and finance. It was agreed that a working group should be established, provisionally named the 'Parishes Action Group'. MF agreed to draft terms of reference for the group based on an appropriate template. Its focus will be practical – fundraising and ideas generating – and it will report into the CPC. Whilst there will be one working group, individuals on the working group will be invited to focus their efforts on either St. Peter's or Our Lady's recognising that the needs of the parishes are different.

It was also agreed that we should seek fundraising ideas from both our Cluster and the Deanery.

ACTION: MF & ALL

8 General Update from Fr Stephen

There was no update on the retired clergyman who might be coming to live in the parish.

9 Advent prayer and reflection

First Sunday of Advent at 4.30 at Our Lady's. CPC members agreed to attend the prayer service.

Second Sunday of Advent There will be a joint Choral event.

10 AOB

AE to go with Fr S on Friday 15th to St Mary Immaculate for an informal Cluster meeting.

GAH commented that the Workshop re the introduction of the new Lectionary was excellent.

AE distributed notes re Synodal Methods to the CPC.

PM has sent a "Toolkit" re Inclusivity to all members. This will be an agenda item in the future.

Next meeting to be at 7pm in the Presbytery on Tuesday 14th January