

Present: Simon Knowles Chairman Frank Gilchrist, Secretary Eileen Agar, Faith & Light  
Phil Bothamley, Fairtrade Phil Geeney, Church's Together Jeff McGillan Justice & Peace  
Charlotte Burrell, Youth

The meeting repaired to the Dower House as Fr. Stephen was unavailable

**1 OPENING PRAYER:** led by Simon Knowles

**2 APOLOGIES:** Fr Stephen Wright Priest in Charge Bob Archibald, Area Rep  
Christine Wray, Head of St. Mary's School Chris Clissitt, Communications

**3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** (of 14 July 2011) were approved.

#### **4 MATTERS ARISING & ACTIONS**

Phil Geeney has provided a contact name to Jeff & Bob for medicines for the third world.

Simon confirmed that the Christian Aid and Pastoral Group will be removed from the agenda

The liturgical and other changes introduced by Fr. Stephen Wright, and the success of the Sunday lunch rota were discussed. Simon welcomed these changes.

Simon had contacted Fr. George to arrange a suitable Friday for a leaving event. No date was yet agreed.

Travelling may be difficult over Blubberhouses in winter. The PPC were in favour of arranging something ASAP. Simon will discuss with Fr Stephen.

There was further discussion about social activities. Innovations such as the refreshments on Bed race day were enjoyable and successful. BBQ's and St. Andrew's day recently had been less successful. Social events are not co-ordinated. The PPC would welcome any new ideas, to be discussed at future meetings.

**ACTION:** Simon. Photo of PPC members.

**ACTION:** Jeff suggested we upgrade/update the parish web site and will talk to Helen, Chris about this.

Do we need a Parish photographer?

Could we put photos of (say) 1<sup>st</sup> communicants in bulletin, newsletter, on board in atrium?

#### **5 PARISH INITIATIVES (reviewed)**

These items would be discussed at the next PPC meeting in January 2012.

**Vivalafun** –Children's Youth Group

**Church Shop, Home-school-Parish links, Link with Mostar and Jablanica, Music for Mass**

**Communications** - newsletter / parish guide / contact database/Atrium (Chris Clissitt)

Contact database – need to update Fr. Stephen with the database and planned update.

PPC minutes continue to appear on the parish web site.

Parish Newsletter – apologies for the long gap since the last edition. The 9<sup>th</sup> edition will feature Fairtrade activity in the parish, and I hope also to include an introductory piece on Fr. Stephen (if he gives permission) and a report on Bob Archibald's meeting with Fr. Terry Madden to discuss Burkina Faso.

**Any Other Activities** – Transport to Church

**ACTION:** Jeff to put item in the Bulletin & a notice in atrium "I am willing to provide transport to church"

## 6 MEMBERS REPORTS

Parish Groups: Faith & Light; Fairtrade; St. Mary's School; Family Life Ministry; Shrine Group; Youth; Justice & Peace; Churches Together; Christian Aid; Pastoral Group; Area Representatives.

### **Faith & Light** (Eileen Agar)

We met for the first time since June in September. We had a better turn out than June but we are still winding down to finish at the panto in January. September's meeting went very well. We had a short service with the gospel reading then a few prayers then tea followed. By Fr Stephen playing the clarinet for us as well as a few stories. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon especially Fr playing all different songs for them to join in with they even got up to dance. Our next meeting is in October 16<sup>th</sup>

Angela was thanked for all the work she has & is doing for the parish. Simon suggested that Eileen stay on the PPC after Faith and Light closes.

### **Fairtrade** (Phil Bothamley)

Phil reported sales falling away somewhat. Even chocolate being sold off at half price as it neared its sell by date. Jeff thought this might be caused by the general pressure on peoples finances. There would be an item on fairtrade in the parish newsletter at Christmas. **ACTION: Phil** would talk to Chris.

**St. Mary's Catholic Primary School** (Christine Way) No report.

**Family Life Ministry** No report.

**Our Lady of the Crag – Shrine Group** (Peter Thornes)

Mass & Visits to the Shrine

Fr Stephen celebrated a Mass for Our Lady on 27th August. **The group thanks Fr. Stephen for celebrating this Mass so soon after coming to St. Mary's.**

A group from Our Lady of Lourdes in Hesse, Hull visited the Shrine on the 14<sup>th</sup> September. They were taken by their visit and will be coming again in the future.

Sunday opening of the Chapel is now over until next Easter when we will again open to the public on Sunday afternoons. However we try to accommodate any groups wishing to visit during the winter months.

The work of this group was noted and much appreciated by the PPC. The shrine was well cared for. Consideration could be given to try to increase the volunteers – possibly with an interest in gardening.

### **Youth** (Charlotte Burrell)

#### Children's Liturgy

There have been a couple of changes to Children's Liturgy since the last meeting. Monica Root has decided to step down and the CRB checks for the new volunteers have come through. We now have 3 CRB checked people covering each of the two groups (one group for 2-4 year olds and the second group for 5+) and another new volunteer who wants to help out – we are hoping to get one more so we can have four people for each group. Alice Bryant is also helping out sometimes as part of her Service for her Duke of Edinburgh Award.

