



Minutes of meeting held at St Margaret Clitherow, Haxby, York

7pm Wednesday 12th Jan 2022

Attendance: Members of the Parish, noted by booked attendance

Panel: Deacon David Cross

Fr Kevin Trehy

Chair: HLy

Notes: DFa

Meeting started with a welcome from HLy, an opening prayer led by Fr Kevin, and a reading from Deacon David.

Previous Minutes of third meeting were referenced by HLy – previously circulated. No matters arising.

Most of meeting focussed on open discussion of short and long term objectives – many of which to be taken forward by Development Group.

Short Term/immediate:

- Monitor guidance on COVID so more Parishioners can be welcomed back. Write to every Parishioner to invite back. Update Parish database.
- Re-start old and introduce new aspects of Parish community life.
- Show Bishop Terrence we are a vibrant Parish. Do not wait for Father Kevin to retire.

Longer term

- How will relationship work between Parish and York Deanery? E.g. for Sacraments.
- Do we need a Parish Office with opening times?
- A paid administrator? This person would be managed by the Diocese but funded by the Parish. Deacon David could help scope this out.
- Become more involved with local community. Communicate more e.g. via the Outlook.
- Explore different ways to access the Eucharist. Mention of Priest Administrator, Eucharistic services, Service of the Word.

Actions:

- Development Group to meet soon.
- Notes from Development Group to be communicated to wider Parish.
- General enthusiasm to convene 1-2 Parish meetings/year for all Parishioners to keep in touch on developments.

Fr Kevin led us with a closing prayer and a blessing



Brought forward from third meeting:

Comments/discussion/ideas:

- Need to keep in mind Synodal Pathway. **Action:** Deacon David to advise the availability of a Prayer Card being produced by the Diocese.
- Uncertainty around use of term “work with Parish Priest” against all items on original framework document tabled at first meeting. Elicited some discussion with Fr Kevin helping where he can. **Action agreed:** All groups to have a lead person to aid communication with Fr Kevin and other groups.
- Uncertainty around who holds lists of parishioners and how they may be contacted. **Action:** Newsletter circulation list exists but implication a wider list exists. More work needed.
- SVP Conference have also discussed the future and identified areas where they could enhance their contribution to the parish. **Action:** These ideas to be part of the further development of the parish.
- The training needs of parishioners was discussed with acknowledgement that this needed to be addressed. **Action:** Deacon David confirmed that the Diocese will be able to provide training once gaps have been identified.
- Were there examples of other parishes we could talk to who have gone down this road? Deacon David hinted this might be possible but cautioned that there was no template and parishes are taking different approaches – there was a risk of muddying the waters. A suggestion was made that, at an individual level, we might contact friends in parishes in a similar situation to see how they are dealing with this.
- Working with St Paulinus was discussed. Not attending each other’s meetings so difficult to progress at this stage. They are also taking a different approach at the moment and have asked for a Statement from the Diocese which they are unlikely to get at this stage.
- Accounts & giving was discussed. A finance report had been tabled (income/expenditure). Concerns were raised about lack of a balance sheet and how, more broadly, finances of St Margaret’s were managed centrally with expenditure on the fabric of the church controlled by the Diocese (reference to previous substantial legacies and our leaking roof was made). Recognition that as a relatively well-off parish we act as guarantor to less well-off parishes. **Action:** Further clarity on management of parish finances will be needed moving forward.
- Spontaneous giving is being hampered by lack of ready cash in peoples pockets. **Action:** Deacon David to investigate use of Tap & Go terminals for use at parish level.