

COSTA BLANCA ANGLICAN CHAPLAINCY

MINUTES for COUNCIL MEETING at La Fustera TUESDAY 20th February 2024 at 10.30

1. **Welcome** and opening prayer by Fr Paul at 10.30am

2. **Apologies:** Peter Johnson – Albir; Helen Chapman – La Fustera; Joy Chambers-El Campello; Jilly Chalk- Gandia-resigned due to ill health

In **attendance:** Fr Paul, Fr Jim, Fr Rodney, Fr Robin. Chaplaincy Wardens - Diana Pringle and Paul Winter; Secretary –Elaine Mitchell; Treasurer – Dennis Johnson; Safeguarding Officer – Gail Johnson; Denia – Sue Varley; Javea – Hazel Allyn; Calpe – David Baggaley.

3. **Minutes** of Council Meeting 5th December 2023 (previously circulated & re-circulated with this Agenda for ease of reference) **Proposer Gail Seconder Sue**

4. **Matters arising:** Item 10, a question was asked about the Diocese £400,000 and where that money goes. This related to 'freedom of information'. Dennis explained that it is all on the Diocesan website where they put together business plans. The scheme started in 2017. At Synod Dennis spoke to Andrew Caspari, the Chief Operating Officer, he was told the money was there for specific projects.

*The following reports marked *** were circulated to be read before the meeting.*

5. *** Report by Lead Chaplain - Fr Paul

6. *** Report by Chaplains a) Fr Jim b) Fr Rodney

Fr Rodney expanded, in answer to a question asked about possible standardisation of content - hymns, number of readings etc. The content (e.g. number of Readings) is decided locally. We can't standardise across the chaplaincy. However, we do need new service books. Standardisation is around the fact that we use Common Worship. There is a lot of scope to build that through seasons. If it is appropriate to keep it short such as Calpe for the following service, then that has to be. Timing will be critical in Albir, the new place of worship is hoped to be the Ermita San Rafael, La Nucia. However, if all else fails we can temporarily use The Forum (The Comm). The new place of worship will possibly have a 10am start and the possibility of pushing El Campello on 15 minutes.

7. *** Reports by Chaplaincy Wardens, Diana & Paul

8. *** Reports from all Local Representatives

9. *** Report by Safeguarding Officer

9a – Anti Bullying (12 pages) 9b – Data Protection 9c Reporting Concerns Action Plan

Gail pointed out an Article in the Guardian about Bullying, because **it is** a potential problem. Some discussion followed about whether or not it is Safeguarding – YES, it definitely comes under the Safeguarding Umbrella.

We finally achieved the target in that everyone who is required to do the training has done it. Gail wants to keep that standard up. We are the only Chaplaincy that has managed it. Anyone taking any post who is required to do the safeguarding must complete the training within FOUR weeks of the APCM. BULLYING can often be a drip drip situation, it can be subtle and we cannot have it. Bullying is to be reported and the Diocesan Safeguarding Team will advise on the action to be taken. It does come under the big umbrella on safeguarding. Gail asked that Council accept the document as our working policy.

Proposer Fr Rodney Seconder Fr Jim Vote to accept the report on **Bullying and Harassment** – unanimous. .

Fr Paul ask Gail to elaborate on Spiritual Abuse. This course will be coming online. There is a whole day course possibility. Another one of 2 hours.

Data protection, nothing has changed. **Accpeted**

Reporting concerns Action Plan **Proposer Fr Jim Seconder Paul Winter**

Gail said to note that they no longer have a land line.



10- **The Operational Accounts** have to be agreed at this meeting. **Proposed by David and Seconded by Diana**
The accounts are ready for APCM and the Diocese. To be circulated to all Electoral Roll members.

We still don't know what our Diocesan share is yet. So many Chaplaincies can't balance the books. Dennis spoke to Andrew Caspari, Chief Operations Officer at Synod about the situation on coastal Spain and the affects of Brexit. He and the Bishop were shocked and now, at last, they realise that there is a problem with finance. (Cof E does not have enough money to keep cathedrals open but they still say that everything is fine!) There is an understanding now that the Brexit effect was underestimated. This chaplaincy is different to others due to it's geographical size. Diocesan share is based on income, heavily dependent on Electoral Roll. We have by far the largest ER in the archdeaconry. We may not have to pay as much this year as last year. When Calpe House is sold, we have the opportunity of investing €250k and we would clear 3/4 of Diocesan share simply on interest. More importantly the Spanish Government will not have any hold on that. Over the last year we have managed reasonably well. We have spent on advertising and emergency work at Calpe and Senija has been done. We have supported advertising and The Rock. Managed to reduce the deficit by 35%. However, 2019 is the figure on which the Diocese base their calculations

