

ST JOHN THE APOSTLE PARISH KIPPAX
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
11 July 2013.

Present: Rebecca Jefferys (Chair), Fr. Gerard McCormick MSC, Fr. Alfin Buarlele MSC, Larissa Davis, Marian England, Ann Reynolds, Margaret Sheehan, Sabina Van Rooy, Joe Barr (minutes).

Agenda Item 1 | ***Opening and Welcome***

Rebecca Jefferys opened the meeting and welcomed Council members.

Agenda Item 2 | ***Opening Prayer***

The Opening Liturgy was led by Rebecca Jefferys. Next Meeting, Ann Reynolds

Agenda Item 3 | ***Apologies***

Apologies: Eman Basheer, Stephanie Cox, Toni Cox, Tom Halloran, Peter Igoe-Taylor, Luan Nguyen.

Agenda item 4 | ***Minutes of the Previous Meeting***

a. Acceptance of Minutes

Proposed: Larissa Davis. **Seconded:** Margaret Sheehan.

b. Business arising from the Minutes.

Women's Gathering. Sabina Van Rooy advised that organisation of the Women's Gathering was progressing well. It will be held on 11 August 2013 and 12 speakers have already been booked. She emphasised that all are welcome to attend.

Agenda item 5 | ***Correspondence***

Out. None

In.

1. From Ann Reynolds with ideas for revitalising the Neighbourhood Communities. It was agreed to pass this on to the sub-committee tasked with implementing the Parish Plan. This sub-committee is still to be formed as the sub-committee charged with analysing the results of the Parish Assembly has now completed its task.
2. From Bob Haverfield responding to the letter that replied to his suggestions regarding plans for the new toilets. Father Gerard will prepare a further response to be signed by him and Rebecca. He will then present the response to Bob so that he can explain the background to the PPC's decisions.

Agenda Item 6 | ***Ongoing Business***

Toilet Renovation. Marian advised that recruitment for the Building Committee has begun. The committee will meet on 18 July to start looking at the plans and seeking quotes for construction. It was noted that Anglicare at Holt had received a grant for a similar project and that submissions for grants will be closing shortly. Rosalie Butler is now working on a submission for St Johns.

Parish Assembly. Rebecca showed a PowerPoint presentation proposed for use when presenting the findings of the Assembly to the parish. It was agreed that the presentation will be made by PPC Members after masses on Sunday 14 July. Suggestions were made for points to be made in the presentation and these will be incorporated in a script to be prepared by Rebecca.

The presentation will also be made available on the mobile notice board in the foyer and on the parish web site.

It was agreed that the PPC would concentrate initially on its two highest priorities – Rejuvenating Neighbourhood Groups and a review of Christian Initiation policies and procedures. A meeting of Neighbourhood Group Leaders is planned for Sunday 28 July at 3.00pm. Father Gerard circulated copies of an article from Liturgy News of June 2013 entitled 'Initiating Older Children into the Church – Choice, Chance and Challenge' by Mary Ryan. It was agreed that this area needs attention in the parish as there seems to be an increasing number of requests for such initiation and these are dealt with on an ad hoc basis. It was also noted that the Archdiocese appears to have no policy on the subject.

Agenda Item 7

Other business

Vote of Thanks. On his departure to Western Australia, the PPC presented a Vote of Thanks to Joe Barr for his activities in the parish.

PPC Elections. The PPC discussed the fact that elections to the PPC at the end of each year left a void before new members could take up their duties. Earlier elections would allow for some overlap to help the new members to settle in and it would then be appropriate to conduct a Formation Evening in February. It was agreed to seek nominations for the PPC in August this year so that new members could attend their first meeting, in conjunction with members of the current PPC, in September. It was also agreed that members of the PPC should speak at masses in August to encourage new membership and that retiring members should try to recruit their replacements.

Father Gerard stated that his vision for the PPC was that it be made up of elected members with ex-officio members from parish organisations attending only when needed. In discussion it was suggested that consideration be given to periodic meetings of all parish committees on the same night followed by a social gathering where the various members could get to know each other better.

Hospitality Ministry. A discussion on the development of the Hospitality Ministry noted that currently this was somewhat ad hoc with the information desk only staffed at some masses and Acolytes performing the function of greeting while carrying out other duties before mass. It was suggested that it might be appropriate to reactivate the old ministry of 'Usher' to perform a variety of related tasks.

Leadership within the Parish. Father Gerard suggested that there is a need to identify needs and promote training of leaders in the parish.

The Meeting closed with a prayer at 9:00 pm.

Next meeting: Thursday 9 August 2013 7:30 pm