

## SEATON DELAVAL PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Parishes of

Our Lady and St. Joseph Sacred Heart St. Cuthbert  
St. John the Baptist St. Paul St. Wilfrid

Minutes of the meeting held at Our Lady and St. Joseph, New Hartley on 17.07.19

Present: P. Battersby, K. Little, J. Shepherd, J. Hawthorne, K. Maggs, P. Quinn, D. Brown, R. Harriott

### 1. Opening prayer

Partnership Prayer.

### 2. Apologies for absence

R. Wareing, T. Turner, P. Marley, A. Hardy, J. Dunne

### 3. Approval of minutes of previous meeting.

Proposed by J. Hawthorne. Seconded by P. Battersby.

### 4. Planning

#### i. Current and future situation of Partnership including chaplaincy of Cramlington Hospital.

Fr. Paul Jenkins has been appointed from September to cover Cramlington, New Hartley and the Cramlington Hospital. Fr. Phil Carroll will continue to provide temporary cover in the interim. It is hoped that the current midweek Masses in Cramlington and New Hartley will continue to be celebrated after Fr Paul takes up his appointment

#### ii. Mass Times

Partnership mass times will be discussed when Fr. Paul has taken up his appointment.

### 5. Communications

#### i. Bulletin.

Next edition will be published on Saturday 23 November. Items will include details of Advent services, Parish profiles for St. John's and St. Paul's and a profile of Fr. Paul. The deadline for contributions is 1 November.

#### ii. IT/Communication developments.

A draft strategy will be discussed by the Diocesan Board

#### iii. Social Media.

K. Maggs (St. John's) and C. Nardini (Sacred Heart) are administering the Partnership's Facebook account. PDG minutes will also be posted on Facebook in future. (Cristina can be contact on Cristina.nardini100@hotmail.com placing 'Partnership Facebook Post' in the subject line).

#### iv. Diocesan issues

##### a. Data Protection Issues

J. Shepherd distributed general information/guidelines/information from the Diocese following contact with the Diocese requested at the last PDG meeting. A Diocesan Data Protection/Social Media policy is in the process of ratification. In the meantime a policy of common sense should be operated using the distributed notes as a framework.

##### b. Partnership Development Groups.

Bishop Robert seemed to be pleased with the present system of working together - Masses, socials, bulletins. He is aware of the differing nature of Partnerships across the Diocese and the need to be flexible.

### 6. Spiritual activities/Formation/Outreach

#### i. Alpha Courses.

Next course will start in the Autumn in Blyth. Course at Cowpen has just concluded.

#### ii. Faith in Action

First set of awards were distributed to Year 6 students from St. Oswald's by the Bishop at the Partnership Mass. Year 7 students at St. Mary's are about to complete their work. Students at

St. Peter and Paul's will join the scheme next year. Year 7 students in Annitsford will work on the scheme in the parish. Blyth is investigating the possibility of joining the scheme.

### **iii. Partnership Vision**

The Spirituality Group has drafted and adopted the following Vision Statement:

*To dynamically approach the problems of our time, and through prayer to listen to the promptings of the Holy Spirit in order to bring about God's Kingdom by renewal and change.*

Ken Little pointed out that Fr. Jim and Deacons Rob and Tony are in agreement with the statement. He proposed that the PDG accept the statement. This was unanimously accepted. John Hawthorne agreed to provide the PDG with the minutes of the Spirituality Group Meeting where this matter was discussed.

### **iv. Partnership Spirituality Group**

Following concerns regarding the functioning of this group, the following points were noted:

- John Hawthorne and Steph Hartas have resigned as Chair and Vice-Chair respectively.
- The next meeting of the Spirituality Group will be cancelled.
- The Spirituality Group will be disbanded until Fr. Paul takes up his appointment in Cramlington.
- A new group will then be constituted. Membership will consist of Partnership priests and deacons together with one representative from each parish.
- Lay members of the new group will be nominated by Parish Priests.

These arrangements have been discussed with Fr. Jim and Deacons Rob and Tony. They are in agreement. Ken Little proposed that the PDG endorse the proposals and they were passed unanimously.

In the course of discussion it was suggested that the age profile of the new group should be considered. Events already planned will continue. Parish events will be publicised across the Partnership. Thanks were offered to John Hawthorne and Steph Hartas for their work with this group.

## **7. Social activities.**

The Bishop's visit went very well. People felt very welcome at Sacred Heart. Attendance was high - second highest of such visits made to date.

## **8. Finance report.**

Balance is approximately £800. Cost of the bus from Blyth for the Partnership Mass is still to be covered.

## **9. Property and facilities.**

Jeremy Brock (Diocesan officer in charge of property held by Partnerships) has made an appointment with Ken Little and Fr. Jim. It is possible that the Seaton Delaval Partnership may be one of the next in line to carry out the Diocesan property review.

## **10. Matters arising (not covered above)**

None

## **11. Any other business**

- i. Confirmations will be held next year at Sacred Heart. When a date has been confirmed, other parishes will be contacted.
- ii. P. Battersby asked for advice concerning visiting the sick/distributing Communion. Experiences were shared.
- iii. The next Partnership Mass planned for Blyth in September has been cancelled. Future events will be discussed when Fr. Paul takes up his appointment.

## **12. Date of next meeting.**

This will be held towards the end of October. Date, time and venue to be confirmed.

## **12. Closing prayer.**

Led by Fr. Harriott.