

## Minutes of the Parish Pastoral Council Meeting 28<sup>th</sup> June 2023

**Present:** Fr Alex, Arek, Teresa Franczuk, Barbara Cassidy, Cecilia Donnelly, Marina Smith, Terry Evans, Edmund Blackey, Simon Chappell

**Apologies:** Maureen Thompson, Mary Bessey

### 1. Opening prayers.

2. **Minutes** of the meeting of the Council of the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023 were agreed without amendment.

### 3. Matters arising:

None

### 4. Open Day:

Fr Alex commented that preparations appeared to be nearing completion. Cecilia produced a draft "Feedback Document" for visitors to give their views on the day's activities. The following amendments were made:

- The heading should be "Parish Open Day, St Gregory's *with* Our lady of Peace" and it was agreed that people be given the opportunity to leave name and contact details, and
- The form contain the following questions;
  - i) "What was helpful at the Open day?"
  - ii) "What could have been improved?"
  - iii) "Did you find you got to know other Parishioners?"
  - iv) "Did you learn more about your Parish?"
  - v) "How do you think you could contribute to the Parish?"

Cecilia also mentioned that individual stalls will have their own forms to enable people to express interest/be considered for recruitment.

### 5. New Confessional

Fr Alex expressed concern about the current arrangements for going to confession. He particularly noted that they provided little opportunity for privacy and comfort. Fr Alex referred to existing plans to construct a new Confessional at the site of the old Baptistry and for the existing Confessional at the back of the Church to become a Chapel to the Saints (the existing store cupboard for cleaning tools to remain). A Contract meeting with builders is to take place next week.

### 6. Parish Pastoral Council

Fr Alex recalled the decision at the last meeting for a new structure. He has given his initial thoughts about who he will ask to be involved in the interim arrangements for the initial 18 month experimental period and will publish details after they have been finalised.

Furthermore, it was agreed that Marina lead the process for getting the new structure operational as quickly as possible (with a view, hopefully, to reporting back to the next meeting in September) and any training necessary (particularly for the Chairs) and setting up mechanisms for communication.

**7. Any Other Business**

There was a brief discussion about the programme of events.

**8. Final Prayers**