



ST STEPHEN'S PASTORAL GROUP

*Minutes of a Meeting held on Wednesday 19 October 2011 at 7.30 pm
in the Community Room, St Stephen's Church*

Present:

Sanna Dean (Chair), Claude Smith, Mary Alveyn, Peter McManus, Christel McCartney, Anne Benson, Liz Tipple, Marie Wright, Liz Le Grys.

1. Opening Reading and Prayer

The meeting opened with a New Testament reading by Sanna.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Jon & Dawn Egerton-Kemp, Gill Heneghan, Liz & Mike Slinn, Ian McHardy, Canon Paul, Gerard Dailly, Keith Bennett.

3. Processional Cross

Members of the sub-committee reported they had met twice in May to discuss the issue. At those meetings it was decided the old cross was beyond repair, and that we would either have a new cross from a catalogue or commission a bespoke cross from an artist (David John, a friend of Keith Bennett). Sketches of the David John proposal were exhibited in church with requests for feed back. (Only one member of the community said they liked it).

The meeting discussed all this and it was proposed that

- ⤴ The sub-committee be reformed
- ⤴ They discuss the following options within the budget (approx. £800):
 - a) A cross from a church furnishing catalogue
 - b) A hand carved corpus to be put on original cross (from Oberammergau)
 - c) Use corpus from St Thomas More cross.

It was also proposed that Canon Alan Griffiths be invited to help with the process as he will decide whether the chosen cross is liturgically and aesthetically acceptable on behalf of the Diocese.

The meeting agreed to reimburse David John for his travelling expenses.

4. Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 July 2011

The minutes were agreed (except that 'Peterpost' should now be called 'Hampshire Downs Catholic Parish Newsletter').

5. All matters arising from the minutes were covered in the agenda.

PARISH MATTERS

6. Hampshire Downs Pastoral Council Update ~ via e-mail from Mike Slinn

New terms of reference for the Pastoral Council are being established and a communications strategy has been drafted. The next Parish Annual Meeting will be on Wednesday 13 June 2012 in the new Pastoral Centre which will be officially opened on Friday 25 May 2012 by the new Bishop (if appointed by then). A strengths/weaknesses analysis is being undertaken and the council agreed to forming two groups to work on specific CAFOD projects in the parish (Connect 2 and Live Simply).

7. Hampshire Downs Parish Liturgy Group ~ via e-mail from Liz Slinn

Discussions have begun among the organists for there to be a wider parish approach to an organists' rota and to involve our University students and those of us who can provide emergency piano cover.

ST STEPHEN'S MATTERS

8. Rear Entrance Welcome

For some time it has been felt that there is a bottleneck at the back of the church before Mass. It was proposed that the book case holding the hymn books be moved to face the back door for a few weeks, to see if this makes any difference.

9. Poinsettias at Christmas

It was agreed that this is a special St Stephen's tradition and that we would continue to have them. Liz Tipple will make a rota for watering over Christmas (several people at the meeting volunteered to help with this).

10. Christingle

Sanna will contact Peter Bolger and tell him no one from St Stephen's will be organising it this year. It will thus probably not happen.

11. Kate's last Mass at St Stephen's (06 November)

- ⤴ Mike Slinn will organise a breakfast. Ian McHardy and Chris Alveyn will help.
- ⤴ There will be cakes and Bucks Fizz in addition to butties and bagels (various volunteers).
- ⤴ Liz Tipple & Claude are collecting for a present (John Lewis vouchers).
- ⤴ There will be a card to sign for Kate at Mass for the next 2 weeks (Liz Le Grys).
- ⤴ A framed collage of St Stephen's will be given to Kate at the breakfast (Anne Benson).

12. Future Music at St Stephen's

As noted under item 7, there is a discussion among the parish organists to instigate a wider approach to a rota. Ian Waring-Greene is too busy to be involved but Chris Allain is happy to help. Susan Pell will not be able to play until January. We will rely on community members with keyboard skills and our students when they are down from university in the short term. We will appeal for help from our community too.

13. St Stephen's Cards

Liz Le Grys has not had any success with a programme to print these. She will get in touch with Coral Brand from St Luke's who produces cards for that parish and hopefully will have some available early in the New Year.

14. Church Maintenance

Christel will talk to Brian about the dripping tap in the sacristy and some of the door stops which need adjusting.

15. Ministries

Welcome ~ more people are needed as some have recently dropped out. An appeal at Mass could be arranged.

Growing Church has moved rooms in school recently.

16. Website

The Hampshire Downs website is up and running with Moira Redmond editing it. The St Stephen's page needs updating.

17. Pastoral Care

It was felt this had been dealt with at previous meetings.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Travelling Nativity

It was decided that this is a St Stephen's tradition we would like to continue, so it will be happening again this year.

Peter McManus led the meeting in a final prayer.

Dates of next Meetings:

- ♣ Wednesday 16 November 2011 to discuss Advent/Christmas only
- ♣ Wednesday 18 January 2012.