# St Augustine's Parish Council meeting minutes

Location:	Mt Carmel School Library
Date:	21 <sup>st</sup> July 2021
Time:	6:30pm
Attendees:	Fr Peter, Peter Cleary, Genevieve Colbert, Sarah Johnston, Michael Van Wanrooy, Michael Green, Lourdes O'Keefe, Zuzy Webster, Annabelle O'Connell
Guest Speaker:	Maria Hicks, Institute of Professional Standards and Safeguarding (IPSS) Manager, Canberra/Goulburn
Apologies:	Bryan Coleborne, Bob Nash

# Agenda items

#### • Parish Safeguarding

- Maria Hicks presented information outlining the main points of Child Safe Standards Training.
- this training has been developed in response to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.
- we have a responsibility to publicise our policy, as currently our parishes are not 'overseen' by any authority.
  - there is thinking that in time, NSW might be overseen by The Office of Children's Guardian.
- The Child Safe Standards Training should be undertaken by all members of the PPC, as well as anyone in the parish working with children eg. Acolytes, and will take about 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  hours.

# Opening Prayer

- Sarah

## • Matters arising from the previous Minutes:

- Resolving the sound system/foldback issue for the Music Ministry area in the church
  - $_{\odot}$  Bob had organised for the system to be reviewed on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July, however this was cancelled due to no music being played under current COVID restrictions.
  - Re-scheduling of review once COVID restrictions allow.
- Managing in a cheque-book free parish
  - Zuzy has organised a credit card to be sent to her.
  - o People who have required payment have been paid.
- Key Safe Systems

- o Peter Cleary to investigate some options.
- Contact Family Groups 'people'
  - Sarah contacted Frances and Dennis Morris, who are the Archdiocesan Family Group coordinators.
  - They were very excited to hear of our interest, and are keen to come and help the process of restarting the groups.
- Murrumbateman Listening Session
  - o New date is Sunday 8th August, 2.30pm at Clonakilla.

#### • Confirmation of previous minutes:

- Peter Cleary.
- Property sale updates: Wee Jasper church, Sisters of Mercy House
  - Wee Jasper Sale
    - Wee Jasper church sale proceeds will contribute to running of the parish;
    - The PPC will be working with the PFC for the process.
    - There will be a decommissioning Mass on Sat 7<sup>th</sup> August at 12pm; Fr Peter will meet with any WJ community members to address questions or issues they would like to raise regarding the sale.
    - 2 people have already approached Fr Peter with interest in the sale; however he has advised that once the sale has been formalised, they will have to approach the Real Estate Agent.
    - The question was raised about whether we can sell the church with the caveat (or correct legal term) requested by the WJ community (see PPC Minutes, Extraordinary meeting 17<sup>th</sup> Feb 2021, Attachment 4). This matter is to be resolved.
  - Sisters of Mercy House
    - PFC is thinking that in time, 106 Meehan St will become the presbytery.
    - They have been negotiating with the Sisters for a sale price, to which the sale of WJ church will contribute, possibly with a loan from the Archdiocese.
    - There have been a few comments submitted in response to the letter in the bulletin advising parishioners of the proposed purchase, some positive.
    - MOTION: Moved by Lourdes O'Keefe, seconded by Peter Cleary, carried.

That, in principle, St Augustine's Parish Pastoral Council supports the purchase of the Sisters of Mercy Convent, Yass (106 Meehan St. Yass).

#### (Fr Peter left the meeting due to another appointment)

# • 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> collection lock boxes

- A suggestion was made to install some lockable boxes in the church that people could place cash into for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> collection, with notice on the boxes of where the money from each collection goes to. This would
  - reduce the risk of contact during these COVID times,
  - o allow for anonymous contributions to be made

- o inform contributors to know where their money is going, and allow them to donate more or less amounts to each collection.
- This suggestion was not supported.

  ACTION Annabelle to write to the PFC to see if we can procure an EFTPOS terminal for another trial run of using it for collections during Masses, this time with more visibility and awareness of its existence.

#### New COVID regulations and implications

- The planned move to the Lovat Chapel while carpet was being laid presented some challenges regarding current COVID regulations, however, it was advised that the carpet laying has been delayed, possibly until November, so this matter was not discussed.

# • New date for Parish Assembly

 Sat 30<sup>th</sup> October following 9am Mass was proposed, this is to be confirmed firstly with Fr Peter.

#### • Cleaner for Hartigan Centre

- Zuzy has had no interest in the advertised position, and the matter needs urgent attention.
- It was suggested to advertise in the wider community, eg. Yass High School.
   ACTION Zuzy to advertise the position in the Yass High School bulletin; possibly the Yass Notice Board facebook group.
   ACTION Annabelle to clean the Hartigan Centre and toilets weekly, from Friday

23<sup>rd</sup> July until such time as a cleaner is found.

## • Discussion of matters arising from submitted reports:

See table below.

## AOB

- A query from a parishioner regarding the church being locked through the day resulted in the opening time being confirmed that the church should be open from 9am daily.
- Next Meeting: Scheduled for Wednesday 1st September 7.30pm.

Discussion points/Action items	Owner(s)	Deadline	Status
Ecumenism:	Bryan		
Education:	Genevieve		
Liturgy: - Postponement of Confirmation	Peter C		

Thanksgiving Mass.  The Acknowledgement of Country before Mass has been well received and appreciated by many.	
Maintenance:  • Carpet laying has been delayed	Bob
Mt Carmel School:	Michael Green
Social:	Lourdes
Social Justice.  World Day of Migrants and Refugees Archdiocesan Mass suggested to be held at St Augustine's on 26th September is now TBC.	Sarah
Welfare:	Michael Van Wanrooy
Youth:  - Still no response regarding Junior CSYMA at Mt Carmel from the Archdiocese.	Annabelle