

Meeting of Parish Core Team 29th March 2023 7.30pm

Present:	Kevin Rourke (KR), Claire Fairlie (CF), Robin Landells (RL), Canon Tim Madeley (CTM), Jenny Marsden (JM), Claudine Maude (CM), Denis Woodhouse (DW)
	Minutes Secretary: Denise Bass (DB)

1.	Opening Prayer
2.	Apologies: None
3.	Minutes of the last meeting: minutes were agreed.
4.	Matters arising from the Minutes not on the agenda: None
5.	Finance: A new Gift Aid coordinator for St. Gabriel's has been appointed. He has liaised with the former coordinator and will receive training from the diocese after Easter. Currently all finance roles are now covered so RL will call a meeting of the joint team. Chair: Robin Landells, Treasurer/Bookkeepers: Geoff Day and Neville Barrie, Gift Aid Coordinators: David Mesquita-Morris and Steve Scanlon, Property/Health and Safety: Carl Conroy and Brian O'Connor, CTM and KR.
6.	Update on developments at Our Lady of Consolation and St. Gabriel's: CTM has recently had a meeting with the estate agent who is representing the developers and the property manager from the diocese. Things are progressing for both the development at Pulborough and the sale of the field at West Grinstead.
7.	Correspondence: Parishioners have been in touch via email, the suggestion box and online suggestion box. A number of points were raised including the holding a parish AGM. The PCT agreed this was something that will be done later in the year. There was a request to make the PCT minutes more accessible. Paper copies are now available at both churches to take away (DB) and from now on the minutes will be on the parish website (KR). Inappropriate use of a word in the minutes was also raised. DB to take more care with proof reading in future. A further request was the 'visibility' of the parish finances which will now be addressed with the new joint, fully staffed Finance Team. The Core Team felt that some other points raised needed to be addressed through face to face dialogue and CF offered to do this on the Team's behalf. The Core Team also received a note of thanks for the provision of Latin Mass in the parish.
8.	New Parishioners' Get Together: The date and time agreed was Friday 12 th May at 7.30pm subject to the availability of the Hall at St. Gabriel's. Since then the date has been changed to the 19th May as the Hall was already booked. Nibbles and a glass of wine will be provided. There will be a short welcome by either KR or CTM. CTM will write letters of invitation. It will be in the newsletter and announced at Mass so no one is missed. The invitation will be for anyone who has joined the parish in the last 5 years. The Core Team will be there to host. DB in consultation with CTM will create the invitations and DW will help distribute via mail merge.
9.	Christmas 2023/Easter 2024: Since CTM has been Rector and Parish Priest the format has been to have Midnight Mass at St. Gabriel's and the Easter Triduum at Our lady of Consolation with a Good Friday service also at St. Gabriel's. CTM has been approached by some parishioners asking for this to be swapped around and perhaps a pattern of alternating the location of the feasts could be set. The Core Team felt this was a good idea. CTM agreed but with a proviso – that the St. Gabriel's choir would guarantee a full presence at the Triduum including Easter Sunday. This led to discussion of the Holy Mass. CTM said that the feeling of most of the clergy at the deanery meeting was that it was too soon to reintroduce the chalice on Maundy

	Thursday. So in line with the deanery the Core Team felt that we should wait until Corpus Christi before considering this again. CTM would also like to re-establish the recommissioning of Eucharistic Ministers at the Maundy Thursday Mass every year. DB to invite all to do so on the 6th April. DW asked about Eucharistic Ministers giving blessing and CTM said they may give a simple blessing to someone who approaches them with arms crossed indicating they would like this.
10.	Break in and Burglary at St. Gabriel's: This occurred sometime between 1pm on 21st March and 5pm on the 22nd. The side door and lock of the church were forced and damaged. Initially it was thought that nothing had been taken but later it was discovered that the boxes on the votive candle stands had been forced open and all the donation boxes set in the walls had had their front plates removed. There wouldn't have been a lot of money available as DB had recently emptied the boxes, possibly £50. The police were informed and a crime number has been issued. DB is in contact with the diocese and the insurers.
11.	Synod Question 6 Part 1: Dialogue in Church and Society The Core Team examined the first part of the summary of responses to this question and made the following observations: • CM commented that informal discussion at a personal level is often the most effective • Establishing an AGM would give an opportunity for a more formal discussion • Ecumenical discussion can arise in a number of ways – the participation in the Billingshurst Churches Together group, the Christian Unity service, the Lent lunches in Billingshurst, the groups who visit the shrine on pilgrimage • Perhaps at West Grinstead there would be an opportunity to reach out to other churches such as St. George's for something like Lent lunches rather than just have them 'in house' • Not much opportunity to be in dialogue with other faiths as there is only a very small presence in the area. This might change as more people offer homes to refugees. • The role of the laity and in particular women – Pope Francis has put more women in important roles in the Vatican. Women quite often run parishes. • The Core Team consists of nominated members. They are not directed but given information and asked their opinion • Old Rite or New Rite is not as straight forward as being wanted by clearly defined age groups as quite often the young can be drawn to the Old Rite • The Extraordinary Mass may be said at West Grinstead because it isn't the parish church, it is a Chapel of Ease
12.	AOB: The Core team wish to express their heartfelt thanks to Brian Richards for starting up a Social Team and organising the social events for 2023. Bishop Richard wishes to meet with clergy and Core Teams on 12th July at 7.30pm at The Friary, Crawley.
	Date of next meeting: 10 th May '23 7.30pm at JM's house
	Final Prayer