

## **Ginger Group meeting notes: Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2017, 11.00am at the Church of the Holy Spirit, Great Bardfield.**

**Attendees:** Father Richard, Robina Debnam, Janet Yates, Pauline & Joe Butler, Ann Smith, Linda & Alf Wheeler, Damian, Fiona & Phoebe Walsh, Patrick O'Brien, Roger Pettitt, Neil Davison

**Apologies:** Michele Davison, Amanda Waples, Celeste & Philip Slater, Mary McGee, Sara Booth, Conor McDonagh

1. Opening prayer – 'Stewards of the Gospel' prayer was delivered by Father Richard
2. Notes from previous meeting accepted and agreed that ongoing matters would be discussed under today agenda save for -
  - a. Item 4 incorrect date provided, further dates will be provided.
  - b. Item 11 should have read all Parishioners and in particular GG group members.
  - c. Roger asked what sort of response and Fiona said circa 40 responses.
3. Review of timescale – key dates
  - a. Deadline for submission of questionnaire - Wednesday Holy week April 12<sup>th</sup> 2017 Chrism Mass
  - b. Next GG 18<sup>th</sup> March 2017
  - c. Post submission meeting dates - it was agreed GG Group would meet Quarterly with an option to increase frequency or for a specific purpose
  - d. Note new Diocesan Director of Development at Brentwood - Steven Webb - was appointed starting in April 2017 to assist direction at DSPG level (please see <http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/news/brentwood-welcomes-steven-webb-director-development/>)
  - e. Note overall timeline currently 2017 – 19/20: 2 years continued planning and part implementation.
  - f. Parishes would also be expected to communicate and endeavour or align with other parishes which is thought of as an opportunity to 'compare notes'
  - g. A discussion took place to ensure openness and transparency, engagement with diocese, parishioners and other parishes in evolving and arriving at the Parish Plan
  - h. It was agreed the GG will ultimately assimilate ideas and put the Plan options to the Parish Council for approval before submitting to the Diocese. The timeline is as yet unknown, but will be clarified by the DSPG shortly after Easter 2017.
  - i. A brief conversation took place in promoting openness and engagement with the parishioners inviting participation in the GG. Linda suggested a poster was included and further notes added to the newsletter.

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4. Nothing to report
  
5.
  - a. Parish Questionnaire has had a very good response circa 40
  - b. Damian shared that the questionnaire response needs to be reduced and summarised on a one pager for the Chrism Mass, and suggested the GG PQ Sub-Group volunteers continue their good work. The GG endorsed this proposal and Linda, Fiona & Celeste and Pauline volunteered to assist. The sub group would endeavour to provide a draft by the next GG, 18th March. The main Parish Questionnaire also needs to be completed within the same timeframe, and the Sub-Group will continue to supervise this deliverable.
  - c. A huge thank you to Celeste for pulling together the questionnaire summary document.
  
6. Included within notes under item 5.
  
7. Sharing or perspectives
  - a. It was proposed postponing this item to allow further time to digest the summary, and so sharing of thoughts would be aired at the next GG
  
8. Preparation for Bishop Alan's visit
  - a. Mass as normal at Great Bardfield
  - b. Coffee, tea and cakes after Mass
  - c. Bishop Alan departs for Thaxted
  - d. Finger buffet for lunch at Great Bardfield 12.30/12.45 – one hour or so
  - e. Father Richard is going to ask the Bishop to say a few words about the forward planning and a member of the GG is to respond to reinforce the Parish is fully engaging in the process.
  
9. The attendees at the Stewards of the Gospel plus Clergy Conference Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017 at Brentwood – Father Richard, Damian, Roger and Robina will attend.
  
10. The meeting closed with a prayer at 12.30h
  
11. (Special thanks to Neil, whose comprehensive meeting notes provided the basis of this version of the distributed Meeting Notes.)