10a **Synod** Dennis had a zoom meeting on finance as they ran out of time at Synod. The Diocese are basically asking for more but have realised that they need to modify how they calculate the diocesan share. The bible studies were interesting but in point of fact it would be better to be more business orientated. Presentation are online and are more thought provoking than being read out. The beginning of the report is all tied up with "living in love and faith", which is causing some controversy. There will never be a consensus. Fr Paul did not elaborate at this moment but said we should pray for those engaged in LLF. The 5 points, in Dennis report – we need to read them. The Bishop did outline the process for Bishop David's replacement. It is interesting reading but highlights the intricacies the Diocese has to follow to appoint. The primary focus was on care. The Diocese is aiming to be Carbon neutral by 2030. The size of this chaplaincy was not commonly known. Carbon footprint for travel. Look on website and it will tell you how much Co2 your car emits. There was an Additional session for Treasurers. Basically, the Chief Operating Manager was left in no uncertain terms of our situation. We and Kiev are the largest. Most chaplaincies have less than €1000 in reserve. Dennis then spoke about the admission of Diana which was very well supported. Readers are valued in the Diocese. They can give Communion by extension. In the UK the Archdeacon has to give permission week by week. Not so in this Diocese, so Diana will be really valued Our Next year Synod will be a virtual synod, this is largely part to this chaplaincy and Fr Jim who proposed this action. This will save considerable money.

11. *** **Calpe House** - Century 21 update

Century 21 were asked for comments on our price for Calpe House. They simply sent details of four others €348k €330k the one that sold for €330k was on the same street and looked to be much better than 20C
The market is depressed, We are currently asking €395k. Not getting enough feedback from Century 21
We need to look more realistically. Fr Jim proposed that we accept a lower price to not burden ourselves with this. The Dutch government have encouraged people to invest their money in property, so he doesn't think the market is a dead one.

Fr Jim proposed that the Standing Committee be responsible for the actual sale to include listing, price, negotiations and acceptance of an offer. Can this meeting allow the standing committee, to handle this and keep council informed of action?
Fr Jim - proposer, David - seconder. All agreed.

12. *** **Electoral Roll** . Elaine thanked all worship centres for keeping her up to date.

13. *** **Website Management**

New people in Albir and El Campello, all found us via the website.

Dennis, informed Council that we are getting away from WordPress- too unstable to use. Need to pay for add ons
The New website that is being worked on by Dennis and Elaine, gives basic information and tells you where to look for it. Some changes will be needed due to Albir location uncertainty.

Apart from that we now have a stable platform



Calpe had 8 visitors from same hotel as a result of a leaflet in reception. 192 views on Frs Rodney & Robin service. Five clergy in Church at Calpe on Sunday El Campello Involved visiting clergy earlier in the month and an ordinand from Birmingham. All found via the website.

14. Lay Ministry Diana is going to be kept busy, all our readers will be kept busy. It is a 3 year course to complete lay reader training. Diana is delighted to be up and active. Lay ministry is ALL the things we do in church. Coffee, welcomer, reading the lessons, all sorts of opportunities. Fr Rodney, said, as a trainer and tutor, Readers are greatly valued, we should uphold and encourage reader ministry, a ministry of preaching and teaching. Readers are not there to fill in the gaps, they have a distinctive ministry and should Preach regularly. Need to invite readers to preach when available. Diana enjoyed preaching. In Javea, there are 2 or 3 people looking for confirmation. Anyone else who wants to be confirmed will be discussed at the next Clericus meeting. Fr Jim is encouraged that training for confirmation candidates is in place.

15. Advertising. Are we benefitting from media advertising? NO. Newspaper ads are expensive. Calpe asks visitors where they heard about us, Website, Leaflets in the hotel and The Rock, not one saw the advert in the newspaper. So not worth spending money. So, discontinue regular advertising, but targeting advertising for Easter, Christmas, Remembrance.

The Rock. We haven't been able to find extra sponsors and it is vital. However, money we save on advertising can be injected into the Rock. David only gets 1 in 6 businesses committing. We will get close to the cost of 1000 being printed. David will get new prices, Issue 4 going to print end of this week/ beginning next week. Distribution is paying off with visitors from hotels coming along to services. Suggested €125 for 1000 leaflets for hotels. We need more distribution. David really needs help on advertising. Most May y Mas supermarkets have a magazine rack. Iceland too, some will take and some will not. Can we ask the Diocese again to ask again to support the publication? We need to aim to be able to print 5000. Also, simple A4 posters with more information – place in Charity shops. "This is Holy Week, with additional flip out portion at the bottom "this is the day he is risen" Poster Campaign. Fr Paul will get feedback from his Clerical Brothers, at the next Clericus meeting. In principal it's a very good idea. A4 or A5

16. Any Other Business:- a) **World Day of Prayer Friday 1st March at 4pm** Elaine handed out advertising leaflets. Everyone is encouraged to attend, it would be good to have chaplaincy representation. It is an important service this year, written by the Christian women of Palestine. Paul Winter is happy to offer lifts from his route Denia, Javea, and Calpe.

b) **APCM** Elaine handed out the meal register sheets for each worship centre to complete and asked that their money be collected and put in an envelope to be given to Elaine on the day.

Date of next meeting:-

APCM Tuesday 16th April 2024. 10.30. Details of the meal at El Cid were given to each worship Centre, together with a list for meal bookings.

The newly elected council will meet briefly afterwards to also discuss the date of the next council meeting.

Note: Council members are encouraged to discuss items on the Agenda with their congregations prior to the Meetings and bring any comments to the meeting.

The meeting closed with the grace at 11.52am

Fr Paul D Dean
Lead Chaplain

J Elaine Mitchell
Chaplaincy Secretary