

Newtownpark Parish of Guardian Angels  
Parish Pastoral Council

**Sixty fifth Meeting**

on

17th December 2018 at 7.30pm.

**Draft Minutes**

**Present:** Roisín Drury, Ray McNicholas, Michael Morris, Jim O'Boyle, Eugene O'Connor. Gay Redmond (Chairman), Brendan Riordan (Secretary), Bernard Walsh.

**Apologies:** Fr. Dermot Leycock (President), Fr Bill Fortune, who were hearing confessions at the Penance Service in St John the Baptist church, Blackrock.

**Absent:** Paddy Duggan.

1) **Prayers** were led by *Roisín*.

2) **Adoption of Agenda:** Agenda adopted as circulated.

3) **Minutes of the previous meeting:** Agreed, signed and released for publication.

**Matters arising from the Minutes**

**(5,i,a) Parish Pastoral Centre: Activities for seniors** – AGREED to accept *Roisín's* generous offer to enquire further about such activities at the Centre.

NOTED: that in Bilbao there were arrangements for students to stay with seniors bringing benefits to both.

**4) Role and Function of the Parish Pastoral Council**

Gay introduced his document on this topic, it was discussed by the Council which AGREED as follows:

- a) That the content and clear structure of this document was a very welcome aid to the Council in developing its plans and Gay was greatly thanked for sharing his conclusions from a number of years as chairman of the PPC.
- b) That for each of the four domains listed in the document, one member would take responsibility for speaking on the current situation and on plans for the future.
- c) Each year the Council would establish dates for having consultations with parishioners and with each of the main committees and groups in the parish, including the Management Committee of the Parish Pastoral Centre, the Parish Finance Committee, the choirs, Ministers of the Eucharist and Ministers of the Word, so as to be to be **informed**<sup>1</sup> about their concerns, needs and plans.
- d) The Council would continue to seek ways to widen its membership so that it **recruits** people with the competencies and commitment that is needed, while they are also sensitive to the differing circumstances and stand points of parishioners.
- e) In the light of what is heard at the listening meeting and other consultations, the Council would **agree** two specific strategic priorities for the next three years and design an action programme to achieve these targets.
- f) Identify who will be responsible for advancing each element in the action programme and how progress is to be **monitored** and evaluated.

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<sup>1</sup> The words on **bold type** correlate with the first words of each section of the 'Functions' part of the Chairman's document (attached).

## 5) PPC Concerns

### (i)- Community.

#### a) Parish Pastoral Centre:

AGREED: To accept Roisín offer to report back on the arrangements for activities for seniors.

#### b) Listening Sessions:

After a considerable discussion, the following was AGREED:

- A gathering to listen to the people of the parish would be arranged by the PPC in the first quarter of the year, and arrangements for this may be the topic of a special meeting of the PPC;
- Professional advice would be sought by *Brendan*. and *members would send him* details of relevant reports, preferably with texts, for members to study;
- Reports on the arrangements and outcomes from the 2012 Listening Meeting would be sent to all members by *Brendan*, as there was general satisfaction with the conduct and outcomes of that meeting;
- To consider briefing people of the parish on what the PPC has done and what we see as the challenges facing the parish as a stimulus for the Listening Meeting;
- To explore the possibilities of having a forum for people soon after they left school.

**(ii)-Prayer and Liturgy:** A reflection on the parish of the future, to be animated by Donal Harrington, was discussed further and it was AGREED as follows:

- Such a session would follow the Listening Meeting;
- After the Listening Meeting there would be a further discussion on what Donal Harrington would be asked to focus on, as he can animate discussion on many matters ranging from 'Why people do not come to Mass' to 'How to pray'.

**(iii) Education/Formation:** No new initiatives were proposed.

**(iv) Outreach:** Participation in the All Saints, Carysfort Avenue, Service of Nine Lessons and Carols was encouraged.

## 5) Child and Vulnerable Adult Safeguarding

NOTED:

- The parish would be audited by the Diocesan Child Safeguarding and Protection Service in January 2019;
- Most members of the Gospel Choir had been vetted;
- Eucharistic Ministers will be the next group to be covered in so far as they are not already vetted;
- Anton Delap would arrange vetting for Ministers of the Word;
- Other volunteers would be vetted through the Parish Pastoral Centre.

**6) Vote of Thanks:** *Gay* was thanked for his very effective Chairmanship of the PPC since his election on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2013 and for being an attractive ambassador for the PPC, most recently at the Mass celebrated by Archbishop Diarmuid Martin when opening the Parish Pastoral Centre. Similarly the Council was unanimous in thanking two members who had been on the Council since its inception and were now rotating off: *Mike*, who had led the Prayer and Liturgy team which had proposed significant innovations and *Jim*, who had been outstanding in liaising with, and leading, the Parish Child and Vulnerable Adult Safeguarding team.

**7) Next meeting: Would be moved to **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019.****

**8) Closing Prayer:** *Roisín.*