MINUTES OF PPC MEETING

On 26th January 2023

Present: Mark Shuldham (Chairman) (MS), Fr Anthony Paris (Fr A), Catherine Vaux (CV), Robert Vaux (RV), Chris von Patzelt (CvP), Nick Wright (NW), Chris Roddis (CR), Deacon Michael Hughes (MH), Anne Evans (AE), Alan MacDermot (AM) (Secretary)

Apologies: Catherine Bernard (CB), Corinne Williams (CW),

The meeting began with a prayer

1 Role and name of this meeting

The Church and the Bishop like to distinguish between a Pastoral Council (considerations might include attracting and retaining parishioners, looking after the elderly) and a Parish Council (finance and the running of the Parish). However, in the interest of continuity it was agreed that the group would be called the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) and would continue with the same scope as before.

2 Admin Team (MH)

The Admin team was established to offload from Fr Anthony as much as possible of the day to day work previously carried out by Fr Robert. Rachel, as secretary, will be a member of the team and the others at present are MS, MH, RV, CV, AM and Sue Berkeley Matthews. It has a missionary element but that should be true of all Parish groups. Fr Anthony pointed out that an additional benefit would be to demonstrate to ourselves that we can run the Parish as priests are withdrawn in the future, and identify and bring on successors; to a large extent Fr A's role is to keep out of the way.

3 Reports from Committees

Reports from the committees were circulated beforehand and are attached.

i) Comments on Treasurer's Report (RV)

We have spent more than we have received but this is justified to build the infrastructure that we need for the future (Parish Office, computers etc). Costs of compliance are also increasing. The offertory has reduced since pre-Covid. Efforts needed to increase revenue were discussed. Fr A insisted that there was no need to apologise for this and proposed to make it the subject of a homily later in the year while key figures were fed gently to the congregation beforehand. The funding of the Diocese via the Parish Share is not sustainable in the long run.

4 Parish AGM (MS)

It was proposed that the Parish Annual General Meeting would be on Thursday 11th May in the Hinton Hall, with refreshments at 6:30 for a start at 7:00. AM is to notify the Social Group and ask whether they would book the Hinton Hall for us.

The agenda will include Committee reports, election of the PPC members (and a call for other volunteers). In addition, we will ask for ideas from the floor on how well the Parish has been working and what could be improved. This can only be effective if parishioners are primed beforehand and have time to prepare comments.

Fr A pointed out that the opportunity to volunteer binds parishioners to the parish.

5 Discussion of the Parish Structure

Tisbury and Wardour is a Parish in its own right, and Fr Anthony is the Parish Priest although he does not live locally. The other two Salisbury priests are also appointed to this Parish, and Deacon Michael is the key sacramental contact point.

6 Any Other Business

i) Support for housebound or non-driving parishioners

It is possible to introduce people to each other to make private arrangements for transport but any formal rostering is likely to fall foul of insurance and perhaps safeguarding.

ii) Charges for use of the Parish Room

Patricia Coopman is to be allowed the discretion that she had under Fr Robert to set charges. It was felt that the charges are very low and might possibly be doubled.

iii) Professional cleaners for the church

This had been discussed within the Admin Team. Contract cleaners have been interviewed and are proposing a cleaning session every six months involving 2 people for 5 hours each at a cost of £150. They would clean parts of the church not readily accessible by volunteers, but otherwise it was felt that we are coping using volunteers.

iv) Tisbury Christian Council (AE)

The Tisbury Christian Council has three members each from the Catholic, Anglican and Methodist churches. They organised the Remembrance Day ceremony and the Christian Unity service. They are now organising a procession on Palm Sunday, and AE is allocating parts to Catholics who want to be involved.