

Island Mission Group


Next Virtual Meeting – February 8th 2023

Location	ZOOM - Virtual	Attendance	FrJD	Fr Joe Daly	IMG Chair
Date	January 11 th 2023		PT	Pauline Thomas	Pastoral Associate
Start Time	19:00		SS	Stephen Smith	Administrator
Finish Time	20:16		FrFM	Fr Frank Murray	
Apologies			SrMR	Sr Miranda	
		AF	Andrew Fleming	left 19:31	
		AH	Amy Hayes		
		CH	Christine Hunt		
		PB	Pat Bowyer		
		PTh	Patsy Thomas		
		JT	John Tierney		
		RLW	Rhian Lloyd Williams	joined 19:20	
		SC	Steve Cottam		
		SR	Sue Roberts		
		BSJ	Brioni Somers-Jones	IMG Secretary	

IMG Meeting Action Points

Person	Action
All	To consider agenda items for Noddfa in readiness for the next IMG meeting
FrFM	To alert communities about mass arrangements over the weekend of Noddfa
SS CH SR AH JT AF	SS, CH, SR and AH to send notes from conversations group and JT and AF if they have been able to arrange a conversation for feedback
SS	To send a financial update to IMG Group
PT CH	To go ahead with training the Parish Council Members

IMG Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome & Check in	
CH	Welcomed Attendees
2. Opening Prayer	
PT	Led Opening Prayer
3. Apologies	
CH	
4. IPT Minutes & IMG Minutes	
	4.1 No comments  2022_11_23_IMG_M eeting_Minutes.pdf

5. IMG Noddfa Meeting March 2023	
	<p>5.1 Dates 10th - 12th March 2022</p> <p>5.2 Agenda – Things to consider: Common themes which were highlighted in the groups feedback from the Assembly June 2022, and what could be implemented immediately</p> <p>5.3 It was agreed that other agenda items could be proposed at the next meeting, and the next IMG meeting would set the agenda for the weekend</p> <p>5.4 Fr Joe unavailable to attend due to prior engagement – Fr Frank Ryan to cover his masses.</p> <p>5.5 Fr Frank to alert communities about mass arrangements that weekend</p>
6. Feedback from Conversations	
	<p>6.1 Some feedback has been received, PT has meetings next week with Rhosniegr and Llangefni</p> <p>6.2 SS, CH, SR and AH to send notes from conversations group and AF had no response, JT to talk to group to arrange a conversation for feedback as it has not been feasible to meet due to circumstances out of his control</p> <p>6.3 PTh has two groups and the groups were able to get together for a Christmas lunch before attending Mass.</p> <p>6.4PT mentioned other positive outcomes that have come from the feedback included that there has been a number of social meetings with some of the other groups which is a very positive outcome from the feedback</p> <p>6.4 Once all the feedback has been received, results will be sent out</p>
7. Report on visit to Bishop	
	<p>7.1 Overall a positive meeting, there was some discussion around finances, the future of buildings and Word and Communion. The Bishop was asked to elaborate on the potential issue he had with the Anglesey. He spoke about how the island was more insular due to the geographic nature of the island and consequently there wasn't the ability to naturally mix with other communities which is different to how communities mix on the mainland</p> <p>7.2 PT – It was pointed out that in missionary territories Word and Communion is important to help keep communities together, the Bishop finished the conversation stating that he was happy about what was happening on the island generally and that this could be looked at as a pilot scheme which could be replicated else where</p> <p>7.3 PT – explained how the Bishop appreciated that Fr Oliver had called the meeting and he was relieved that hear that the Oblates would not be pulling out of the island</p> <p>7.4 The Bishop requested that if the island had, for example, a speaker coming, could the island share any good opportunities with the rest of the diocese. PT also pointed out that the Synod booklet was shared with many other parishes</p> <p>7.5 FrFM – The Bishop added, like he has previously, that people could travel to masses across the island in a similar way to travelling for their shopping, however then made the argument that some people do not even travel three miles down the road to their parish if there is no mass where they are. The length of the distance that parishioners must travel on the island was also pointed out to the Bishop</p> <p>7.6 There was a feeling amongst the group that other parishes around the country hold Work and Communion on a Sunday, whereas the Bishop stated that this was not supported around England and Wales</p> <p>7.7 AF pointed out that during Covid, for some of the outreach sessions that were held which a number of people outside the parish and across the diocese attended. This shows that the island mission does spread out across the diocese on a regular basis and is therefore unfair to say that the island is insular</p> <p>7.8 There was no commitment made in this meeting by the oblates beyond FrJD and FrFM, it was said the Oblates would support the island for as long as they could and also wanted to support the island to prepare for the future. If a Pastoral Associate / Administrator remained funded by the Oblates, it is important that the island would be considered to be an Oblate Mission. The bishop mentioned that he would have to be careful of who he placed then in the island if it was a diocesan priest</p>

