Partnership Development Group: Partnership D4

Minutes of the meeting 23/05/17

1. **Welcome and introductions: Fr. Andrew**
2. **Feedback from the meeting of partnership deans**

The name of our partnership will be ‘Finchale’. This will be announced on Pentecost Sunday, when the partnerships are officially launched.

The key message is ‘From parish to partnership’ and the meeting acknowledged that in the short term, developing the partnership will involve additional work and meetings until we streamline how we work at partnership level.

1. **Elections (term of office – 2 years, i.e. the anticipated life of the development group):**

Chair: Graham Donachie

Vice-chair: Kristen Peacock

Secretary: Margaret Doyle

1. **Establishing the PDG**

There will be 4 meetings a year

Meetings will take place at St. Joseph’s, Gilesgate

There will be representation from the schools, one person to represent our 8 primary schools and 1 to represent St. Leonard’s. The meeting also acknowledged the importance of other secondary schools where some of the children in the area go.

**AP1:** Margaret to contact the schools to identify representatives for the next meeting.

Finance: we will need to set up an account with contributions from all parishes to cover costs, but are still awaiting guidance from the Diocese. Initial costs will be admin, printing, perhaps costs for social events. In the longer term, there may be more substantial costs, e.g. should the partnership employ staff.

1. **Priorities (1): Prayer and spirituality**

There will be a joint pilgrimage to Finchale on 16 July, from 2.00-5.00pm, with activities during the afternoon, and finishing with Vespers.

**AP2:** Graham and Fr. Colm will take forward the practical arrangements.

Other ideas:

* Day of reflection at Ushaw
* Publishing Mass times across the whole partnership
* A bidding prayer for the partnership to be used in all the parishes
* Parishes to extend an invitation across the partnership to existing events where appropriate

1. **Priorities (2): Communication**

Preferred current methods of communication are announcements at the end of Mass, bulletins / newsletters and websites (although not all parishes have websites).

**AP3:** Margaret to send out brief questionnaire on communications to get a clear picture of the current position.

It was agreed that a partnership level website is needed, and that the technology departments of our schools may be able to help. In the meantime, each parish with a website will publish agreed content on their own website.

**AP4:** Partnership level website to be discussed at next meeting when we have representation from the schools.

1. **Priorities (3): Getting to know each other / working together**

**AP5:** Margaret to contact the FTiH team for a full set of the observations on our parish questionnaires and review for the next meeting.

**AP6:** Each parish to bring to the next meeting 2 things they do well, and could take a lead on for the partnership. Also, to consider areas where they would like support.

1. **What happens next?**

The official launch of the partnership is at Pentecost. There will be a Bishop’s letter and short liturgy at each Mass.

1. **Communications from this meeting**

There will be a short summary of the meeting for communication in each parish this weekend, for use in announcements, newsletters and on websites.

**AP7:** Margaret to draft summary, for agreement by the chair and the dean.

**Next meeting:** 7.00pm, Wednesday 13 September at St. Joseph’s, Gilesgate