

St Stephen's Pastoral Group
Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday 20th July 2011
at 7.30pm
in the Community Room, St Stephen's Church

Present: Sanna Dean, Steve Taylor, Liz Tipple, Liz Slinn, Mike Slinn (Chair), Anne Benson (taking minutes), Christel McCartney, Mary Alveyn, Gerard Dailly

1. Opening Gospel reading and prayer

The meeting opened with a Gospel reading and a prayer from Sanna

2. Apologies

Liz LeGrys, Kate Smith, Dawn Egerton-Kemp

3. Minutes of meeting held on 18th May 2011

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record except that Mike was Chair not Dawn

4. Appointment of new Chair

Sanna was agreed as the new Chair and she took over the meeting

5. Matters arising from minutes not covered below

Poinsettias – to be considered at the next meeting

Christingle – Louise Cutts does not want to do this alone. Can we throw open the organisation to the rest of the Parish? Sanna will contact Peter Bolger and/or place a notice in Peterpost to see if anyone else would like to help. **Action: S D**

Projector – anyone can borrow this for Parish use. It is kept at the home of the Egerton-Kemps

New organ – one has been selected and it will be soon be installed

Parish matters:

6. Hampshire Downs Pastoral Council – update

Via e-mail from Dawn

The new composition of HDPC is being discussed. A suggestion was that small working groups might be more effective. Diocesan guidelines need to be followed. Nothing will change until October when Fr Paul returns from his sabbatical leave.

7. Hampshire Downs Parish Liturgy Group

St Gregory's will host the Advent Service this year on Sunday 27th November at 4.00pm

The New Missal will be introduced on 4th September

The Adult Formation Group have been organising this:

Karen Murtagh is producing a booklet for the Parish with the new words, and cards for children.

Publicity is building in Peterpost and announcements will be made at Masses in August

House groups will be set up in September to discuss the new Prayers

Sung parts of the Mass will be chanted from September

This will be taught after Mass in August by Martin and Liz Slinn will lead the singing in St Stephen's

St Stephen's matters:

8. St Stephen's cards

Liz has been trying various possibilities on her computer. When a satisfactory result has been achieved she should make these available for sale straight away. It is not necessary to refer to the Committee first

9. Church maintenance

Front door bolt socket needed attention and this has now been fixed

Lectern stand – Jon has devised, in prototype, a new way of clipping the microphone to the centre of the stand. This puts it in a better place to pick up the voice of the reader and so works more effectively **Action: J E-K**

9. Ministries – update

Eucharistic Ministers – three new Ministers are to be commissioned:

Beverley Murtagh, Kay Fernandes and Leo Sharrock. Young people will be asked to fill in when they are back home from college and more will be recruited. **Action: C McC**

Welcoming – this is generally working well. More attention needs to be given to finding seats for the extra people attending Baptism Preparation Sunday. The area around the organ and piano needs to be kept clear. **Action: LT**

Children's liturgy – more helpers are needed

10. Feedback on picnic

Although this was a happy event, it was not as well attended as in past years. Would more people come if the time was changed so that the picnic follows on directly after the end of Mass? Would it be better if it was held on a set date each year?

11. Processional cross

David John is visiting St Stephen's next weekend and will come to Mass on Sunday 24th July. Mike will liaise with him. **Action: MS**

12. Pastoral care

In a church in Camberley, Surrey, a group of 'congregational pastors' operates to check whether anyone needs help or attention.

It was felt that this already happens in St Stephen's in an informal way.

However, this could be taken further: how would we pass on any needs to Fr Paul? Should there be a sign on the noticeboard with a contact number for anyone wanting help? Would people actually ask for help?

13. A.O.B.

Arrangements are being made to attend an exhibition about the King James Bible at Winchester College

When a visiting priest comes to St Stephen's to say Mass could he please introduce himself? **Action: AB**

Gerard will provide photographs of clergy for the notice board.

There is a course for those working in ministries with children on 7th November and one for those working with vulnerable adults on 9th November. All those involved must attend or they will be unable carry on their ministries.

It was agreed that it was unnecessary to provide tea and coffee at the beginning of the meeting. In future only water will be provided.

Christel will ask Angela Osborne about any bookings for the Church or Community Room during the school holidays.

Date of the next meeting: Wednesday 19th October at 7.30pm