

## Chapel Parish Pastoral Council Meeting 25th January 2024

### Minutes

1.) Opening prayer – was given by Don.

2.) Apologies for absence – from Hugh Doherty, Anne Lomas, Pat Dawson.  
Present: Fr. Gerry; Don Lavery; Anne Parker; Jacqui Lavery; Lucia McClean; Sue Thornhill; Joan Matthews; Barbara Hindley; Frank Frost; Peter Barnes.

3.) Minutes of last meeting (matters arising not covered below) - The minutes of the last meeting were approved and it was agreed that a hard copy should be put on the noticeboard at the back of the Church. Also that Sue will send the minutes of all previous meetings to be put on the Parish website.

Matters arising – the meetings for welcomers, readers and eucharistic ministers will be arranged at the next PPC meeting to take place after Easter. Joan expressed an interest in looking further into the possibility of using a projector and screen instead of hymn books and will do this with help from Barbara and Sue.

4.) Finance – Peter reported Bank reconciled at 31.12.2023 £8347.77 (after Fr Gerry's settlement £2700) £7500.00 Set Off sent to Diocesan Account (giving access to BACS and interest) £15847.00

Fr Gerry will now be paid monthly rather than at the end of the financial year. Buxton will pay all of this, £833.33 per calendar month, Chapel will reimburse by paying 1/3<sup>rd</sup> £277.78 per calendar month by standing order to Buxton.

5.) Homes for Ukraine Update – Government scheme extended until April 2025, DCC will pay £500 per month, rising to £700 during the winter months November to March inclusive. Tenancy Agreement was signed after last month's meeting. Tamila now has a job with a UK employer at minimum wage which is more than her previous pay so will not be applying for Universal Credit. Tamila expressed a desire to contribute to lighting and heating costs as soon as she is able to but so far has been unable to do so. There was some unresolved discussion as to whether this was appropriate given that the parish is receiving enhanced funds from DCC. The costs recorded below as restricted expenditure include 7/11 allowance in respect of bills received to date. It was decided to postpone this until we have figures for the actual amount of the bills, possibly at the next PPC meeting. Income and expenditure figures from 1.7.23 to 30.11.23 are: restricted income £2200, restricted expenditure £438.84, excess of income over expenditure £1761.15.

6.) Safeguarding, (Parish audit, DBS updates, volunteer registration) – Sue reported that the safeguarding audit has been sent to the office. Issues this has highlighted include lack of risk assessments for church activities involving

children and vulnerable adults, need to check who has/needs job descriptions, identity badge, volunteer agreement and parental consent forms (or updates of these due to having had originals many years ago). Grainne's DBS renewal has now come through. A couple of volunteer registrations are still outstanding.

7.) Sale of Tideswell Church – a copy of relevant correspondence was presented at the meeting. The bishop has decreed that the church is to be sold after 29<sup>th</sup> February. The churchyard is to be retained and the parish will need to contract with a gardener to look after the retained area. Erection of a fence and gate (at the purchaser's cost) to facilitate the gardener's access should be made a condition of sale. We will talk to Gordon Fuller about the gardener as he has previously provided one.

The building must be emptied. An inventory will need to be produced detailing what is in the church, including altar, statues, tabernacle, priest's chair, pews, benches etc. and we must then decide what can be used, needs breaking up etc.

Rachael has asked if we have an estate agent in mind and suggested a few. Sue will ask her daughter Caroline, who works in conveyancing if she has any suggestions.

8.) Risk Assessments – these are due for review in February. Fire safety has been highlighted; the diocese will send a professional to do risk assessments in parishes. We now have a first aid box and accident report book in church. Frank has produced a comparison with diocesan guidelines for discussion with Don and Fr Gerry.

9.) Updates on repairs etc. – the joinery work in the sacristy is virtually completed, the floor covering remains to be chosen and fitted. Peter expressed concerns regarding the digital lock on the door, which gives access to sacristy, parish room and the church. There is a 5 lever lock on the door, as insurers require but this is not in use when the digital lock is used. Don will discuss this with the diocesan insurer. The roofer has been difficult to contact and pin down to dates due to weather etc. but Anne is persevering!

10.) Churches together - Pat sent notes. Christian Unity week at Chinley Chapel had a good turn out with 7 people from Chapel present. Taize at Methodist church Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January, only 6 in total there including Don and Foday, awful weather! We will do one later in the year. The warm space will continue at the Mustard Seed on Mondays 10 till 12, with Pat and Helen there on February 5<sup>th</sup>. Lent Lunches begin in the Town Hall on 16<sup>th</sup> February. Catholic Church organising this on 1st March, Don to ask for volunteers in the bulletin

11.) Pilgrimage to Walsingham – 18 people interested but unfortunately this has been postponed till next May due to cost of coach. Pilgrim's accommodation has suggested cheaper coach company (SMC) so this will be looked into in plenty of

time for 2025. Fr Gerry suggested May devotions with teas etc in the garden instead.

12.) Fr. Gerry's golden jubilee in June – this falls on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June so we could do something in Chapel after mass. A hog roast is planned on the Sunday in Buxton, to which we are all invited.

13.) Any other business – Film night at Chapel to see Wonka in the parish room, suggested cost of £4 per person for the first 16 people who give their names. 2 children to make their first holy communion at Chapel on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June, Father would like to welcome them both at a Mass on Saturday night soon.

14.) Date of next meeting Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 4.00 p.m.