

# Catholic Parish of Belper and Duffield Parish Pastoral Council | MINUTES

Meeting date: 08/07/2015, 19:00

## Attending council members:

Fr Michael Kirkham	present	Louise Monange	present
David Barlow (Chair)	present	Sally Phillips	present
John Wareing (Vice Chair)	present	David Pipe	present
Niels Richthof (Secretary)	present	Barbara Wareing	present
Anne Halliday	present	Alan Ward	apologised
Patricia Lloyd	present	Michael Wright	present

## Guests:

Stephen Berken, Maggie Brayley, Julia Dodd, Kathy Gorman, Margaret Kirkham, Ros O'Melia, Liz Worth.

## 1. Welcome by chairman

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed all present. Fr Michael Kirkham led the opening prayer.

## 2. Discussion of Pope Francis' Encyclical Letter Laudato Sii on Care for Creation

Fr Michael gives an overview of Pope Francis' letter, there were copies sold in the church.

Ros O'Melia (group 1) – group discussed the concept of inner peace, it was felt that we need to rebalance our lives. Discussed technology (rapidity), technology has had both negative as well positive results, e.g. in developing countries mobile phones have brought about massive improvements. Group was looking at changing in our own lives, such as sharing cars to church. Food waste could be handled better, some areas collect food waste and compost/recycle it, question whether we can lobby the council to introduce such a scheme. An idea was to switch off the light during daytime masses in order to reduce the use of energy.

Maggie (group 2) – had discussion about what ecology meant to us; it's a massive and very challenging subject; governments are not responding enough to the challenges. They thought about how to take political actions about it (contacting MPs and other methods), then thought about increasing education and awareness about the subject – not just children but also the adults as the role models for children. Also talked about opportunities to reconnect with nature as our live styles have disconnected us from nature. It would be great to have a series of masses

that are like little events, e.g. a mass outside with prayers for nature. Actions such as 20 families trying to not use a car for a day.

Michael Wright, Group 3 – could do more in terms of recycling, with better education recycling could do more efficiently. Less use of paper, more use of the internet. Changes in lifestyle: use of public transport, sharing transport to masses and meetings, improving efficiency in our own homes (lighting, heating). Have an audit for energy usage and a carbon footprint. Educational element to be spread in the church groups (children group, leisure group etc.).

Group 4 – agreed that it is a very complex issue. As an example the reduction of shopping bags, which is good for nature, but reduces the demand for bags which will cost jobs. There is a link between social justice and ecology. Helping other countries by giving foreign aid (money) is difficult as money often is misused (for weapons or corruption).

Fr M thanks everyone for the rich and multi-layered discussion. Has the time come to establish a justice and peace group in the parish?

David Pipe suggests a follow-up event in 2 or 3 weeks' time, invite Churches Together in Belper. Fr. M points out that we're hosting the next CTIB event in September and the annual mass in October, so we could add that to the agenda. David Pipe also suggests to invite our MP to that. Louise Menange flags that all of these groups already exist, but most people in the parish don't take part, so we should change that.

### 3. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were approved unanimously.

### 4. Matters arising from minutes of last meeting

No matters arising.

### 5. Duffield boundary issues

We had a meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. A vote was held at the end which voted 8:2 in favour to remove the leylandii hedge at the bottom and the sides of property. Despite that, most parishioners in Duffield would like to keep the hedge and the council does not want to act against those wishes.

We've got quotes for trimming the hedge back professionally £900 to trim from one company, £1,300 to remove all hedges and £600 for trimming from another company.

Chair proposes to keep the hedge and trim it back for this year and revisit the subject next year. This has been agreed.

Area at the bottom of the site – John Wareing and Chair have removed the concrete post. On the 18<sup>th</sup> 10am to 1pm a skip will be on site to remove all the rubbish. This has been announced in the bulletin. There was a discussion about what fencing is to be put into place. Post and rail

system was selected (6 : 4 votes). Quotes for that are 4 feet high posts and 10 feet rails - £666, £1,040 and £1,400. Labour £120. 2 more quotes for labour to be acquired; project approved.

Can we get a garden bin in the sizing for the site – for the grass cuttings?

## 6. Plans for PPC Review Day in September

Fr M managed to find a person to review our council. She is a councillor and supervisor. She's willing to do this for free.

Provisionally set for 1<sup>st</sup> September – 18:00

## 7. AOB

Shelf to be fixed for DVD player – Niels

During a meeting with bishop it was suggested to leave the church open during daytime to allow for prayers. The council felt that the dangers outweigh the benefits.

Training on the sound system needed.

Next meeting: Tue 15/09/2015 19:00

RE (diocese)

Pat Whetton sends apologies re churches together