



Saint Vincent de Paul Catholic Church

Altrincham

St Vincent's Parish Pastoral Team

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 5 March 2024 Westleigh

Attendees:	Fr Jonathan, Fr Godlove, Anna Croughan, Ruth Holland, Penny Howes
Apologies:	Christina Harrison-Stirling, Adrian Lewis

ITEM	CONTENT	ACTION
1	Welcome and prayer	
2	Apologies: as above	
3.	Minutes of last meeting – Wednesday 8 February	Approved
4.	Matters arising: none	
5.	Terms of reference for the PPT Updated version of the document was presented for approval. PH suggested two small changes to reflect seeking God's will for the parish. These were also approved, so PH will finalise and send document to office, with updated text for the PPT web page. JB thanked the team for producing a document that reflected our Christian mission so well.	PH
6.	Recruitment of new members to the PPT and team structure The importance of ensuring diversity in the team and representation of different sub-communities of the parish was discussed. There was also discussion about understanding of the role of PPT members, and agreement that it is primarily about seeking God's will for the parish and using transferrable skills (perhaps from professional life) in service to the community; this is an added dimension compared to a corporate role. Following advertisement last weekend, JB has received two nominations and two further names have been suggested. AC and JB will approach these individuals to assess whether they would be interested. There is an opportunity to invite Vron Smith (who led the recent parish retreat) to offer a day's formation to the team in May of this year. It is hoped to recruit new members before then so that a full day of reflection and team-building can be planned. JB to suggest dates (probably a Saturday).	AC, JB JB
7.	Schedule of activity/proposed format for the strategic plan RH presented a proposed template for the strategic plan, which was well received. The importance of retaining the three key headings identified at the parish synodal meeting was emphasised (faith, community and youth, all underpinned by communication). It was agreed that detailed planning is best kept until after the team formation day, where it is hoped detailed priorities can be identified.	Note
8.	Updates from: Faith: PH reported on the success and positive feedback from the retreat and week of guided prayer; 35 participated in the guided prayer and workshops were attended by more than 50, with only some overlap of people. It was especially encouraging that the guided prayer was a completely new experience for over half of participants and that many of those who joined the Let us Pray sessions last year participated in the guided prayer or workshops. The guides were particularly impressed by the	

	sense of community they felt – it wasn't just a set of individuals undertaking one-to-one sessions. PH will plan a meeting of the spirituality group in April to consider its role going forward. Community: events proposed by the social group were discussed, including the parish meal and a quiz night, which should attract a different cross-section. The atmosphere at coffee after 10am mass has been transformed to a real sense of community, with lively games led by Fr Godlove while there is still plenty of space for more sedate individuals. Young people: the challenges of youth ministry were discussed, including the need for safeguarding making it difficult to attract volunteers. It is particularly challenging to engage children of secondary school age. This will be a priority for the strategic plan and a team will need to be recruited. Communication: • <i>Vineyard</i> has been reintroduced and the first issue cost only £11 due to CHS work on advertising and negotiating costs. The next issue is proposed for June. • The website is progressing; a site map has been created and the branding is close to being agreed; a template for content has been developed for parish groups etc to update their content. • The newsletter will be updated with the new branding. • A social media policy for the parish is needed and this will have to be aligned with the diocesan policy.	PH Agenda item for 17 April Agenda item for 17 April CHS								
9.	AOB: RH proposed that the porch noticeboard be reorganised to reflect the priorities of the parish, Fr J thought this a good idea. RH will organise this after Easter & once the new branding has been agreed.	RH								
10.	Closing prayer									
Dates of future meetings	<table><tr><th colspan="2">PPT MEETING DATES 2024</th></tr><tr><td>Wednesday 17 April</td><td rowspan="5">Venue: Westleigh Time: 7.30–8.30pm Caveat: dates may be moved due to a prior Parish event etc./inability to secure a quorum (five)</td></tr><tr><td>Tuesday 7 May</td></tr><tr><td>Wednesday 5 June</td></tr><tr><td>Tuesday 2 June</td></tr><tr><td>Wednesday 18 September (note change of date)</td></tr></table> Note there is no meeting in August	PPT MEETING DATES 2024		Wednesday 17 April	Venue: Westleigh Time: 7.30–8.30pm Caveat: dates may be moved due to a prior Parish event etc./inability to secure a quorum (five)	Tuesday 7 May	Wednesday 5 June	Tuesday 2 June	Wednesday 18 September (note change of date)	
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