

St Bonaventure's Pastoral Council Meeting Notes

1st October 2025, 6.30pm

Where: The Presbytery, St Bonaventure's Parish Church, BS7 8HP

Present: Angela Parry, Mary Moore, Karen Nelson, Deacon Bart Kowalewski, Rob King, Deacon Andrew Bent, Sofia Kalfopulos, Joanna Adamek and Canon Tom

Apologies: Oliver Roylance-Smith and Veronica Swann

	Note:	Action by:	By Date:
	We opened the meeting with Prayer.		
1	Minutes of the meeting held on 16 th July were agreed as a true record	All	
2	Matters arising from July Meeting Induction Mass for Canon Tom – Canon Tom not worried about having this event and there is no Dean at present to officiate so this is a problem. Vote for a new Dean has been carried out but results not known. Can't set a date until the new Dean has been appointed. If Canon Tom was appointed as the new Dean, the matter would be dealt with by the Bishop. Canon Tom asked the PPC what would they wanted to do? The majority would still like to have an induction Mass before Christmas but will have to wait and see whether this is possible.	TBC	
3	Safeguarding JA has advertised for more helpers to assist with Welcoming on Sundays. So far three people have come forward. Is there a check list for welcomers to follow? MM to look at safeguarding resources on the diocesan website. Send to Canon Tom with any other job descriptions for any other tasks undertaken at the church she can find. Chair swap – update outstanding as hall was booked when the swap was due to take place. Seeking a new date.	MM KN	
4	Mission & Vision Statement Canon Tom felt we need to change our mission statement where it says "St Bon's to flourish" so it includes all three parishes, and is clearly outward looking. Need to work towards one mission and vision statement that covers all three parishes. Sacred Heart/St Antony do not have one at the moment, so Canon Tom to share the St Bon's one with the Sacred Heart/St Antony's PPC for their comments. BK explained that a Mission statement usually includes several sentences. We may also wish to have a "punch line" – a short line characterizing the Parish and stemming from the mission statement e.g. CAFOD has "A better world needs all of us".	MM CT	

	Canon Tom has been looking at our progress under headings of 'the five purposes of the Church' (plus admin) as set out in our vision statement – Administration happy all are on task. Evangelisation – No new initiatives yet. BK explained that's why this mapping tool of the 5 purposes is so useful, so we see where we currently are and where we can go from there in a structured manner. BK reminded us the church teaches that whatever we do we need to have mission and evangelisation in mind - e.g. if our parish has a stall at school event – we need to ask ourselves how we can use such opportunities to invite non-believers to the Parish, make them feel welcome and enable them to learn about the faith e.g. maybe Catholic Alpha followed by RICA or ABC (a course run at Sacred Heart). We also commented that the church should be welcoming to all without pressure. Fellowship – happy that all groups listed are happening Worship & Liturgy – happy these are covered and that reading and Eucharistic Ministers rotas are up to date. CT expressed a wish to recommence Exposition sessions, but these would need to be supervised so that the Blessed Sacrament was never left unattended. The deacons would be able to do this if CT was not available. AB said he was prepared to help. BK said he is holding Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Eucharistic Benediction before Men of St Joseph group meetings. It is open to All Parishioners. Discipleship – There is a men's group at the Sacred Heart as well – could they unite? BK explained about Men of St Joseph group: that they follow a structured formation programme and the charism of this group is a small group setting (can be several small discussion groups as part of a bigger one) for mutual support and Bible and Catechism study. Men from our St Joseph group are also involved in many parish activities. The future includes organising bigger single day events. All are welcome from all Parishes. It will be great to learn about the group from Sacred Heart. CT informed that he was a part in the past of an ecumenical group that organised breakfast on Saturday mornings. We could perhaps consider doing this together with the group from Sacred Heart. Ministry - Do we know if all the sick in the parish are being looked after? Need a report from Welfare committee – report to come from VS As suggested by ORS in a written contribution, we spoke about each member of the PPC committing to a sub group in one of the 5 areas of the vision statement. To be discussed at next meeting as a main topic. All PPC members to review and report back at next meeting. ORS has offered to lead on Discipleship. CT suggested inducting PPC members at a Mass – by being introduced at the front of the church. All members present agreed for this to proceed, no date set yet.	CT & AB VS MM & All ORS CT	
5	Relationship between the church and St Bon's school		

	RK is happy to continue to liaise between St Bon's school, St Bede's School and the parish. CT also reported that he is happy with the relationship that he has established with Sarah Ballantine.		
6	Involvement of young people – youth group Unfortunately, not proceeding at present time due to SK having additional work commitments. On hold at present – all to consider ways to proceed.		
7	Key facilitating roles needed in the parish Lack of time to discuss in detail but agreed that a separate social committee is needed and this needs to look at a social and events calendar for the year. Planning for Advent - we will need to cover this at our next meeting, including special events eg. Children's Nativity service or Christingle service. CT said that he is not in favour of any children's services other than Mass, but happy for the children to wear costumes to Christmas Mass.	All	
8	AOB 1) Can we post minutes of these meetings in the church – agreed yes, a summary account would be posted after PPC members have received the minutes and have had one week to comment before they are made public. 2) Can the minutes of these meetings be distributed earlier so that members have time to complete actions before the next meeting? 3) 'Reimagining Pastoral Councils' – a series of 9 webinars given by guest speakers, exploring many aspects of Pastoral Councils. These are once a month, starting on 14 th October 7-8pm. Ctrl-Click on this link for further details and to register. (no charge). https://stbonsbristol.us16.list-manage.com/track/click?u=101db1158119d226a226d10c5&id=86a3959e3b&e=fa18f4d8eb Recommended that everyone tries to attend at least some sessions.	MM & JA KN & All	
9	Dates of future meetings 12 th November 2025 10 th December 2025		
10	Meeting closed with a prayer		