

**ST JOHN FISHER ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES
Minutes of the Meeting held online via Zoom at 1930
on Tuesday 9th June 2020**

- * Fr Graham Stokes Parish Priest
- * Kay O'Connor Catechist
- + Neville Bayross
- + Neil Cocking Chairman, Music & Liturgy
- * Gerald O'Keefe Safeguarding
- + Delores McLean-Boyd Safeguarding
- * Neville Ransley Education / Catechesis
- + Nuala Rodger Young People
- * Elspeth Everitt Clerk
- * *Member present*
- # *Member present for part of meeting*
- + *Apologies*

Item No		Action
1	<p>Welcome & Opening Prayer Fr Graham opened the meeting with prayer & chaired the meeting in Neil's absence. Apologies have been received from Neil Cocking, Nuala Rodger, Delores Mclean-Boyd & Neville Bayross</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of the last meeting (10th March 2020) Minutes were agreed as a true record. Matters arising: 2. During church closure neighbours have been parking in the car park. From 3rd June warning notices were put on parked cars to say that drainage work and the re-opening of the church meant they would need to park elsewhere. Fr Graham met 3 people while in the car park and all accepted they needed to move cars. The gates have been closed at times and no issues have arisen. 3. Quotes are coming in for replacement windows. The boiler flue replacement cost £6,122 and a cage is to be installed around it to prevent damage. Lights have been repaired at the back of the church. The Catholic papers have been cancelled and no comments were received. All future events listed in the March minutes have been cancelled.</p>	
3	<p>Parish Priest's remarks The church has been closed since 23rd March with Mass streamed via YouTube on Sunday from that date and on Facebook for daily Masses from 24th March. Mike Parkinson was thanked for his work setting up streaming. About 5 people watch daily Mass live and 20-30 watch the recording. Online newsletter subscriptions have gone up since the start of lockdown from approximately 600 to 652. The parish website is being kept up to date by Fr</p>	

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	<p>Graham. Fr Graham has held more funerals than usual (1-2 per week). Some are for people in other parishes where priests are shielding. He has kept in touch with parishioners and all have been supported by family, friends or neighbours. The SVP have not received many requests for support. Nuala, Flora and Sylwia have been furloughed and Fr Graham has taken on some of their regular work.</p> <p>Finance summary: Two thirds of parish income now comes from standing order donations. In March the bank balance was £170,000 & at the end of May £154,000 [awaiting furlough credits from the Diocese]. The Diocesan assessment continues to be levied in full. Loan repayments have been on hold since March and payments will be paused until October.</p> <p>Property group: A survey of the drains will begin next week and work will start on replacing cracked car park drains. Quotes have been received for tree and window work and additional quotes are awaited. Damp work in No. 11 Imperial Close is still under investigation.</p>	
4	<p>Church re-opening: Preparations have been made by Kay & Fr Graham. Some benches will be taped off. Stewards will be present whenever the church is open & surfaces that may have been touched will be cleaned. There will be one way movement round the church and protective equipment, hand sanitiser, masks and cleaning materials have been purchased. Enough volunteers have come forward to open the church for an hour a day (except Wednesdays when thorough cleaning is carried out) from Monday 10th June. If enough volunteers come forward time may be extended to 2 hours at weekends.</p> <p>The next phase will allow opening for Mass (possibly from 4th July) with a maximum congregation of about 40. Planning will begin now on how to allocate places & manage the space. Rob Browne was thanked for his support in planning for the re-opening for Mass.</p> <p>The streamed Mass may continue until the church is fully open but safeguarding issues while filming need to be considered. Other parishes have streamed Mass for some time. A permanent fixed camera for streaming</p>	

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	could also act as security CCTV.	
5	<p>Education</p> <p>The RCIA (4 people) reception at Easter, Confirmation and First Communions are all on hold. Kay is keeping in touch with RCIA candidates. The Confirmation group are waiting for Reconciliation then will be ready to be confirmed. Kay will contact them to inform them that they will probably be confirmed by Fr Graham but no date has been set. First Communion children received preparation material by post. Advertising for candidates for Sacraments in 2021 will be delayed.</p> <p>St John Fisher School: Neville reported that the school are considering how to have a Mass or service of farewell for Year 6 leavers. Cardinal Vincent is planning to stream a Mass to all schools. It was suggested that a Facebook Mass could be streamed to classrooms to avoid mixing ‘bubbles’ of children who should be kept apart. It is unlikely the school will be back to normal by September. Staff were thanked for their very good job keeping teaching going and the school open for the children of keyworkers and from vulnerable families throughout the pandemic. No cases of COVID-19 were found in children or staff.</p>	
6	<p>Safeguarding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All who need a DBS check have been contacted. Some have relevant clearance from other roles. • 3 members of the choir have been DBS checked. • Catechists for Children’s Liturgy, First Communion & Confirmation and Servers have been sent online forms. 5 or 6 have been returned and Gerald will arrange to check their ID documents when this is permitted. • The Diocesan Parish Safeguarding Representatives June conference was cancelled. It will be re-scheduled for late 2020 or early 2021. • The Diocese is sending out lots of information, e.g. on keeping children safe online. Gerald, Kay & Fr Graham will meet to discuss how to disseminate the guidance sent out. 	Gerald
7	<p>Harrow Citizens Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The planned climate emergency workshop on 23rd March in the parish hall was cancelled. • The Housing Action group, which includes 6 members of the parish, are part of a project with the Salvation Army & Firm Foundation to 	

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	<p>develop modular independent housing for single homeless people in Harrow. The model for this is Malachi Place in Redbridge & part funding is available [further information: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/video_and_audio/headlines/51679060/boy-s-tooth-fairy-money-helps-house-ilford-s-homeless] People in the winter night shelter in Harrow were moved to single room accommodation in hotels & B&Bs during lockdown but will need to move out soon. There is concern that those who had begun to engage with mental health and addiction services will be sleeping rough again.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fr Graham and 4 parishioners met Daphne Giachero (local organiser) on Zoom to discuss how community organising skills could be used to develop leadership skills in the parish. Further discussion to follow. 	
8	<p>AOB Neville mentioned that eyes are drawn to the clear windows behind the altar during streaming of Mass. An idea for the theme of new windows was Scripture about thanksgiving and healing. Cracks in the plaster in the sanctuary are not serious but need to be repaired.</p>	
	<p><u>Future dates:</u> To be confirmed: Monday 5th October 2020 7:30 - PPC Monday 1st February 2021 7:30 – PPC Parish AGM soon after Easter 2021 Monday 10th May 2021 – PPC <i>Let Maria Conlon know confirmed dates to avoid clashing with school meetings.</i></p>	Elsbeth

Signed..... Date.....

Initialed.....