



Christ Centred Compassionate Respectful Generous Responsive



Way Forward Group - Minutes of meeting held on 9th Nov 2022

Present: Kath Campbell, Mike Parish, Shona Paterson, David Farnsworth (Chair), Liz Farnsworth, Pat Keenan, Brian Rockcliffe, Freda Rockcliffe, Shirley Bamford, Kate Buy, Ros McMullen, Kath Spence, Sue Black, Bob Parr, Father Kevin.

Apologies: Sue Ellis, Sue Hudson

Item	Action
<p>1. Opening prayer led by Father Kevin.</p>	
<p>2. Welcome from Chair. Apologies from Sue E and Sue H. Chair informed group that, owing to other commitments, Marie Harrison is reluctantly having to step away from the group (NB Chair has thanked Marie for her contribution to the group).</p>	
<p>3. Minutes of last WFG meeting (7th July 2022). Draft Minutes as circulated approved.</p>	<p>DF to forward to JDo for website and copy for noticeboard.</p>
<p>4. Reflections on our recent joint parish groups meeting with Deacon David (27 Sept 2022). Also item Next steps and priorities including the evolution of the WFG</p> <p>Based on further discussions with the Bishop, Father Kevin was able to reassure the group that there is definitely a Priest coming to us from a missionary order. This information was warmly received by the group.</p> <p>Father Kevin also confirmed he will be retiring in 2023 (final date yet to be settled).</p> <p>Wide ranging discussion followed regarding implications for the Parish and the WFG.</p> <p>The urgent need to now evolve the WFG into a more formalised Parish Pastoral Council for St MC (StMC PPC) was agreed unanimously.</p> <p>The following was also agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whilst no merger of the parishes at this organisational level is envisaged, a mechanism needs to be found that would keep a close link between a StMC PPC and St P. • We need to get the StMC PCC in place asap so we can establish with Father Kevin's support and have in place for the arrival of our new 	



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Priest. Having this in place will also help us to welcome and orientate our new Priest to our Parishes.

- Many different governance models of PCC's exist elsewhere – from small executive groups (where everyone round the table had clear tasks and responsibilities to perform on behalf of the PCC) to more broad-based representation of active groups within the parish. All agreed we needed more information on governance models before settling on the right approach for St MC.
- How a StMC PCC group would be established was also touched on – including how this could be best achieved with the support of all parishioners.

Following on discussion, 4 “research teams” were formed to find out how other parishes in York Deanery and elsewhere organise themselves via a PCC. They are:

Our Lady's Acomb – Freda/Brian.

St George's York – Pat/Sue S.

St Leonard & St Mary Catholic Church, Malton – Sue B

Diocese advice and guidance on PCC's with Deacon David (including accessing the Parish Organisation folder as mentioned in our Parish meeting with him and the current thinking around establishing a paid for administration assistant for the parishes) – Kath/Mike.

Groups to report back at next meeting.

5. Group Updates and new initiatives

Following up the Synod process; Starting a Sycamore group.

Freda updated the meeting on behalf of the Synod group. The group had observed how parishioners had really valued and enjoyed the Parish Synod Reflective meetings. They had also discovered that resources were available through the Sycamore initiative to help structure and facilitate parish meetings where participants are able to explore their faith more deeply.

The Synod group (with invite extended to WFG members) will be meeting 2pm Tues 29th Nov to think this through and work out next steps to establishing a Sycamore group here.



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Update from Finance Committee

Brian updated the meeting on behalf of the Finance Cttee. He had recently held a very useful meeting with the Diocese on how the finances were managed and very helpful information from this meeting has been circulated to the WFG.

A recent meeting of the Finance Cttee identified the following priorities:

- St MC roof needs urgent attention to address long standing and damaging issues of water ingress. The Finance Cttee has agreed to take this project on as a group. A full structural survey is being arranged. Bob noted that many local roofing companies are shy of tackling the roof issues owing to the complicated architect design of the roof. Brian noted that the Cttee will be working with the Diocese on this project.
- The Finance Cttee has agreed to draw up an annual budget to manage the parish accounts. This will follow the Diocesan financial year (Jan-Dec).
- Two members of the Finance Cttee will be stepping down soon. These vacancies will need filling. An item appearing in the St MC bulletin was suggested.

Feedback from the recent Million Minutes meetings

Notes from these meetings at both StP and St MC were previously circulated. The meeting was unable to develop this discussion too deeply without Sue E being present. However, all agreed that we need to do much more to attract existing and new parishioners (young and old) back to both churches.

This to be on next meeting agenda.

6. Date of next meeting 7.00pm Tues 10th January 2023

Father Kevin thanked everyone for a very useful and enjoyable meeting and closed with a prayer and blessing.