

St Teresa's Parish Community
Parish Pastoral Council
Minutes of Meeting held on the 14th June 2012

Present: Father Jim, Deacon Willie, P Dickson, T Harkness, C Ferguson, W A Smith, E Blount, P Marshall, E Roberson, M Callander, P Cochrane, D Cochrane, J Lawson, and B Gardiner.

1. Welcome and opening Prayer said by all.

Opening Remarks: Father Jim.

Project 2012 : All 9 pilgrims had the most wonderful experience seeing the high and low points of the FMOL Sisters' work in various parts of Ethiopia. Mention must be made especially of our three young participants: Nicole, Rebecca and John. They coped very well with the situations we came across in a very mature manner. The parish fund raising efforts are a life saver for the communities we support. Derek spoke of the wonderful work the sisters do within the different communities. We now understand where these communities are, both geographically and developmentally. The Parish transferred £10,000 to the Regional Superior knowing well that the money will be put to good use to help their work. The Project 2012 team will be inviting the Parish to a Coffee ceremony in the near future (28th July).

2. Minutes.

Minutes of the PPC meeting held on 21st March 2012 were approved.

3. Matters arising from the 21st March minutes not on the Agenda:

There were no matters arising.

4. Embracing Change

Bishop Cunningham wishes each Parish/area/deanery to give their views on the paper, Father Jim then handed out the Diocesan discussion paper "Embracing Change" and pointed out the following:

At the present time 3 Priest's are due to retire in the near future, 2 Priest's are on long term sick leave/duties (Sadly, one of those priests, Fr Alan, has since passed away. RIP). Our own Deanery (St Andrew's Deanery) was discussed at some length. We also looked at the implications of change in the other Deaneries. When trying to resolve local situations we all have to keep in mind that we are organised as a diocesan church and what happens here in our area affects the other areas of the diocese and vice versa. Father also pointed out the Priest's are finding it difficult to have time off for rest and study. Due to the shortage of Priest's at the present time retired Priest's as well as Bishop Cunningham are saying Mass as and when needed.

Due to the lengthy discussing on the topic the other agenda items were carried forward to the next Parish Pastoral Council meeting due in September.

The meeting finished with a prayer, hymn and blessing.

Date and time of next meeting:

Thursday 27 September 2012, 7pm till 9pm.