

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL ON 29 JUNE 2020 VIA ZOOM

Present: Father Charles (Fr C), Shirley Kalinauckas (SK) chair, Sam Barlow (SB), Martin Benatar (MB), Jenny Beauguard (JB), Emma Brocklebank (EB), Rebecca Clarke (RC), David Cranfield (DC), Mary Kirk (MK) (communications), Cathy Scott (CS).

Absent: Carole Hunt

1. Father Charles opened with a **prayer**.

2. **Apologies:** none received

3. **Minutes of the meeting of 27 January 2020** had previously been circulated and approved. No matters arising.

Reports (previously circulated)

Comments

4. Parish Priest. The opening of the churches for private prayer had not been successful in terms of numbers, with stewards outnumbering those wishing to pray. In retrospect too many opening times had been offered. Cleaning arrangements prior to resumption of public Masses going well. Fr C said he would be at Downside 1-4 and 29-31 July.

6. CAFOD. CS asked when the stall would resume at Fressingfield Produce Market. It was not thought imminent because held indoors for a largely elderly constituency

8. School. The school had received enquiries from parents of Langley pupils. 13 entrants were expected in September.

9. Arrangements for Masses from 4 July

There was a lengthy debate on the interpretation of guidelines from both the government and the Council of Bishops. Generally it was thought that the parish should err on the side of caution, especially since a large proportion of the congregation is elderly, and be seen to do things 'by the book.' As Fr Charles will now be away at Downside till the end of the week it was proposed that we defer the resumption of public Masses till the weekend of 11-12 July in order to

- Do a full risk assessment for St Edmund's and St Thomas More (SB to send template to Fr C) - Fr C, RC and SK
- Investigate possibility of deep cleaning (suggested afterwards)
- Publish clear guidelines and rules to cover all aspects, after carrying out the above

Carried unanimously with reservations from Fr C.

Members urged clarity on *either* 2m social distancing *or* 1m plus face coverings. There should be one reader per Mass who should wear gloves, and only touch the lectionary in order to turn pages. Giving and receiving of Holy Communion was also discussed. The importance of good ventilation was stressed.

- Fr C to issue a revised newsletter the next morning, after first circulating a draft, and include a reminder that Sunday obligation is still suspended.

10. First Holy Communion/Confirmation

It was hoped to hold **FHC** in the autumn, but the possibility of postponement until a full relaxation of restrictions was also discussed. RC to ask parents whether they would prefer a delay or a reduced celebration with a limit to the number of guests. There is no diocesan guidance on this matter as yet.

Confirmation – it is not a Confirmation year, so members agreed to leave the question for the moment.

11. AGM and elections to PPC

Postponed till the autumn. The current PPC continues until a new one is elected. To be put on the agenda of the next meeting.

12. AOB

Fr Charles gave confirmation that there would be no parish outing this year.

13. DONM

Monday 14 September at 7.30pm, probably by Zoom. MK and SK asked that the January meeting should always be a Zoom meeting because of the difficulties for some of driving distances in the dark and possibly bad weather.

SK thanked everyone for attending and SB for hosting.. There being no further business the meeting ended at approximately 9.15pm.