

Ennis Pastoral Council minutes

Date Tuesday 30th March

Venue .The Chapter room

Present .Sarah Malone, Maureen Hand, Nick Scullion, Dan O Connell, Andy Tierney, Sean Mc Dermott, Fionnula Moran, Sr Anne Boland, Tikki Daly. Frs. Tom Hogan, Martin Blake, Fergal O Neill, John Mc Govern, Joe Condrón (Friary
Apologies Miriam O Brien, Sr De Montfort, Emer Healy and Mary Hanley

The meeting opened with a presentation from Monica Gallagher on Child Protection Practice within the diocese

Key points were as follows.

- ❖ Keeping Children Safe Policy introduced after the Ferns report.
 - ❖ Guidelines for code of conduct for clergy and volunteers working with children.
 - ❖ Written consent form signed by parents.
 - ❖ Contact details filled in by parents.
 - ❖ Record of attendance.
 - ❖ Information details form to be filled in by volunteers working with children.
 - ❖ Two references.(this form is to be used to obtain Garda clearance).
 - ❖ 2 adults to 8 children I adult never to be alone with children.
 - ❖ Policy statement in Church and Church related halls.
 - ❖ Insurance.
 - ❖ Ennis Parish is committed to best practice.
 - ❖ Local reporting system. Abuse can be reported to Monica who can then get in touch with two Diocesan delegates who can then contact both the people making the complaint and the guards.
 - ❖ Garda Vetting - to date this has not being compulsory but it is in the process of happening; it was agreed that that should be compulsory as is the case with other voluntary organisations working in the community with children
- Child protection Practice is an on going work in Progress.

Minutes of February Meeting . Taken as read.

Welcome to new members

The meeting officially welcomed Nick Scullion.

Matters arising

Catholic grandparents Association

One meeting had taken place with Paul O'Brien (Coordinator A resource pack to be developed to support start up ,further meetings after Easter)

Parish team Report

Key points were as follows

- ❖ Confirmation First Penance completed
- ❖ First Communions in May
- ❖ Blessing of expectant Parents 6th May.
- ❖ Blessing of pre School Children in May
- ❖ Youth Helpers to attend Lourdes and Taize Pilgrimages.
- ❖ End of June youth festival in Knock

Correspondences.

- **Clare Youth service**
- **Retreat**

Clare Youth Service

Contribution request Towards Summer Camp project .Ennis Parish has always contributed to the above and will do so this year.

Retreat

Sr Cecilia to confirm details of retreat after Easter .Sr Cecilia had previously spoken To Pastoral Council.

Pastoral Council Re vitalisation

Service of Solidarity.

The Question was asked in relation to the Pastoral Council.

What is the role of Pastoral council? Are we achieving what we set out to do? What is the aim and how long will the Pastoral Council be in existence? The mission statement was referred to and an overview of the different ministries presented. It was agreed to carry out the work of the mission statement is a big challenge

In relation to Pastoral Council Revitalisation the following were suggested.

- Re visiting the connect groups and to re start in areas that no longer meet.
- Looking at the Mass with a difference with a view to havening this Mass on a fortnightly basis .Difference of opinion on this suggestion.
- A return to monthly work reports from the different action groups
- Being more involved in Community.

The above to be discussed further at future meetings.

Service of Solidarity.

At the last meetings suggestions from the Book of Expressions in relation to how visitors to the church felt on the issue of child sexual abuse by priests was discussed and it was agreed that as a Pastoral Council it would be positive to act as a catalyst in bringing people together to show solidarity with victims of abuse, by an open forum or some services of solidarity To this end the chairperson had worked on and gave members a discussion document on Service of solidarity .To be further discussed at the April meeting

AOB

The chairperson had brought up the issue of Secretary .Maureen Hand had this role for a number of year's .Mary Hanley has now expressed an interest in the position of Secretary and Maureen wishes to resign as secretary of Ennis Pastoral council but stay on as a member the above was agreed.

Date of next meeting

Date Tuesday April the 27th 2010

Time 8pm Venue Chapter Room