

Meeting of Parish Core Team 21st June 2023 7.30pm

Present:	Kevin Rourke (KR), Sarah Cooper (SC), Canon Tim Madeley (CTM), Jenny Marsden (JM), Claudine Maude (CM), Denis Woodhouse (DW)
	Minutes Secretary: Denise Bass (DB)

- 1. Opening Prayer**
- 2. Apologies:** Claire Fairlie
- 3. Welcome:** KR welcomed Sarah Cooper to the Core Team meeting as she has kindly agreed to be the new Chair of Finance for the new parish finance committee. The PCT is very grateful for her attendance and her input at future meetings.
- 4. Minutes of last meeting:** Agreed
- 5. Matters arising from the Minutes not on the agenda:** No matters raised.
- 6. Finance:**
 The roles for a new finance committee identified at the last meeting are all filled. KR has identified another volunteer to join the committee and the new Gift Aid Coordinator is willing to take on a wider role so CTM will contact a couple of existing members giving them the opportunity to step down now if they wish.
 CTM has been asked for financial support for a parishioner to go to World Youth Day and another to go to Lourdes. There is no fund within the parish to help with this. CTM suggested having a second collection once a year in order to be able to help with future requests of this nature and the PCT agreed.
- 7. Safeguarding:**
 The Diocese has been in touch with all parishes and Safeguarding Officers with concerns that parishes are not getting safeguarding awareness training and DBS checks for those in volunteer roles such as Parish Safeguarding Representative, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Youth Group Leader, Catechist, Drama Group Leader, Altar Server and Driver. KR has not yet received a list from the Diocese stating the parish's status. In the meantime he will forward his list of current volunteers and their roles to DB to check that it is up to date.
 KR also reported to the team that there had been problems with the water in the Hall during the week. He will contact the property manager to find a quick solution to this problem.
- 8. Update on developments at Our Lady of Consolation:**
 CTM reported that the leaks above the confessional have suddenly become much worse. The architect Anthony Feltham-King was invited to the Shrine and he and CTM investigated the roof. They discovered lead around a chimney that had possibly failed and needed replacing. This and other work identified by the quinquennial report must be done regardless of cost. Such a job will require 3 quotes as will the installation of the new altars. AFK to research.
 The arrival of the new font is delayed because the Diocese of Salisbury is insisting that the new font in the church there must have a lid so the creator has to alter their design in order to comply.
- 9. Update on developments at St. Gabriel's:**
 The property manager has received a quote for the new lines to be painted in the car park but is still trying to find contractors willing to take on the ramp and emergency disabled exit path from the hall.
 There have been no further developments at the Pulborough site apart from a portaloo appearing in the car park for the use of the men who man the traffic lights by the landslide. This has now been made official with the required paperwork and remains there as a gesture of goodwill.

10.	Synod Question 7: Other Christian Denominations The Core Team examined the summary of responses to this question and made the following observations: • CTM said that dialogue between the other Christian denominations is happening at a national level but isn't widely publicised and there are no major developments. • CTM felt that there would more likely to be more progress towards unity with the Orthodox and Coptic churches • CTM meets with the other clergy of Billingshurst. Met this week for lunch and to discuss the joint end of term assembly for the primary school • The lay reader of St. George's West Grinstead came to CTM's Induction Mass and perhaps a link could be made through her as there are no formal links with other denominations at West Grinstead • KR said that Churches Together Billingshurst was borne of initiatives such as Messy Church and the Dementia Café however it can still be difficult to get people to engage • JM added that gentle discerning is needed to show that you have common ground. She has a personal link with the vicar in Partridge Green and will visit her. She will see if there might be a small joint venture and then await what may evolve • The Christian Unity service at St. Gabriel's was a great success but CTM felt repeating such an event too many times in a year would make it lose its impact • SC reminded the PCT that the Walk of Witness this year was a very powerful event • People need to continue to develop personal relationships with people in other Christian denominations • JM said that she felt that the more secular society becomes then the closer Christians will become • SC and CM pointed out that in their experience, marriage and baptism preparation classes were instrumental in involving spouses from other Christian denominations in the Catholic faith. CTM pointed out that this was easier for spouses who weren't practising their faith • CTM informed the PCT that the issue of Anglican clergy coming in to the Catholic Church was also due to concerns over the authority of the Anglican Church to make some of the very important decisions
11.	New Parishioners' Get Together: It was agreed that it was a big success. Attendees were very appreciative and one pointed out that we are very lucky to have so many young people in our parish. Other clergy remarked it was a great idea and will try in their parishes. The PCT will host another evening next year during the week before Pentecost.
12.	Census: DB handed out the new census form she had created. The PCT discussed and came up with a number of amendments and additions.
13.	Suggestion Box Submissions: A parishioner asked could the music choices at Our Lady of Consolation be considered as it was felt that it is very difficult to be prayerful when you cannot join in the hymns as they are sometimes not known by the congregation.
14.	A.O.B. CTM distributed copies of the Safety Toolbox Progress Report for the Parish to the PCT. KR will contact the Billingshurst property manager to see if he can help with the reporting of information to the Diocese. The PCT set the date for the 2023 Parish Day on Sunday 10th September.
	Date of next meeting 30th August '23 7.30pm at JM's house
	Final Prayer