

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Steering Group held on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2007 at the Presbytery

**Present:** Father Paul, John Bishop (Chairman), Ellen Kemp, Angela Periera, Dot Wade, Bridget Wells, Claire.

**Apologies:** Paul Bishop, Brian O'Hare, Veronica Boland

In attendance: Bernardette Milnes

1. Father Paul led the group in an opening prayer.
2. **Chairman's Remarks:** John Bishop noted that he was chairing the meeting as Paul Bishop was away on business. He also welcomed Bernardette Milnes to address item 5.
3. **Certification of the Minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2007.**

The minutes were agreed as correct subject to noting on Page 1, item 4 should read "Cambridge Biomedical Campus" and not "Centre".

#### 4. **Matters Arising**

*Item 4 - Parish Plan.* John Bishop sought clarification on receipt of the report noted on Page 3. This was confirmed as the report from the Independent Examination on Northstowe and was due at South Cambs District Council at the end of March.

Father Paul noted that he had received a letter from the Bishop of Ely to confirm that the church would not be available for services as an interim arrangement during the development of Northstowe.

Father Paul also noted that following the Deanery meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> January, a meeting with Bishop Michael, Priscilla Barlow (County Ecumenical Press Officer) and the Northstowe Planning team (Father Paul, John Bishop and Ellen Kemp) was scheduled for Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> April at 3 pm at the Presbytery.

Father Paul, John Bishop and Ellen Kemp agreed to meet at 2 pm on 12<sup>th</sup> April for a pre-meeting. **Action: Father Paul/ John Bishop/Ellen Kemp**

#### *Item 5 - Seating in Sacred Heart Church*

Father Paul reported that the matter had been passed to the Finance and Building Committee and actioned. He outlined the changes proposed to the front pews and the pew nearest the main door. It is also planned that the entry door from the South Porch be cantilevered.

The modifications will make the church more accessible for disabled parishioners and at funerals and weddings.

#### *Item 6 - Committee Representatives*

William Holloway had chosen to remain with the Papworth Church and had resigned from the Committee.

Bridget Wells agreed to identify a representative from 8 am Mass to replace Merlyn Lewis. **Action: Bridget Wells.**

## 5. Role of Music Co-ordinator

Father Paul informed the group of the current arrangements for music at 11 am Mass.

- Kathy Bishop prepares the rota for cantors and liaises with others to agree a list of hymns. The list is then agreed with Father Paul.
- The Music Group plays on the fourth Sunday of the month.
- Chris Fletcher, organist, serves the Mass and plays for funerals and weddings if possible. However, a replacement is needed for Meg Hawksworth who has resigned from the role of organist after many years.

Angela Periera suggested an alternative service of music with CDs or tapes, but Fr Paul noted that this was not feasible due to acoustics in the church and disparity between the speed of parishioner singing and taped music.

Father Paul confirmed that he has a meeting on Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> March with Farrell Grey, a local man and organ scholar who may be interested in replacing Meg as parish organist. **Action: Father Paul**

Bernardette Milnes outlined her thoughts on the challenges facing a Music Co-ordinator, which included:

- Music is not taught in schools
- Not many people appear comfortable singing in church.

Following discussion the following action was agreed:

- Establish a musical evening to be held monthly in the Hall, and invite parishioners who enjoy singing. **Action: Bernardette Milnes**
- Raise awareness of the role of Music Co-ordinator at Masses. **Action: Bernardette Milnes**
- Publicise musical evening initiative and role of Music Co-ordinator via the weekly newsletter, The Grapevine and website. **Action: Bernardette Milnes/Veronica Boland**
- Father Paul to liaise with Bernardette after his meeting with Farrell Grey. **Action: Father Paul**

Thanks were extended to Meg Hawksworth for her dedicated services to the parish over many years.

## 6. Northstowe

Ellen Kemp attended a meeting (on behalf of Fr Paul) on Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> March. The "Northstowe Service Provider and Stakeholder Workshop" was sponsored by South

Cambs District Council, English Partnerships and Gallagher, and was led by Dr Jon Cooper and Dr Tom Medcalfe from Urban Design and Mediation.

Copies of papers from the event had been passed to Father Paul and John Bishop.

A report on the outcome of the workshop is expected in early April and a copy will be sent to every delegate.

## 7. Papworth

Father Paul reported that most items from Papworth Church had now been disposed of. Chairs had been relocated to Fr Nicholas' church and the Bridge chapel. The reredos at the back of the altar has yet to be found a new home. It was suggested that English Heritage be contacted. **Action: Father Paul.**

Diocesan surveyors are to submit a planning application for development on the site. Father Paul will request some funding from the sale in due course, to offset previous financial support from St Ives.

Finally, it was noted that Fr Nicholas and parishioners in Papworth are to move from Pendragon School to one of the other churches in the village on a permanent basis.

## 8. Any Other Business

### (1) *Funding for Youth Group Retreat.*

John Bishop confirmed that an email from Brian McDermid had been forwarded to the Finance Committee for action.

### (2) *Visit of the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem.*

The Patriarch ((His Beatitude Michel Sabbah) will visit in May and will celebrate Mass at 11 am on Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> May. This is an official visit to St Ives and the Sacred Heart, which will allow the Patriarch to thank the parish and local community for support to the Holy Land. The Mayor and Mayoress have been invited to attend 11 am Mass. Father Paul requested provision of coffee and cake after Mass. **Action: Ellen Kemp to speak to Claire Downham.**

The Patriarch will leave St Ives on Sunday afternoon and proceed to Norwich to visit Bishop Michael. He will then lead the pilgrimage at Walsingham on Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> May.

Father Paul proposed that 10 am. Mass on 7<sup>th</sup> May be cancelled and buses provided to take parishioners to Walsingham. This was agreed.

Diane Grant to organise press coverage for the Patriarch's visit.

### (3) *The Grapevine*

Angela Periera tendered her resignation from the role of editor and from the Committee.

Following discussion it was proposed that Veronica continue her excellent work on the parish magazine and become the designated editor, but that responsibility for

generating material for publication to rest with members of the Committee. **Action: Father Paul to speak with Veronica.**

Future articles for The Grapevine:

- Patriarch's visit - Father Paul
- St Patrick's Night concert – Bernardette Milnes

John Bishop thanked Angela for her contribution to the creation of the parish magazine and her input to the Committee.

(4) *Open Meeting*

The next parish Open Meeting will be held on Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> May, at 16.00 in the Hall.

(5) *Constitution of the Parish Steering Group*

To be put on agenda for next meeting. **Action: Paul Bishop**

(6) *Reciprocal arrangements for inter-faith visit.*

Bridget Wells enquired when the parish is to reciprocate visits made to inter-faith groups in Peterborough last year (i.e. visits to the mosque and temples).

Elizabeth Barker to respond when she is fully recovered from recent surgery.  
**Action: Dot Wade to speak to Elizabeth.**

## 9. **Date and time of next meeting**

Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2007 at 19.30.