We recently had a meeting to discuss our plans for preparing the children for Advent. We thought it would be nice if we could purchase a small Advent Wreath for 'early years' group as Father George brought one a while ago for the

ST. MARY'S PC Meeting Thursday 13 October 2011

whole Children's Liturgy group (when it was one group) but now we are in two groups we need another one for the younger ones. We also discussed possible options for Children's Christmas Eve Mass. Possible options include; a Service where children can dress up in nativity costumes and sing family hymns/carols or a Mass where young people of the Parish are involved in the readings, intercessions, offertory etc.

The PPC discussed the Christmas Children's Mass, an innovation which was very well attended.

### Vivalafun

This is a youth club for young people in years 6, 7 and 8 that runs once a month on a Sunday night. We have started up again after the holidays now. We are hoping to run a trip to Doncaster Dome at some point (was going to be half-term but everyone was on holiday then so not sure when it will be). We really need some new volunteers to help out so we are trying to think of people we can ask.

We are going to buy some new equipment with the money we made last time (e.g. badminton net, balls, music player etc.).

The help provided by Alison Jenkins was noted.

### Prayers and Pizza

Still going well, we meet from time to time in the Chapel and talk about a certain topic (quite relaxed) and then eat pizza afterwards in the hall. We are hoping to get the young people from the confirmation classes to come along once they have finished their confirmation classes and to possibly have a retreat day at some point.

We are hoping to have a youth Mass at some point soon (5 o'clock mass) where the young people do the readings/music etc.

Fr. Stephen would like to involve all the (7 or 8) altar services.

Fr. Stephen would like greater involvement from St. John Fisher pupils at Mass – e.g. readings.

### **Justice & Peace**

(Jeff McGillan & Bob Archibald)

Bob, Jeff, Evelyn and Harry (who acts as treasurer) met at Bob's house. Harry counts up the brown envelopes. Currently £975 in bank account. They were keen to ensure value for money and that the money was well targeted. Jeff said that his company, and others, had many older desktops which could be freely given. How would we get them there? Did the parishes in Burkina Faso have sufficient electricity? If these problems could be overcome then the St. Mary's children could SKYPE the children in Burkina Faso (& talk English/French)? .

### **Church's Together**

Phil Geeney

The latest CTinK meeting was held at Holy Trinity Church on 20 July 2011. Thing of note included: Easter Parade of Witness – this has not taken place for the last two years and is not likely to be returning. Costs/marshaling/lack of numbers taking part all contributory factors. Also felt that witness around the Cross in the Market Square now a more appropriate form of Easter worship.

Christian Aid – 4000 pounds raised so far and this will be swelled by a collection at the 2011 Nativity celebrations

Songs of Praise – this will take place (has already) on 14 Aug as CTinKs contribution to FEVA

Fr George leaving St Mary's – wholesome praise for Fr George and sincere regret from all reps at the announcement of his departure from St Mary's. CTinK secretary to write To Fr George to pass on good wishes from all.

Harrogate and Knaresborough Methodist Circuits – these two Circuits are to merge to form a single large unit called Nidd Vale Circuit comprising 19 Churches

Bed Race – CtinK ladies team raised 335 pounds, half of which will go to CTinK and half to Christian Aid. Mens team total not yet known but will be split between CTinK and Harrogate Homeless Project. All CTinK churches will get a request to contribute to the cost of a new bed for next years race, current one broken beyond repair

Easter Club 2011 – held at Gracious St Methodist hall and very successful. Likely to be at the same venue in 2012

Light Party – hosted by United Reform this year – very successful and will be repeated in 2012

CTinK Christmas Card – much debate ranging from scrap it (not a popular proposal) to simplify it (much more acceptable). Proposed and simplified design will be prepared for Oct meeting. Likely that each Church will confine itself to giving times of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.

Easter Fair 2012 – this will be held 2 weeks after Easter i.e. a Spring Fair

**Christian Aid, Pastoral Group** To be removed form future agendas

**Area Representatives** No report

## 8 CHURCH CLEANING & MAINTENANCE

Simon described the potential Church Lane traffic issues. Church Lane was getting busier and cars often had to mount the kerb, with potential hazard for people leaving houses with front doors onto the pavement.

Simon has spoken to County Contractors on Wetherby Road. Quote for repairs and maintenance is competitive. Sadly, despite much chasing by Simon the contractor was proving elusive.

The blue fence was in need of repair. Someone had offered to fund this.

**9 DATES of FUTURE MEETINGS** 7:30 pm Thurs 12 Jan 2012 & Thurs 19 April 2012  
The AGM would be on Tuesday 17 April at 7:30 p.m.

## 10 AOB

We wish to encourage new PPC members. Simon had been chairman for 8 years. Various ways of encouraging new members would be discussed and brought forward to the AGM in April.

It was agreed to send Angela Smith a “thank you” (flowers?) from the pPC on behalf of the Parish, for all the work she does on our behalf.

The Secretary will obtain the names, addresses, emails and phone & mobile numbers of the PPC members, so we can contact each other more easily.

## 11. CLOSING PRAYER

Simon thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting with a prayer at 9:30 pm.

## FUTURE MEETINGS & EVENTS 2011 & 2012

|          |                       |  |
|----------|-----------------------|--|
| Saturday | 19:30 15 October 2011 | Wine Tasting (FR. Jeremy) & Singing (St. Mary's singers) |
|          | February 2012         | Fairtrade fortnight                                      |
| Tuesday  | 19:30 17 April 2012   | AGM of Parish Council (open to all parishioners)         |