Edited Minutes of the Parish Pastoral Council Meeting 12th October 2026

Present: Father Anthony, Father Michael, John Renn (Chair), Joan Blows, Josephine Lewis, Maria Tin (Minute Taker). **In Attendance**: Tessa Metcalfe (Financial Statement presentation). **Apologies:** Verity Hill, Jan Campion, Alexander Muir, Mario Daniel

AGM Preparation & Financial Statement

- Tessa Metcalfe presented the financial statement up to the end of August 2026.
- The presented format requires simplification into straightforward format for the upcoming AGM.
- The parish requires at least £100,000 in the bank annually to cover direct costs, and a monthly balance of at least £20,000 to cover standing orders and direct debits.
- Grant income has been highly successful this year, including £20,000 from the National Lottery towards the hall toilet refurbishment and £500 from another trust.
- Contactless card machines have proven extremely successful and self-funding within the first month.
- Major capital expenditure includes completed and ongoing works such as the hall toilets, roof cladding, boiler maintenance, heating loop repairs and lighting.
- Total funds/cash positions and diocesan loan accounts were reviewed.

Actions from Previous Minutes

- Fire marshal training: It was held on Saturday 12th September and was found useful, though attendance was low. A further one-hour session will be held.
- Isolated Parishioners & Pastoral Visits: an immediate appeal will be made for parishioners to notify the office regarding anyone living alone or needing support.

Health & Safety

- Parish fire safety policies are being reviewed alongside Linda to address concerns from the previous meeting. Revisions are in progress.

Father Anthony: Priorities for Final Years of Pastoral Ministry

- Father Anthony highlighted two main priorities for his remaining tenure:
- Shrine Development: Progress depends on fundraising and coordination with the diocese.
- Church Music: Enhancing the 11:00 am Sunday mass music with live instrumentation, choir leadership, and structured congregational singing.

Synodality: The Way Forward

- The Synodality Group: Father Michael, Daphne Ellis, Helen Nattrass and John Renn will meet again. Synodality is conceptually hard to implement in a normal action centred way; it is about changing the culture of a group. An online reporting meeting with the diocese is scheduled for Thursday 26th November,2026.

Volunteers: Recruitment & Processing

- Personal invitation is the most effective way to recruit welcomers and volunteers.

Any Other Business

Rosminian Missionaries: A discussion was held regarding the deployment of priests from developing nations to developed regions and the potential vulnerabilities for these celebat men.

- Next PPC Meeting: Monday 25th January 2027 at 6:30 pm