

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
HELD IN THE LIBRARY ON THURSDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2016.**

Present: Carl Madsen (Chair), Marian England, Henri Clementine, Timothy Gill, Fr Gerard McCormick, Stephanie Stewart, Robert Breen (minute secretary).

Agenda Item 1 – Opening and Welcome.

Carl welcomed those present and thanked them for attending.

Agenda Item 2 – Apologies. Leilah Ayton, Helen Kennedy.

Agenda Item 3 – Prayer.

Carl tabled two documents, one an extract from the MSC constitution and the other a reading from 1 TM 1:12-17. He read Clauses 12 and 13 of the constitution and members discussed and reflected on the passages. Tim then read the passage from First Timothy leading to further comment and contemplation.

Agenda Item 4 – Correspondence.

Out. There was no outward correspondence.

In: Although not addressed to the PPC, Marion reported the Parish audit report had been received.

Agenda Item 5 – Minutes.

Moved Marion England, seconded Henri Clementine that the minutes of the August 2016 meeting of the Council be accepted. CARRIED.

5a, Business Arising from the Minutes.

Open Meeting + BBQ – 12 February 2017. There was considerable discussion on this item ranging over its purpose, who should attend, what it should focus on and how it should be run. The Council agreed:

- The purpose will be to set the theme/focus for the parish for 2017;
- The focus will be evangelization/outreach/mission of the parish particularly in the light of the forthcoming major population increase in West Belconnen;
- The meeting will require a facilitator exercising firm discipline;

- The meeting will commence after the 10AM mass and will be of 1.5 – maximum 2 hours in length;
- The need for a small team to organize the meeting was acknowledged;
- The event is seen as an activity under the Parish Plan.

Planned Giving/Stewardship appeal – 31 July 2016. Marion reported on this appeal – 70 parishioners had responded, some remain outstanding. There are over 25 new planned givers and a number have changed from envelopes to direct debit.

Agenda item 6 – Business:

Belconnen Region Parishes. Marian reported this action has been complete. Gerard advised he had withheld the letter to the MSC Provincial because of the impending Provincial election. It was agreed the letter should be one of the first items on the table of the new incumbent. Gerard emphasized the need to reassure parishioners that “nothing will happen tomorrow”; whilst the MSC remains at Kippax there will be no amalgamation of the parish. In the meantime the parish should reach out to the wider church, network in the area and be active in all diocesan matters. Council agreed the need to work on the evangelization/ outreach strategy with a view to placing a letter on amalgamation before the new provincial at the earliest. To this end it was agreed to call a special meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council for Thursday 22 September to decide the strategy; the meeting will be of about 1.5 hours in duration.

Parish Pastoral Plan. This topic was covered in the discussion of other agenda matters.

Welcome to new parishioners – Friday 11 November 2017. This activity will be held from 5.30 to 7.00 PM, office staff will arrange invitations to persons and families who have joined the parish in the last 18 months. The Refugee Resettlement Committee will be asked to encourage their new arrivals to attend. Special activities for children will be provided. The event will be hosted by the PPC.

Men’s Lunch – Thursday 27 October 2016. Aimed primarily at providing fellowship and support for widowers, bachelors and other local lonely men, this lunch will seek to establish what their needs which the church can help with are.

Closure and Next Meeting.

Carl closed the meeting with the recital of the silver card text “The Word”, Jules Chevalier, 1900.

The **next meeting** of the Council is scheduled for **Thursday 13 October 2016 commencing at 7.30 PM.**

Robert Breen
Minute Secretary

9 September 2016.