



## Catholic Parish of Wellington South From the coast to the harbour

St Anne's  
St Bernard's  
St Francis de Sales  
St Joseph's

*We are a community of joyful disciples growing together and sharing Christ's message.  
Ko tātou tetahi hāpori o ngā ākongā harikoa, e whakatupu ngātahi ana, e ruia ana te karere o Hēhu Karaiti*

### Minutes of the Wellington South Parish Council 27 August, 6.30pm, St Anne's Church

**Present:** Fr. David Dowling, Penny Holden, Stephen Neal, Rachael Cahir, John Whiting, Francis Fanning, Ivan Moss, Andrew Pozniak, Fr. Dennis Nacorda

**Apologies:** Lorraine Forrest, Melania Luka-Lui, Joe Green

**In attendance:** Danielle Webb

**Reflection:** Fr. David led the reflection.

#### Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on 23 July were accepted as an accurate record.

**Moved:** Ivan **Seconded:** Andrew

#### Leadership Team Update

A written update was tabled and spoken to by Fr. Dennis. He noted that Melly has approached the Leadership Team about the possibility of developing a guided prayer session to complement her breakthrough project. This would enable people to gather together to pray for the consultation process.

#### Parish Building Consultation

The main item for discussion was the feedback from the Parish Stewardship day held on 3 August. This was attended by over 100 Parishioners from all communities. Ivan has reviewed the information gathered and circulated a summary document to Parish Council members prior to the meeting. This indicates strongest support within the parish for a 2 church model. A number of key themes were also identified.

- Strong support for developing multi use spaces
- Ensuring future financial stability
- Working to ensure we develop one parish community
- Supporting the needs of our ethnic communities
- Supporting and growing family groups, prayer groups, youth activity and CCD
- Considering links between schools and churches
- Honour and respecting legacies of the past

Discussion focused on next steps as we are currently two months out from the deadline to make recommendations to the Cardinal. It was agreed that the decision about which two churches will remain open is one that will be made by the Parish Council at a special meeting which will be held within the next fortnight. At this meeting pros and cons of all church buildings will be discussed and a final decision made about the proposal to go to the Cardinal. It was agreed that it will be important to share this final decision with parishioners quickly once it has been made.

Other issues discussed included:

- The possibility of St Frances de Sales church to be transferred to the School with a small chapel remaining. An early discussion will be required with the School Principal and Catholic education board to see if this would be of interest to them. This would involve transferring ownership to the school.
- The use of existing presbyteries. Currently the Brooklyn presbytery is not used as it is in a poor state of repair. Is there potential for the Island Bay presbytery to become a Mission House with the current presbytery relocating to one of the town houses being developed in Mount Victoria?

**Actions:**

- **Ivan to contact Parish Council members to identify a meeting date within the next fortnight. It will be important to have as many Council members as possible attending.**
- **Fr. David to discuss St Francis De Sales church with Principal of St Frances and Catholic education office**
- **Ivan to draft an update for the parish newsletter and circulate for comments**

**Feedback from young people**

Danielle Webb attended the meeting to discuss feedback from young people about what is important to them in maintaining their faith with particular focus on physical spaces/churches. Danielle also attended the Stewardship day and noted that there were a lot of similar views raised in relation to church environments. Some of the key themes raised by young people included:

- Support for using multipurpose spaces (but being able to keep the sacred space well contained)
- Importance of beautiful spaces with natural light and artwork that enables people to see a reflection of their own community
- Hospitality and importance of excellent kitchen facilities
- Accessibility for all groups (not just "certain groups") eg not just Catholics / not just Sunday people

Future meeting dates: 24 September, 22 October, 26 November. December meeting to be confirmed as 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday would fall on Christmas eve!

**Reflection for next meeting: ?**

**Next meeting date: Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September, 6pm, St Anne.**