

St Francis of Assisi Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes of meeting held on 30 November 2023

**Present:** Father David, Roger Maughan (Ch), Eva Gaskin, Elisabeth Hall, Rita Ford, Roger Warren

**Apologies:** Rosalie Mans, Deborah Minnock

**1. Tuning in** All participated

**2. Prayer** The meeting opened with prayer.

**3. Minutes** Minutes of the meeting of 28 September 2023 were agreed, although The Newcomers Supper did go ahead, it wasn't postponed.

**4. Matters arising:**

**Ukraine**

The production line is going well. Rita has given Judith details of hospital sheets. Otters sell hot water bottles, with covers for £6.

The website to consult if you want to know more about how to help Ukrainian refugees:

<https://www.newforestforukraine.co.uk/>

**Christians Together**

Elisabeth needs another person to help. Tree of Joy and Tree of Peace with items tied to the trees.

Carol singing on the Green Wednesday 6 December 11:30am.

World Day of Prayer 2024 will be on 1<sup>st</sup> March and held at Everton.

Christians Together want their own bank account and a meeting will be held on 4/1/24 2pm at the Baptist Church.

Hopefully a production of the story of Eric Liddell from Chariots of Fire planned for 2024.

**One Big Mass** – Lymington, Brockenhurst and Milford. Fr David – this was a big logistical exercise and maybe held once a year. Linda received the following comments:

- ✓ Approx. 230 people attended.
- ✓ The general consensus of opinion after the Mass was that they enjoyed it.
- ✓ Can we have a joint Mass once a year?
- ✓ It was great to see people from all 3 parishes working well together.
- ✓ We've made new friends.

- ✓ The young people read brilliantly. Not fazed out at all by the 200+ people in the congregation or the different venue.
- ✓ Cakes were delicious.
- ✓ The young people gave us a Masterclass in how to read in church!
- ✓ Lovely to see all 3 churches engaging in such a positive way.
- ✓ Dear Fr David and Linda
- ✓ What a triumph!! But not achieved without a great deal of planning and very hard work? Thank you both so very much. Definitely a glimpse of a synodal church!! Bless you both.
- ✓ Thankyou Father, Linda, Lisa and anyone else in the office for such successful management. Yesterday was a huge success and already I've heard several peoples delight with it including words like 'new friends' .God bless you
- ✓ Dear Fr David, A big thank you to you. All your volunteers and helpers at the 3-parish Mass last Sunday. Thank you also to the children who read so well. It was a wonderful celebration.
- ✓ Dear Fr David and Linda, What an excellent day we had on Sunday at Brock Village hall! It was good to be part of a congregation of 200+ people! The Mass was beautiful, the singing lovely and the readings from the children were so good. The whole thing was balm to the soul! I know what it is like to organise things on a large scale, all the works and thought that goes into ensuring everyone is catered for and also safe and secure. So many people played such an excellent part to be sure that everything went smoothly. We both thought it was a wonderful morning. Thank you for holding it. Congratulations on such a success.

**Items at the back of the church** – Deborah Minnock and Roger Warren have begun clearing the back stairs in the Maryland room & taking stuff to the tip. The remaining stuff to be cleared is waiting for Fr David as more car space is needed.

**Recruitment of new PPC members** – The current 8 members is comfortable, if anybody else makes contact, liaise with Fr David and Roger Maughan.

**Notes from St. Francis – Milford CofE Parish magazine** – Action: Fr David

**5. African Charities** - Donation of £765 to purchase 4 laptops for the Holy Cross Sisters School Zambia cost £788 and Donation of £1000 to the FMDM Sisters for the Little Assisi School Build Project in Lusaka.

**6.. Coffee after Mass** – Deborah writes -

- 1) it will be mince pies with coffee and tea on Sunday 17th December. Tea, coffee and biscuits on 3rd December!
- 2) some weeks ago we purchased a second catering kettle. This was as the result of a

generous donation from one of our parishioners who wishes to remain anonymous. I thought our gratitude should be noted in the minutes of this meeting.

3) it is just over a year since coffee morning recommenced. In that time donations have amounted to just a few pence over £366 for the calendar year. Thank you everyone. We hope you continue to enjoy the opportunity to meet with and chat to others after Mass.

**7. Future Feast Days** – Christmas – Eva has organised some cards to hand out, then Fr David is off for the week, so Sunday 31/12/23 Fr Shaun Budden will celebrate Mass.  
Epiphany – Sunday 7 January 2024.

#### **8. Sick List / Housebound / Any general concerns**

DM – seriously ill with cancer. Treatment has stopped. At home.

SB – wasn't too good but rallying now.

UB – Leah visits.

BM and KR receive communion at home.

ML – would like a visit.

RF – ongoing course of chemotherapy pills.

PL – has undertaken quite a lot of treatment.

#### **9. Any Other Business**

Fr David has to organise a meeting for Chairs of the PPCs of the whole of the Forest re Diocesan Plan.

**Date of next meeting:** **Thursday 25 January 2024.**

**Date of following meeting:** **Thursday 21 March 2024.**