**The Roman Catholic Parish of Ss. Peter & Michael**

 **Woolston in the Warrington and Widnes Deanery** 

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council**

**Monday 12th June 2023 at 7.00pm**

**Present**:

Fr. M D; J L G (Chair); C G; J M (Vice-Chair); V M (Secretary for meeting); G T; T H; G A; J J G; T F; P D; C W; M H 2

 **1 Welcome and Opening Prayer**

J L G welcomed everyone to the meeting and led the opening prayer.

 **2 Apologies**

M H 1; T W; M F; K L; T O

 **3 Chair Introduction and Matters Arising From Minutes**

The minutes from the meeting of the Parish Council held on 15th May 2023 were accepted by the Parish Council as a true record. No matters arising, except those featured on the agenda.

 **4 Liturgy**

J M informed the meeting that weekend Mass attendances in May 2023, by adding together the Saturday and Sunday Masses, averaged 149 parishioners attending Mass each week, same as May last year. J M said the attendances were 69% of pre Covid-19 levels. May 2019 was average of 207 parishioners. Fr M D said he thought that this was similar for Liverpool Archdiocese and is varying countrywide.

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Nineteen children made their **First Holy Communion**. Eighteen on Saturday 20th May and one child the week before, due to a family holiday. All the children were perfectly behaved.

**Confirmations** are 1st and 2nd July 2023, at St Oswald’s, Padgate.

Five children from the parish to be confirmed. It is unknown yet whether it will be a Confirmation Service or a Mass.

**Friday morning Mass** at 9.30am commenced last Friday (9th June). Mass was offered for Fr G (Diamond Jubilee).

**Chairman of Woolston Parish Council**, Councillor J G, informed J M, that Fr M D was mentioned at the Parish Council meeting. The meeting was informed that Fr M D has been appointed as resident Parish Priest.

**Four Eucharistic Ministers** were commissioned by Fr. M D, during Mass on Sunday 11th June. They are S T, S O, S H and J G. They will shadow experienced Eucharistic Ministers for a few weeks. From August they will be on the rota. Please keep them in your prayers.

Fr M D informed the meeting that there will be **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** before Wednesday evening Mass, commencing in the Autumn.

**5 Parish trip to Lourdes update**

Fourteen parishioners and friends, including Fr M D, are booked on the

Liverpool Archdiocesan Centenary Pilgrimage to Lourdes. The flight times and final booking of transport to the airport will be available imminently.

A letter from the Parish has been sent thanking Woolston Parish Council for the kind donation of £350 towards the pilgrimage.

**6 The Day for Grandparents and the Elderly**

Celebration of the third World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly is on Sunday 23 July. J L G will liaise with H L, St Peter’s School, if there are any children willing to be readers at Masses that weekend, possibly for Y4 recent First Holy Communion candidates, and any children identified, who attend weekly Masses.

There was discussion around visiting the elderly, possibly the Eucharistic ministers, to thank them for all they have done, and still do, for the church and society.

 There will be tea and cakes on the lawn that Sunday.

**7 AOB**

**Padgate Walking Day** is Saturday 24th June. J L G will check with H L at school how many statues are required.

St Peter’s parish procession leaves Padgate Community Centre at 2.15pm. We are 5th in line. It is a Parish event, not just a school event. Anyone is most welcome to join in.

**Presbytery kitchen** A local builder is to meet with Fr M D on 14th June to discuss modifications to the presbytery kitchen.

**Rotas** The stewarding and reading rotas are due for updating. The Stewarding rota, implemented during covid pandemic, will continue as the Welcoming rota.

**Working party** There was a request for more volunteers to help on the monthly “working party”.The next one is Tuesday 12th June after 9.30am mass. Every 2nd Tuesday of the month through to November. <https://stpeterschurchwoolston.jimdo.com/our-news/working-parties/>

**“Creation Time”** from 1st September to 4th October (the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi) agenda item for next meeting. The theme for 2023 is “*Let Justice and Peace Flow”.* Please send in photographs for the theme of Creation Time for use on the church website and Mass presentations during September. Please email stpeter.woolston@rcaol.org.uk with JPEG photos in landscape orientation (sideways). Only photographs with **no people** on please. E.g. landscapes, seascapes, places of interest, still life etc.

**Communion visits for the sick or housebound.** It is to be put in Parish Newsletter / Bulletin that if anyone wishes to be visited by a Eucharistic Minister to take Holy Communion to please contact Fr M D or J M Or email stpeter.woolston@rcaol.org.uk

**The “Sick List” on the Church Newsletter / bulletin will be refreshed on 1st August.** If prayers are still required, please contact Fr M D, J M or email the parish email with subject “Prayers for the sick” - stpeter.woolston@rcaol.org.uk

**Thankyou** Fr M D thanked all who have helped him with unpacking and settling into the Presbytery, especially T H and G T. Thank you all very much.

**8 Date of Next meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held in the Millennium Room on Monday, 10th July 2023 at 7.00pm. The Agenda will be circulated before the meeting.

**9 Close**

The meeting closed at 8.15pm with a prayer led by Fr. M D.