

## **ST. AIDAN'S CHURCH**

### **Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 12.15pm in the Parish Hall**

#### **Parish Pastoral Council Members Present:**

John Hannacher (Chair), Fr Roy, Sue Finch, Peter Kirk, Vince Smith, Vivianne Gattoc, Deirdre Lay,

**Apologies for absence:** Finbarr O'Donoghue

**Parishioners Present:** In addition to the PPC there were 22 parishioners present.

#### **1. Welcome**

John Hannacher welcomed the parishioners to the meeting.

#### **2. Opening Prayer**

Fr. Roy opened the meeting with a prayer.

#### **3. Approval of the minutes of the last AGM**

Minutes of the AGM held June 2022 were approved.

#### **4. Chairman's Report**

John Hannacher read his report, which contained updates from all ministries.

Virginia Wedgwood asked if we could consider a memorial to Fr Ken. It was agreed that this would be discussed at our next PPC meeting.

#### **5. Financial Report**

Sue Finch circulated copies of the Financial Statement, and read her report, both of which are available on the website. There were no questions.

#### **6. Pastoral Council Membership for the year 2018-19**

##### **Election of next year's elective members of the Parish Pastoral Council**

Anne Parsons has decided to stand down from the PPC. John thanked Anne for her contribution over the last few years.

Vivianne Gattoc was happy to stand as PPC member for another year and was elected unopposed. Vivianne's role on the council is to represent the interests of the parishioners.

##### **Identification of next year's Ministry representatives to the Parish Pastoral Council**

Sue Finch – Finance

Deirdre Lay – Social and Cultural

Vivianne Gattoc – Ecumenical

Finbarr O'Donoghue – Maintenance

Peter Kirk – Pastoral Area

Vince Smith - Liturgy

All co-ordinators were happy to remain as representatives, and this was unopposed.

##### **Identification of Fr Roy's nominees to serve next year on the Parish Pastoral Council**

Both John Hannacher and Vince Smith will remain as Fr Roy's nominees for the next year.

#### **7. AOB**

##### **Memorial Garden**

Barry Bennett asked if it would be possible to have a visible listing of all those whose ashes are buried in the memorial garden sited by the cross in the garden. It was said that this is something the PPC have talked about and that we would look into possibilities.

Chris Cooke asked how many spaces were there available and how many are currently occupied. There are 144 spaces and 28 are currently used.

Fr Roy said that at some point in the future we may need to re-use spaces, and that this is something we would also be discussing.

### **Refurbishment of the Presbytery**

Fr Roy said that the refurbishment work had been given approval and would be starting imminently. The Long term plan is for Fr Roy to move into the presbytery here at St Aidan's and to look at the option of renting Our Lady's presbytery.

### **Beyond Difference**

Julie Stewart gave an update on Beyond Difference Committee which is an Interfaith Organisation working to promote dialogue and the encourage deeper engagement and understanding between those of all faiths and none. Julie is a member of the Committee.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2022 St Aidan's hosted an interfaith service, attended by leaders from the Muslim and Jewish communities. On 2<sup>nd</sup> July this year Fr Roy was one of the speakers in Chesham Town Hall on the subject of Faith and Prejudice.

Julie also made three requests for support for young Ukrainians living in the local area:- help with English, social activities and mentoring (\* see Support Group update note below)

### **8. Thank you and closing prayer.**

Fr Roy expressed his thanks and gratitude to the PPC, all volunteers and those parishioners attending.

Fr Roy closed the meeting with a prayer.

Please go to: <http://www.staidanslittlechalfont.co.uk/parish-council/agm-2022/> to read the Chairman's Report, Financial Report and Statement.

### **\*Hilltop and Chesham Ukrainian Support Group**

Julie Stewart, Deacon David and Deirdre Lay met with Ira from the Hilltop and Chesham Ukrainian Support Group.

There were three requests from Ira after our meeting at the beginning of June.

1. A study club for older children/ teens to help them prepare for mocks/ exams. Emphasis on English but any other subject areas are also in demand.
2. Social activities - we have already agreed a programme with Restore Hope and have a plan in place. The first meeting with the children was 20th July and was well attended by the Ukrainian families. They have arranged transport between themselves but we have asked that Restore Hope let us know if additional help is needed. These meetings will be taking place monthly from now until December. The last meeting in December will be a joint meeting between the Ukrainian group and the youth from both Our Lady's and St Aidan's.
3. Help with mentoring for adults seeking employment is something we need to discuss further.