

MINUTES of the 249th meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council held on Thursday 4th October 2018 at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre.

PRESENT: Mrs Josephine Lea, in the Chair, Mrs Christine Cannon, Mr Richard Hall, Ms Debbie Kerry, Mr Allan Scott and Mrs Pat Smith.

APOLOGIES: Father David Finegan, Mrs Elaine Durbin, Mrs Carole Kelly and Mrs Gillian Millyard

IN ATTENDANCE: Frank Lea, Clerk to the Council

31/18 WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER: Jo Lea welcomed everyone to the meeting and formally opened the meeting with a prayer. She informed the meeting that Father David, as Dean, was attending the induction of Father Luke Goymer as Parish Priest at Brandon.

32/18 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: It was agreed that the MINUTES of the 248th meeting of the PPC, held on 24th May 2018, constituted a true record. They were signed and dated by the Chairman.

33/18 MATTERS ARISING: There were none.

34/18 ANY OTHER BUSINESS NOT SCHEDULED FOR THE AGENDA: None were raised.

35/18 PPC MEMBERSHIP: It was observed that there was currently one vacancy on the PPC for an elected member and that nominations needed to be called for at this time. If more than one nomination was received it would be necessary to have an election. It was further noted that five members of the current PPC would come to the end of their terms of office. In view of the situation it was deemed that it was probably time to look at, and possibly amend, the constitution for the PPC. Jo, as Chairman, would discuss the matter with Father David with the object of setting up a small working group to look at the constitution and make recommendations as necessary.

36/18 REPORT FROM THE PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE: The Chairman reported on the meeting that had taken place on Tuesday 2th October 2018.

- ❖ **INTERNAL CHURCH ALTERATIONS:** Father David stated that he was still in discussion with Ormsby regarding the final design of base/pedestal for the tabernacle. Once this was decided it would be possible to set the height at which the crucifix was to be set. He was hopeful that the matter would be determined shortly at which stage the whole project could be put to the Liturgical Commission for final approval.
- ❖ **ACCESS TO THE CHURCH HALL:** Simon Millyard said that he now had the final tender documents from Tim Buxbaum and the next move would be to get a firm price for the work. Ben Nickell now had this in hand and when this was known it would be appropriate to apprise the parish of the current state of the project and the forecast cost. Thereafter that matter would be put to the diocese for formal approval. It was not known if the money from Alive in Faith would be available to offset the cost, but this will be addressed later.
- ❖ **PREZZO WALL:** Ben Nickell had reported on this matter. He said that he had had contact with Prezzo's Estate Management, Cloud Facilities Management, and has now received a full report of the state of the wall and of the buildings adjacent on Prezzo's side of the wall. There is considerable movement on both sides. The matter is now with District Council for approval of the plans to rebuild the heritage wall and once this is received, hopefully within a fortnight, people are on standby to undertake the work of

restoration. Permission has been granted to place a skip on the church car park when the work is undertaken.

- ❖ **REDECORATION OF THE PARISH CENTRE:** The Committee agreed to the redecoration of the downstairs rooms in the Centre and also of the staircase.
- ❖ **GARAGE SIDE WINDOWS:** These are to be replaced.
- ❖ **PARISH BARBECUE:** It was agreed to purchase a barbecue for use at parish functions.
- ❖ The next meeting of the Finance Committee will take place on Tuesday 22nd January 2019..

37/18 DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF LAITY: The Chairman attended the meeting on Saturday 7th July. Parts of Pope Francis' encyclical "Laudato Si" had been discussed. This covered Climate change and Inequality and had made for some very interesting discussion. The next meeting will take place on Saturday 24th November 2018.

38/18 DEANERY COUNCIL OF LAITY: The last meeting had taken place in Bury St Edmunds on Wednesday 26th September. It is proposed to have another "Church Crawl" in 2019 visiting the parishes of Brandon with Mildenhall, Sudbury with Hadleigh and Newmarket. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 13th March 2019.

39/18 REPORT FROM THE PASTORAL GROUP: Gillian Millyard had given her apologies for the meeting, but reported that the next Mass for sick and housebound will take place on Sunday 18th November. A meeting of the group is planned for Tuesday 30th October. Gillian is in discussion with Father David about keeping the names and addresses which co-ordinators have held in the past (GDPR).

40/18 REPORT FROM THE CATECHISM GROUP: Debbie Kerry said that there were only three candidates this year; one in Richard Congdon's Foundation Group and two in Debbie's First Holy Communion Class. She and Mary Robinson would be meeting later this week to discuss the detailed planning for the year. The next Children's Mass will take place in December.

41/18 NEWS FROM CAFOD+: Allan Scott reported that the bimonthly Fair Trade stall had ceased, largely because that fair trade goods were readily available in all supermarkets and the now limited range of goods carried by the Bury St Edmunds shop. The next Prayers for Peace would be held on Sunday 4th November starting at 3pm.. It was confirmed that the Mayor of Stowmarket would attend. Allan reported that the Rattlesden Benefice was rehousing a refugee and giving some assistance in practical ways. The cancellation of the Annual Duck Race was reported due to lack of water.

42/18 PARISH SOCIAL COMMITTEE: Carole Kelly had given her apologies for this meeting. In her report she stated that the summer party had gone off well, but numbers attending were down. There were no representatives of the Kerela Community as they were attending an event elsewhere. She reported that curries were made by Christine Cannon and Jo lea and were much enjoyed by all. Preparations for the Autumn Bazaar, 20th October, were going well and a committed group were working on Tuesday afternoons to sort and prepare items for the bazaar. There was steady flow of goods coming in and Annie Bowen-Wright has written letters to seek draw prizes and these were coming in slowly.

43/18 NEWS FROM STOWMARKET CHURCHES TOGETHER: There was no report.

44/18 STOWMARKET & DISTRICT FOOD BANK – UPDATE: Jo Lea reported that 68 parcels had been sent out during the month of September. She went on to say that she had today, 4th October, attended a special event at the Food Bank at which a cheque for £10,000 had been handed over from the Suffolk Foundation.

45/18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting, the 250th, will take place in the same location on **Thursday 24th January 2019**. The meeting would start at **7.30pm** in the Parish Centre, Upper Room.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 8.31pm and the Chairman closed proceedings with a prayer.

Signed Date