

MALAHIDE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Notes of meeting of 2nd. September 2010

Attendance: Fr. Peter Briscoe, Fr. Paul Thornton, Sr. Margaret, Joe McDonnell, Jo Morris, John Lynch, Daphney Green, Joan Reynolda, Noelle O'Donoghue McCaul, Bob Rooney, Dan Lucey, Regina MacCarrick, Paddy Roche, Pauline Lynch.

Apologies: Charlie Farrell, Oliver Whelan, Jean Houghton.

Welcome Mgr. Peter Briscoe: In the absence of Charlie Farrell the meeting was chaired by Joe McDonnell. Joe extended a warm welcome to Fr. Briscoe and said we look forward to working with him. Each member of the Council introduced themselves with a few words as to who they were and what they did.

Minutes of last meeting: Accepted with an amendment asked for by Noelle.

Correspondence: A letter from the Office of Evangelisation supporting a training initiative in response to the requests from many parishes regarding theological pastoral training for those who wish to deepen their knowledge of theology. The programme is called "Workers for the Vineyard", it will commence in Mater Dei Institute of Education on 16th. September. This will be put in the Bulletin and posters put up in the Church and we will see if anybody else is interested. As time is short it was suggested that those interested should proceed.

Parish Centre Update: It was reported that a lot of work had been done since the last report in June.

Fingal Co. Council surveyed the Church and Parish Hall, this is a special process to do with conservation work, she was in agreement with all we intend to do, we expect clearance to be granted soon.

A major task of identifying all details of every space in the centre was undertaken.

There was a meeting dealing with the conservation work to be done on the Church.

There was a major discussion on sustainability for the centre.

Repainting to be done on the side of the Church before the centre is built.

John asked that a presentation to the PPC be deferred until November.

Dept. of Education/Dublin Diocese – discussion on Primary Schools in Malahide and Portmarnock area: Discussion on possible divesting of patronage of Primary schools.

Malahide and Portmarnock were one of the areas analysed and where a change of patronage might be warranted. This would take patronage of the schools out of Church hands. This has come as a surprise to the schools. There is to be a meeting with the Diocesan person in charge of education, she is coming out to meet the Board of Management of St. Oliver Plunkett School.

Malahide Parish Pastoral Council's constitution: It was stated that our constitution, he said, was a very fine document.

Six members of the original Council are due to step down within the next two years, this should be done in stages, not all go at the same time.

New Parish grouping structure - implications: Four Parishes now grouped together, the two Malahide Parishes, St. Sylvester's and Sacred Heart, Portmarnock and Kinsealy Parishes. Each Parish has its own PPC. Which have not met together yet. There had been one Deanery meeting re grouping at which concerns had been expressed, there was to be another meeting in June but this was cancelled. Demands on our new Parish Priest will increase, people expect the Priests to be at everything, this is not possible but how do you solve it. We must look at ways of co-operating and working together and build bonds, there is nothing set in stone, so, look at what the possibilities are.

Forthcoming Parish activities: Parish Retreat Sunday 26th. September to Sunday 3rd. October, given by The Spiritan Fathers. It was reported that all arrangements are in hand. The Programme will be dropped into every home in the two parishes, posters and banners will be displayed.

Work will be done between us and Church of Ireland on an Alpha course for after Christmas. This is an Alpha Faith course which will take place in certain areas. They had it in Portmarnock and it was quite effective within the schools.

Any Other Business:

A council member said that after funerals the Church grounds were littered with cigarette butts, could a container for these be erected at the Church door.

The question of begging in the Church grounds was also raised. The HSE are obliged to come out and look after under eighteen year olds. Our Child Protection Officers have been in touch with the HSE and also with Crosscare who do a lot of work in this field.

Nest meeting 7th. October.