

Minutes of Our Lady of Kirkstall Parish Council Meeting,
Wednesday 31st January 2018, Holy Name Church Hall

Participants:

Margaret Barnes (Chair), Eric Liddell (Vice Chair) Rev Patrick Smyth, Rev Emmanuel Adinsu, James Moreland, Eddie Aitken, Julie Trumble, Michael Emly, Elizabeth Andrews (Medaille Trust), Susan Taggart, Peter Hughes, Barbara Pounder.

Apologies: Teresa Todd, Marian Emly,

Opening prayer giver by Fr. Pat.

MB opened the meeting, welcomed all and gave apologies.

1. Matters arising from the previous meeting.

World on our Doorstep, great success, Parish Lampadusa cross event was well attended and very moving. Thanks to Eric and Amadid for their contribution.

2. Liz Andrews spoke about the Medaille Trust.

Liz is the diocesan rep for the Medaille Trust, copies of their magazine were circulated to the Parish Council members. Liz lead us through a PowerPoint handout on modern slavery and how despite slavery has been abolished a staggering 40.3 million people are in differing types of slavery worldwide inc. forced marriage and bonded slavery.

Currently there are 541 live Police operations across the U.K. targeting organised slavery of various types. Liz went on to speak about the foundation of the Medaille Trust and the work it currently does. The Trust has helped around 1000 people to date. Any support the Parish can offer to support their work would be gratefully received.

Fr. Pat invited Liz to return to speak to congregations about the work they do at a later date and that the Parish Council might discuss further what they could do to support their work. – Appeal after Easter. Information on the Medaille Trust to be put up on the Live Simply board.

Day of Recollection for Readers & Eucharist Ministers (Lent) to be led by Fr. John Farrell OP 24th February at Holy Name

3. Schools News;

There have been lots of opportunities for parental/community engagement such as, Nativity, collective worship and Mini Vinnies. Live Simple Project continues to recycle a wide variety of things.

4. Unity Week 'Shared Pulpits' - Vatican Guidelines

Guidelines circulated from The Holy See, via Bishop Marcus, about when the non-ordained should be speaking to the congregation and in the case of speakers from other denominations. Fr. Pat lead council members through the guidelines briefly.

5. Live Simply update

MB - Thanks to Michael and his team for all they have done so far.

M Emly – Project has made a really strong start with much active participation and many becoming involved in various ways. Still unsure at this time as to what degree with have reached the bulk of parishioners. The regular bulletins have been successful with a healthy number of people wanting to contribute. Feedback will also be given to the Parish about how previous appeals have done and where there might be shortfalls, M Barnes to speak with David Wilkinson (SVP).

Gardening project – Great response, 13/14 people have agreed to take part and be split into groups across the three churches. However, looking at the church sites the land did not lend itself well to cultivation. Therefore, looking wider to what was being done across the city with the 'Urban Buzz' organisation. In the future more information will be disseminated to the Council.

Parish Council approved the proposed switch to working with Urban Buzz. All Councillors agreed the motion.

6. Refugees Update

B. Pounder – Christmas gifts collect for refugee children was a great success.

Update on the world she is doing as a volunteer with the Refugee Council.

- Help needed for young adults with exam prep - Volunteers from the Parish who would be willing to work with refugee children in this area to help prepare them and possible with supervised GCSE students. This work is also in collaboration with 'In2university' who go into support bright, but disadvantaged students.

B Pounder is coordinating with Rev Deacon Joe Cortis on this project.

Where? – We would have to go to them. Oak House willing to open for this purpose. DBS will be preferable but not required; someone from Refugee Council with DBS will be there.

Notices about this work and how to volunteer will be placed in the Parish Bulletin and speakers will give information in the Parish during Mass.

This one most likely on a once a week basis to help them gain confidence, improve English and better prepare them for exams.

Moving forward this idea could be linked in as part of the Live Simply and Refugee work.

Date for talks in the churches –TBC

7. Termly colour A3 or A4 OLK News Sheet

Fr. Pat feels it would be helpful to have some form of media output across the Parish on a termly basis. An example from Blessed John Henry Newman parish was shown to the Council. Fr.Pat would suggest something more like the Peter's Trust 4 page (A3) update letter. Three times a year would be adequate and not too demanding. Appeal to parishioners to be involved will be placed in the bulletin and possibly LTU. Suggestion made to investigate if funding for this could be raised from advertising.

8. Any other relevant business

- MB – Raised at last meeting that we would look at having specific collections e.g. socks for refugees, colouring books for children. Speak with David (SVP) and Rose (Refugee Council) as to if there is anything they specifically need. MB to contact them David and Barbara to contact Rose. The next appeal to be for Easter.
- Fr. Pat to look at calendar to look at spacing of the various appeals.
- -Feedback asked for as to was the Parish Christmas Raffle successful? – Yes, very well supported across the Parish. Raised over £1000 and good range of quality gifts offered. Worked well drawing it across the three churches.
- Questions raised by parishioners - Is it possible for cremated remains to be buried by the side of St. Mary's Church? Fr. Pat consulted with the Diocese, Kevin Anderson (Diocesan property administrator) replied saying that it was not in keeping with Diocese policy. It can cause problems with future development plans of the Parish facilities and therefore are not permitted. MB will contact the party who raised the question to inform them of the Diocesan reply.

9. **Date time and place of next meeting** 9th May 2018, Holy Name Church Hall

Closing prayer led by Fr. Pat.