

Minutes Chapel Parish Pastoral Council Meeting 21st January 2026

- 1.) Opening prayer was led by Father Greg
- 2.) Those present: Fr Greg, Peter Barnes, Barbara Hindley, Joan Matthews, Sue Thornhill, Frank Frost, Lucia McClean, Anne Lomas. Also attending: Dick Bateman, Mary Atherton. Apologies: Pat Dawson, Don and Jacqui Lavery
- 3.) Minutes of last meeting were approved with a few minor amendments. Sue will send minutes to Rob Aldous to put on the website and will put a hard copy on the noticeboard at the back of church. The question of first aiders in church was raised as an action point from the minutes. Joan confirmed that she did a first aid course 2 years ago and she checks equipment in the first aid box in the sacristy annually, last check June 2025. Fr Greg suggested as priest he is responsible but nominates Joan to check the first aid equipment. **Action** It was suggested we ask if any other parishioners have first aid training and maybe look out for relevant courses locally.
- 4.) Finance - collection, banking, Ukrainian accounting
Reconciled funds at 30 November 2025 Total 113016.92, Set off account 109535.81, Current account 3481.11.
Ukrainian accounting current surplus of income over expenditure 7265.92, this to be used for fire door approx. 600 and decorating approx. 5000.
IFM now claim the refund of 2668 they sent (subsequently given to Gaza) was incorrect and we owe them 1319.37. **Action** Peter has asked for proof.
- 5.) Rotas, Visiting and pastoral care, Churches Together, Parish social.
Barbara is up to date with readers and greeters rota.
Barbara and Dick visit the sick as eucharistic ministers. Father Greg queried whether there are other visitors, the past role of St Vincent de Paul Society in parish was discussed and Buxton's visiting group organised by Iris Thompson was mentioned. **Action** Barbara to approach Iris.
Churches Together – £40 sub. due. Mustard Seed sees few people other than committee members, but important to continue to offer hospitality and only a monthly commitment for each church. Lent lunches, we are doing 27th February and 27th March with St Thomas Becket. **Action** help needed with soup and cakes, serving on the day and taking money, expenditure refunded.
If churches contact Foday with their list of Easter services he will put together a leaflet to advertise them. **Action** pass on services when known.
Social events - film night organised by Peter last Friday. Future events to be organised include a bingo night in February, Folk night 13th March, another film night in April. The next lunch club outing will be on February 11th.
Action various people

- 6.) Church Vision – future spending (Quinquennial Review, Mission)
 Quinquennial review – Peter needs an up-to-date spreadsheet with expenditure split over and below 5000, although this ceiling for work may be increasing. Diocese tax savings so money should be spent. The bishop is launching his Pastoral Plan with a letter at Mass on Saturday and a meeting next Thursday, Barbara representing us. This focusses on Missionary Discipleship with a Missionary Enabling Fund and we will need to produce a Missionary Plan for Chapel. Joan reported that there are only 4 red Missio boxes still being used and do we want to continue with them. **Action** Fr Greg will promote them when the second collection comes round. Also need to decide if we want to continue to donate to the parish in Gaza after February.
- 7.) Insurance aspects of daily church opening – Catherine Scholes has now informed us that to open the church we need: the fire plan by the exit doors; a copy of the fire risk assessment in church and a parish log of statutory inspections. Until we have these documents we will revert to only opening for 2 hours on Monday and Friday mornings. **Action** Frank to sort out documents
- 8.) Sunday 3rd May 2026 at 3.00 p.m. we will hold a procession and crowning of Our Lady, **Action** Anne and Lucia to organise. Saturday 6th June after Mass - a Corpus Christi procession, singing and benediction in church afterwards. **Action** Barbara and others
- 9.) Any other business
 Many people have reported a mix of views about singing Latin during the mass including an email from a parishioner who feels excluded from the mass when Latin is used and is concerned that young families will feel the same. A few people have also expressed these views, but a similar number enjoy the traditional Latin words and music which they remember from years ago, e.g. the Pater Noster. Latin is also the official language of the Catholic Church, with documents written in Latin throughout the Church's 2000 year history, before translation to other languages. Latin is a universal language not associated with any modern nation. Redemptorist have put together a Lenten Retreat, Fr Greg will put details in the bulletin, and we can consider if we would like to do this as a parish or individually if interested. During Lent we will do stations of the cross on Friday mornings, parishioners taking it in turns to lead. Concern has been expressed by Anne and others about difficulty of opening the presbytery door. **Action** Dick to ask Peter Skrobot to look at it along with front door.
- 10.) Date of next meeting – Wednesday 22nd April after 10 a.m. mass.

