

Maidstone South Parish Meeting
Holy Family Parish Hall
Sunday 4th December 2011, 11:45am

Opening Prayer

The meeting was opened with a prayer by Fr Roy.

Apologies

- Brian Mason
- Steve Petrie
- Hillary Kitchen
- Pauline Wilmot

Welcome

Fr Roy welcomed everybody to the meeting.

Outline & Purpose of the Meeting

Fr Roy outlined the scope and intended purpose of the meeting.

Review of the Maidstone South R.C. Parish Pastoral Council Constitution

Fr Roy stated that he had looked at the current Constitution and was happy with it and felt that it was a good framework upon which to proceed. If necessary Fr Roy stated that it could be reviewed and voted upon in the future.

Parish Pastoral Council

Fr Roy next began the process of requesting parishioners to put their names forward to be the committee leads of the Pastoral Council.

Fr Roy began with the Non-elected Members of the Parish Council. They were named as follows:

- A Member of the Parish Clergy, who will have the title of President of the Parish Council – **Fr Roy**
- The Head Teacher of Holy Family School or their Deputy – **Marie Betts**
- A Member of the Parish Finance Committee – **Awaits**

Fr Roy explained that he is in the process of getting a Finance Council together, which he will undertake a.s.a.p.

- Secretary to the Pastoral Council – **Chris Sloan**

Tony Menpes stepped down after being the Secretary to the Pastoral Council for about eleven years. (For the purpose of the Minutes, the new Secretary, Chris Sloan, would like to extend Thanks to Tony, on behalf of the Parish, for his very great service in performing this role diligently and professionally for so many years)

- The Parish Deanery Pastoral Council Representative – **Peggy Arnold**

Elected Members:

Fr Roy and the Secretary used the previous Pastoral Council list as a framework and went through it committee by committee. Many of the previous committee leads agreed to carry on as before. Other parishioners stepped forward to fill any vacant posts. During this process there were a few discussions as to the names of the various committees and some alterations were agreed and made.

The following committees were formed and parishioners elected as the leads of these committees:

- Child Protection [now known as Safeguarding] (Holy Family) - **Bernadette Spence**
- Child Protection [now known as Safeguarding] (St. Thomas) - **Pauline Wilmot**
- St. Thomas of Canterbury Rep. - **Terry Johnson**
- Missions & Overseas Development - **Anne Green & Mary Holt-Goldsmith**
- Maintenance (electrics) - **Joseph DeSouza***
- Maintenance (gardening) - **Bill Green***
- Social and Fund Raising - **Mary Lynn**
- Deputy Social and Fund Raising - **Bernadette Spence**
- Liturgy - **Daphne Newman**
- Sacramental Preparation (Holy Family) - **Nicki Knight**
- Sacramental Preparation (St Thomas) - **Pauline Wilmot**
- Evangelisation & Ecumenism - **Hilary Kitchen**
- Deputy Evangelisation & Ecumenism - **Margarita Clarke**
- Communications & Welfare – **Dave Arnold**
- Deputy Communications & Welfare – **Chris Sloan**
- Youth Ministry – **Not Filled**

Once nominations were found for all of these posts, with the exception of Youth Ministry and Maintenance [the above put their names forward at the end of the meeting], they were put to the whole meeting and ratified. There were no objections.

It is assumed there will be no objections to those who have now kindly volunteered to lead the important Maintenance Committee. If there are please let the Secretary know.

The Youth Ministry Committee was suggested by Fr Roy and is something he would like to develop. Nobody came forward at the meeting to lead this committee. However, Fr Roy stated he would like to hear from anybody who would be interested in trying to take this forward.

The Communications and Welfare Committees were combined. Fr Roy indicated he was concerned that he did not have a full picture as to those who were housebound in the parish. It was stated that Laura Harstedt and Hilary Kitchen were usually the best people to ask for this information.

It was stressed that the elected parishioners are just the leads of the various committees. Other parishioners are very much required to help, support, and play a role. Any vacancies / assistance required will be advertised in due course once the Pastoral Council has settled in.

A request was made for a breakdown of what strands come under each of the committee headings. It was stated that a document would be produced and this could be discussed at the first Pastoral Council meeting. (Action for Secretary)

Finance Council & Finances

As per above it was explained that Fr Roy is in the process of forming a Finance Council.

There was a discussion during the meeting as to who are currently members of the Parish Finance Committee. Pam Mason assisted the meeting with this. She indicated that her husband Brian Mason and Onneke Born were members. Terry Johnson and Denise Lintern indicated as far as they were aware they were also still members but had not been to a meeting for a very long time.

It was explained to the meeting that a Parish Finance Council is a requirement in Canon Law, and it is totally within the gift of the Parish Priest to request and select the parishioners he would like to be members of this Council.

Correspondence

None

A.O.B.

It was explained a new Parish website had been launched today. The URL is: <http://msrcparish.org.uk>

Pam Mason indicated that she will be stepping down from overseeing the Cleaning Rota for Holy Family Church. The rota has been completed up to and including the New Year, but a volunteer is required to pick this up and take over from Pam a.s.a.p.

There was a discussion re. the Newsletter and its formatting. Fr Roy stated that he is currently composing the newsletter and is happy to continue doing this for the time being. However, it might be something he will hand over to somebody else to complete in due course.

On this note it was noted that a parishioner - Ophelia Gajadhar – is currently giving her time undertaking some parish secretarial and bookkeeping duties. It was recommended to Fr Roy by some Parishioners present at the meeting that he might consider making this into a part time paid position as it used to be.

Pam Mason stated that she was currently in charge of handling the flower money, and that she no longer wished to undertake this task. She asked for somebody else to take charge of this responsibility. Mary Lynn indicated she would be happy to take this on.

Date of next meeting

Tuesday 10th January 2012, 7.30pm, Holy Family Presbytery

Closing Prayer and Blessing

The meeting was closed with a prayer by Fr Roy. He thanked everybody for coming and for their contributions. He also thanked those who had put their names forward to lead the various committees.