

DRAFT

Minutes of the St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Thursday 8th February 2018 at 7.30pm in St Benedict's Church Presbytery

Present: Fr Peter, Fr Doug, Eustie Kamath (Chair), Marita Basabas, Graham Cooper, Tony de Joux, Eric De Souza, Oliver Hartwich, Robert McClean, Shirley O'Brien, Mark Westerbeke and Deborah Lim (Secretary).

Apologies: None

Opening prayer was led by Fr Peter.

Motion was and seconded, to approve the minutes of the meeting of 14th December. Motion carried. Minutes are now to be loaded onto Parish website.

Pastoral Council Retreat

This was originally to be held on Saturday, 10th February, but due to the Parish Day of Prayer, will now be postponed. Mark will look at arranging an alternative date.

AGM

A group of parishioners has requested a Parish-wide AGM be held. PPC members were in agreement that this should be deferred till June/July when the current Financial Year accounts will be available. Also, priority now is to resolve the Newlands Church issue.

Memo "To the Parish – 31 January 2018"

Document previously circulated and read by all; also published on website. Mark expressed his concern that this was available on the website before the PPC meeting which could undermine the process of any discussions. Fr Peter stated the need to keep parishioners informed, and the document only covers recommendations, with decisions to be made by PPC and Finance Committee. This will indicate a way forward, pending longer term decisions being made.

Recommendation 1 – Health & Safety closure to be revisited, reopened temporarily

- Terms and conditions to be decided.
- Church needs to be checked before every Mass; also on a daily basis?
- Nominate someone to take charge of checking the Church for Health & Safety issues.
- May create uncertainty for Parishioners if Mass is cancelled/moved at last minute due to weather conditions.

Recommendation 2 – Possibility of project to fix roof

- Small committee (4 to 5 people) from Newlands community to be formed to formulate plan on what work needs to be done, how funds can be raised and payment plan.
- Fr Peter will designate someone to be main contact person for committee and PPC/Finance Committee.

Recommendation 3 – Separate costs and income for 3 communities

- This was not pursued at the meeting.

Mark queried why there will only be one Mass at Newlands, and not have two reinstated. Following brief discussion, it was agreed that Mass times should only be revisited after roof is fixed. Furthermore, whilst Church is only opened temporarily, on a day-to-day basis, other established Masses should not be disrupted now while longer term decisions have not been made.

Newlands Alternate Venue

Fr Peter has spoken to the Vicar of St Michael's Anglican Church to look into possibility of using the premises if necessary. All agreed this could be a good alternative venue during inclement weather and also if work is being carried out at St Andrew's. This also contributes to community building among the Churches.

Emergency Management

Tony tabled draft plan and asked for feedback/comments from other PPC members via email.

Liturgical Reports

Reports from recent Liturgy meetings held at St Benedict's and St Peter & Paul's were presented.

- Wednesday Mass at St Benedict's now moved to 9.15am.
- Police vetting will now be required for all involved with Altar Servers, Children's Liturgy and Sacramental Programme. This will be handled by the Archdiocese.

Other Pastoral Matters

- St Benedict's School BOT Chair has suggested a combined Parish/School event to be held after 9am Mass on 11th March to welcome the new principal, Michael Hinds. Fr Peter will get back to Fr Doug.
- Should PPC make a group submission on Euthanasia Bill? Tony will circulate a document with his personal submissions which others can add onto.
- PPC will lead the prayers during the 2.30pm slot on Parish Prayer Day, 10th February.

Community Committees

This is being suggested for each Church community to coordinate/initiate community activities and to facilitate communication back to the PPC. We need to seek volunteers for each committee, and it is important to emphasise the purpose.

Action: Graham will draft newsletter notice asking for volunteers.

Proposed Meeting with Finance Committee

To be held on Tuesday, 20th February at 7.30pm. Venue TBC.

Meeting concluded at approximately 9.05pm with closing prayer.

Next Meeting

Thursday, 8th March, 7.30pm at St Peter & Paul's Church Hall, Johnsonville.