

Minutes of Partnership Development Group Meeting

6th November 2019

Sacred Heart, Boldon

In attendance: Fr John Gibbons, Dean, Michael Wiblin, St Bede’s (Jarrow), John Hardy, Sacred Heart (Chair), Louise Dolphin, St Joseph’s, Patricia Alexander, (minute taker), Sr Mary Lees, Fr Robert Kinlen, South Shields, Terry Fitzpatrick, St Oswald’s, Angela Boyle, St Matthews, Catherine Elliott, St Bede’s (South Shields) Fr Saji Thottathil, Jarrow, Tony Whalen, St Gregory’s, Patricia Stenhouse, St. Mary’s..

Apologies: Fr Michael Weymes, South Shields, Katherine Wilson, St Aloysius and St James, Fr Adrian Dixon, Jarrow, Deacon Peter Jones, St Aloysius & St James, Tracey Mienie, St Peter & St Paul, Fr Simon Weymes, Hebburn, Deacon Kevin Atkinson.

The meeting was opened with a gospel reading by Fr Saji Thottathil.

Judith Bell was thanked for her contribution to the PDG and Patricia Stenhouse welcomed as her replacement on the PDG for St Mary’s.

**BUSINESS OF MEETING**

**The Plan**

The draft plan was discussed.

**Action: John Hardy to update draft plan for PDG**

Michael Wiblin raised the youth event at St Joseph’s which had gone very well and suggested inviting Andrew Young to the next PDG meeting. It included prayer, music, visual aids which were all well received by the young people who attended. Could the next meeting be focussed on youth?

If Andrew is available invite Adam Morales and Liz Boylan. Moya Rooney and Peter Givens the school reps on the PDG receive all the papers so an opportunity to re-engage with them.

**Action: Michael Wiblin to update the partnership plan**

Adult formation and spirituality was discussed and how to approach this and invite people to participate without causing offence. It was agreed that there is a need to identify what requires addressing. Possibly some kind of ask in the next newsletter.

**Action: Include an article in the next newsletter**

Ministry development as previously agreed would start with readers. Fr Adrian had called a meeting and will carry out training sessions on 25th November and 1st December. Many readers have received no training. It is about the value of the ministry and formation of readers. As it is the year of the Word it seems appropriate. Fr Jackson to co-ordinate a course on scripture. Need to carry out the Diocesan assessment of the current situation within parishes. See link below.

<http://www.rcdhn.org.uk/liturgical_formation/liturgical_formation.php>

**Action: Patricia has circulated the link to PDG members who need to arrange to have this completed by January meeting**

It was agreed to pay for refreshments for the youth event planned for January 2020.

**Action: Louise Dolphin to ask Kevin Atkinson for a budget for the event**

John has contacted Tony at the youth village for the dates of the next mission for secondary schools within the partnership

**Action: John Hardy follow up response**

There still seems to be some confusion over what is required for the ongoing activities across the partnership which could be shared with all parishes. An example of what is required will be circulated.

**Action: Patricia Alexander will circulate an example**

John brought attention to the Chairs Brief which lists the Partnerships “Must Haves” that still need to be completed.

**Advent Services**

Feedback on attendance across activities.

Carry on sharing activities for Lent/Easter.

Candles to be distributed across the parishes for Advent.

**Action: PDG members to action**

**Newsletter**

This was distributed to PDG members and will be distributed over three weekends starting on 9th /10th November along with the Advent Services which were also distributed.

**Action: PDG members to distribute Newsletter and Advent activities**

There was a discussion around patronal feasts and whether the feast of St Bede could be more of a family day event due to the partnership name. No decision was made at the meeting but further consideration to be given to the possibility.

It was agreed that there would be a separate insert with dates for patronal feasts for 2020 to be distributed with the next newsletter for Lenten.

**Action: Patricia Alexander to email clergy to ask for dates and service times for January meeting**

**OTHER ITEMS**

**Minutes of Meeting 4th September 2019** – were circulated and matters arising discussed. The minutes were approved.

**Report from FPG-** Catherine Elliott reported back from the PFG. Minutes of this meeting will be circulated shortly.

The levy calculation across the partnership was distributed and this has now been sent to all parishes with a request for their contribution to the partnership account.

A consolidated financial statement for the Partnership was shared for information. It was compiled by the PFG and is only intended for PDG to be aware of the total financial picture. This should not be shared within the parishes.

Bede Partnership accounts when completed for March 2020 will be presented to the PDG and then shared with parishes.

**Action: Catherine Elliott to feedback to the FPG**

**Communications** –Diocesan strategy is under development. The Diocese is advertising for a Communications Officer.

**Property and Community Review**- no further information

**Items for Sharing to be prepared by the Chair**

Newsletter

Advent Services

**AOB**

Faith booklets which should have alreasdy been sent to parishes were made available to members.

Resource packs for advent have been sent to all parishes and could be helpful for those preparing advent services.

It was agreed to reimburse St Joseph’s for the advent event on 30th November.

**Action: Kevin Atkinson to send copies of receipts to Patricia Alexander**

An invoice is required for the printing of the partnership newsletter to reimburse costs.

**Action: Michael Wiblin to send invoice for the printing of newsletters**

Sr. Mary raised the Sunday of the Word of God and the Aperuit illis which can be downloaded from the Diocesan website, see link below.

<http://www.rcdhn.org.uk/yow%20god%20who%20speaks/resource/2019/motu-proprio-aperuit-illis.pdf>

Thanks to everyone involved in the Partnership Mass with Bishop Robert.

**Action: PDG members to feed thanks back to their parish**

**Date of Next Meetings:**

**Wednesday 8th January 2020 at 7pm at Sacred Heart**

**Wednesday 4th March 2020 at 7pm at Sacred Heart**

**Wednesday 6th May 2020 at 7pm at Sacred Heart**

**Wednesday 1st July 2020 at 7pm at Sacred Heart**

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Signed by Chair

John Hardy