

St. Peter's Parish Pastoral Team Meeting.
Monday 14th October, 2019. Started at 7.00 pm in church with
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

MINUTES.

Present. Fr Peter, David Small, James Walker, Tony Cordes, Anne-Marie Bailey, Alison McGarr (Chair), Anne Rogowski, Tony Shaw, Rachel McKay (minutes).

1. **Apologies;** - Sophie Hourihan, Margaret Drury, Terry Thiele.
2. Minutes of last meeting already accepted.
3. **Hazel Grove and Offerton Community Sponsorship Initiative for Refugee family.**

Two meetings have taken place so far. Good response and great to see many new people involved. Meetings are taking place fortnightly on a Tuesday. Initial areas that are being focussed on are; -

A) Fundraising – need to raise a bond of £9,000 which will cover family expenses on arrival, housing costs until the family arrive etc. SPY is to be involved in the fundraising. Mel has offered proceeds of the Christmas craft fare that will include a bookstall. Alison asked if the CaFOD boxes at the back of church could be used to collect for the Refugee Project after half term. Fr Peter happy with this. The Justice and Peace Advent collection will be donated to this project this year. Possibility of getting support from other organisations e.g. banks, as it is a community project – James is exploring this. Terry is to do a fund-raising ladder for the church wall. Possibility of retiring collections next year if target not met during Advent. Currently have raised around £300. A bank account has now been opened.

B) Raising Awareness – both in the Parish and wider community. Fr Peter suggested booking a slot at the next Churches Together meeting to inform them about the project.

Action; - **Alison** to discuss this with Phil Horton.

Also a public forum meeting needs to be arranged to inform the local community of what is happening and also gain support from the wider community. Possibly someone from the Romiley project could be present at this to respond to any concerns from the local community?

The three schools, St Simon's, St Philip's and St Peter's need to be informed about the project. The next meeting needs to be

advertised in St Philip's newsletter. Could Sean Ryan's text from his visit be made available on the website? Communication will be important. Fr Peter suggested putting an update in the newsletter once a month or adding a separate sheet if more space is needed. Also use of screens before and after Mass.

Action; - Alison – liaise with schools; Add meeting date to St Philip's newsletter; monthly update for newsletter; See if Sean Ryan's text is available for website?

A parishioner has some furniture that could be stored for the family - suggestion of using the upstairs gallery in the parish centre?(Possibly might need to be stored for up to a year.) Fr Peter thought that this should be OK.

Project has now been registered with Reset. Someone who was involved in the project at Romiley is coming to the next meeting on Tuesday 29th October at 7.30 pm to give some support/guidance.

The possibility of a group visiting Samir's restaurant was discussed. A possible fundraiser involving local families in cooking was discussed, similar to the recent Cultural evening.

There are other initiatives mentioned by Caritas in this week's newsletter including; - Support for families affected by drug and Alcohol addiction; Street pastors; prison visiting; Parish celebration for St Josephine Bakita. Fr Peter felt it important not to overwhelm people with too many new initiatives at once. Initially main parish focus will be the Community Sponsorship scheme.

4. Year of The Word 2020 – "The God who Speaks"

This is an initiative of the Bishops of England and Wales in partnership with the Bible Society. It will focus on three areas – Celebrating God's word, Living God's word and sharing God's word as we journey through Matthew's Gospel.

Fr Peter is still waiting for more information to come through. The year starts on 1st Sunday of Advent and hopefully there will be a different monthly focus throughout the year.

Some ideas discussed; -
Look further into Cardinal Newman's teaching and take study of Scripture to a deeper level.

Still waiting to hear back from David Beresford about the follow-up day to the Bible weekend.

Broaden out at an ecumenical level and do something with the other churches in the area? There are new ministers at the Methodist church and new vicar at Norbury.

Have an event to encourage new readers/current readers?

Fr Nicholas King event was very good – he is due to return next year.

Fr Geoff O’Grady would be a great speaker on the scriptures – could have a series of speakers in between Footsteps talks.

Use ‘Lectio Divina’ to help people pray the scriptures.

The Pope has chosen the third Sunday of ordinary time (26th January) as Word of God Sunday – could we have Lectio Divina instead of a homily that day?

Scripture group meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays. Looks at the following Sunday’s readings – could be given more publicity.

Link everything going on in the parish to “Living the Word”.

Action; - All – reflect on possible initiatives for Year of the Word whilst await further information.

5. Parish Centre Dates.

Fr Peter met with the manager of the Diocesan Company and the current parish centre manager. There is some concern about the number of Parish centre activities now on at a weekend that means that the hall is not available for private hire. Events at weekends include e.g. Lunches for the house bound (Two Saturdays), Advent days, Alpha, Parish Christmas Fare. We have also now booked ten Sunday evenings for Youth Alpha. Some events may need to be booked nearer to the time around when the hall is not in use. Anne suggested using other venues such as St Vincent’s. Renovation of the parish centre will be taking place – however waiting to see if eligible for any community funding.

The meeting closed with the Parish Prayer.

Next PPT Meeting; Monday 2nd December 2019

Meeting starts in church at 7.00 pm with Exposition.

Chairperson; - Alison. Minutes; - Rachel.