

# Minutes

## Warkworth/Puhoi Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February at Warkworth Parish Hall at 12.06pm

1. **Opening Prayer**---- Fr Brian
2. **Attendance**:---- Lynn Williams, Fr Brian Lange, Rick O'Flaherty, Christine Greig, Fran Hardy, Jerome Hardy, Trish Coupe, Berny Straka as PFC rep, Fina Turner to represent the Filipino Community, Tawita to represent the Kiribati Community.
3. **Apologies**---- no apologies
4. **Minutes of the previous meeting** --- minutes of the last PPC meeting had been circulated prior to the meeting. Moved for approval by Christine / Sec Lynn - carried.
5. **Matters arising from previous minutes:**
  - Tim spoke to his discussions with neighbour at 16 Percy Street and noted again of the opportunity proposed development work on 16 Percy Street will present for upgrading the Church boundary fencing.
  - Tim confirmed the emergency housing initiative by De Paul House was working well and expressed thanks to Tawita to be passed onto the Kiribati Community for their involvement.
  - Rick noted that the Kiribati driver licence matter was still being addressed through the Chris Martin and his police colleagues.
6. **Correspondence:**
  - **Inward:**
  - **Alpha Network Update.** Information about the upcoming Alpha Network Update on the 25<sup>th</sup> February was circulated. Jerome and Rick will attend the update and report back to the PPC. Fr Brian expressed his support for Alpha.
  - **Historical Society Puhoi re Puhoi Convent School.** This matter will be dealt by the PPC in committee immediately after the PPC meeting today.
  - **Liturgy Centre Day of Formation for Parish Musicians.** Christine attended along with Elizabeth MacDonald. Christine reported that it was a very good seminar, well run and well worth attending. There were about 80 people attending. Christine has picked up on ideas for implementation in our Parish. Thank you, Christine and Elizabeth.
  - **Diocesan Centre re Local Safeguarding Parish Representative.** Berny Straka spoke to this and noted the standards for volunteer's conduct are intended to maintain a safe and healthy ministry environment. She confirmed that she and Bob Dye have attended safeguarding course and they are dealing with this issue. Berny confirmed that the Volunteer Agreement & Task Description form has been completed and returned to the Pompallier Diocesan Centre. Berny will

- collate list of who need to be vetted. Fr Brian confirmed he will look at any specifics arising from his recent arrival in the Parish. Lynn will liaise with Berny given the PFC responsibility in this area of Health and Safety.
- **Warkworth Cemetery Upkeep.** An email Tim had received from Paddy Sullivan was circulated. Tim spoke to the matter, detailing the points that Paddy makes in her email. Berny reported that contractors were booked by the PFC to be on the Cemetery site tomorrow ( 17<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020 ) for tidy up work. Berny will refer Paddy's email to the PFC . Berny said that the Cemetery is actually closed for any further burials and that there is a cemetery property committee. It is apparent that quite a few Parishioners are unaware of the cemetery's existence. Given its quite prominent location, next to the new Warkworth interchange, a tidy up and provision of signage is appropriate.
  - **General Property Discussion.**  
 Whilst on the general topic of property, Tim raised the idea of forming a property committee in Warkworth. There are Warkworth Parishioners willing to be involved on such a committee. The proposal received a very negative response from Berny as PFC rep at the meeting. She said all property matters are the sole responsibility of the PFC. Tim then expressed his concern at the level of reporting from the PFC on property matters, and how capital items and maintenance programmes are managed.  
 Fr pointed out the differing roles of the Parish Pastoral Council, Parish Finance Committee and other Parish committees such as the Liturgy committee.  
 Tim requested that his concerns, as noted above, be specifically recorded in these minutes.  
 Tim will respond to Paddy Sullivan on behalf of the PPC.
  - **Outward:**
  - Nil.

## 7. Reports:

- **Kiribati Community:**  
 Tawita reported on behalf of the Kiribati Community. He expressed a warm welcome from his community to Fr Brian. He said they are grateful for the opportunity to be involved with liturgy and singing and being included in Parish affairs. They have no real issues to report. The De Paul House emergency housing initiative is important for them. Rick expressed his view that their community is a very important part, if not the most important part, of the Warkworth Parish, alongwith other ethic groups. The PPC is here to help the Kiribati community in any way it can.
- **Filipino Community:**  
 Fina reported on behalf of the Filipino Community. She said the Filipino community is growing in our Parish area but the challenge will be keeping together now Fr Ralph has left. She confirmed it is their intention to keep the

choir going although it is difficult with other commitments. Their community is meeting soon and she will keep in touch with the PPC.

- **Parish Finance Committee:**

The next PFC meeting is in March. Berny had nothing to report.

**8. General Business:**

- Jerome raised the question on how best to address concerns in the Parish. With whom do such concerns get raised? Lynn says if there are concerns, we need to be aware and look to escalate them if need be appropriately and in a sensitive manner. Tim again raised his concerns about financial reporting.
- Fr Brian again spoke to the separation between the duties of the various Parish Committees.
- Jerome requested he be allowed to relinquish his role as Secretary to the PPC. Rick will take over. Moved for approval by Tim/Sec Christine - carried.
- Berny says there is transport available to the Ordination of Fr Michael Gielen on the 7<sup>th</sup> March. Best to liaise through the Parish Office.

**9. Closing Prayer:** Fr Brian concluded the meeting with a prayer

**10. Next Meeting** The next PPC meeting will be at Puhoi on the 15 March 6.00pm, at the Puhoi hotel.