8. News Across the Communities

Beaumaris

There was a Christmas lunch and the conversations group is happy to meet on a regular basis to plan future events, and to bring different ideas to the group. PTh to work on combining the groups rather than having duplicate meetings. It is important to note that Llangefni parishioners were also involved

Amlwch

The practical things will come up in SS report. There has been lot of sickness over the Christmas period and therefore fewer people around. There are some people who now choose not to come on a Saturday at 4pm because of the time. It is hoped to have a joint parish council meeting with Benllch in the next three weeks

Benllch

Many individuals were ill over the Christmas period. There was a Christmas lunch and some people from Amlwch came to join and some Benllch went to join with Amlwch too. There has been some costings and waiting for decorators to move in, although there is also an awareness of the heating and roof costs and the issues with the back carpark

Rhosneigr

The community relies on really three people to lead and read, highlighted that is difficult particularly when there is illness, Rhian and Ann Saunders have been great, but it has been difficult over the last three weeks. Maybe the plans for Holyhead and Rhosneigr coming together might ease the issue. The enthusiasm of the people that come and the numbers are fine with no drop in numbers for Word and Communion over winter. When it was discussed about Word and Communion and services in Rhosneigr, both the community and the visitors want to keep it going

Llangefni

There was lovely Christmas Eve Service with teas and coffees and mince pies to welcome everyone. The community a few years ago were wondering where the young ones were to help dress the church for Christmas however they seemed to have moved passed that now. People are taking on different roles being supportive of one another. The final conversation is next week and there is a good spirit among them and openness, the services of Word and Communion are going well and new people have been trained in them. PB also agrees and mentioned how people have stepped up to help cover others

Holyhead


There was a great Christmas Vigil it was packed and the mass was uplifting, but the counter part was there was very few on Christmas morning. Visitors come and it is difficult to find locals to come and help out. There were teas after mass last Sunday although only a few people were there however it was lovely to see the Vietnamese family and it was nice to get to know them better. There is a new parish council board at the back of the church and it is nearly finished. The sacristy still leaking

9. Menai Bridge Meeting

9.1 Held Saturday November 26th 2022, well attended, two main groups, one group was more practical and understood the health and safety issues of climbing the steps to the church as an age population, the other group would like to retain the church for more sentimental reasons

9.2 The report has been put together, with two main recommendations:

1. It is felt that Bishop Peter should attend a meeting with the parishioners but should be fully briefed about what discussions were had at this meeting
2. There was a strong feeling that the members of the community wanted to make a suggestion to the diocese that if the church shuts – how the site should be used, to

	<p>leave a legacy in Menai Bridge, maybe to steer the diocese into how it could be used, and to not be sold to an individual to build a beautiful house by the straits, possibly used for a social use, even if it is social housing.</p> <p>9.3 Another note that came from the meeting was how can this ageing community support the church financially</p> <p>9.4 There was a general feeling of acceptance that the church would not open. During the meeting with the Bishop it was brought up and he felt it was better for the community to make the decision rather than the diocese</p>
10. Pastoral Associate Report	
PT	<p>10.1 PT Read through the PA Report and asked for comments from the group. No one added any further comments or questions on the PA Report</p> <p></p> <p>23_01_PA_Report_January_2023.pdf</p>
11. Administrator Report	
SS	<p>11.1 Health and Safety – Rhosneigr had its annual service with Snowdonia Fire Protection</p> <p>11.2 SS is aware of all the leaks in the churches and is trying to address all at the moment, but finding it difficult to find people to attend the sites to complete work on the issue</p> <p>11.3 Currently In the middle of producing the annual steering report to go to the accountants by the end of January, and there will be an end of year meeting with PT FrFM and FrJD to discuss accounts before being send to accountants</p> <p>11.4 The Clarion was received at Christmas but was not put on the website or advertised. Information can be sent to SS before the last Sunday of the month to be included in the next edition</p> <p>11.5 It was asked that the IMG would receive and update on the financial situation soon</p>
12. Any Other Business	
CH	<p>12.1 No calendar update was completed for January, and it was felt that one maybe be produced until March to see if anyone notices. Then a decision could be made as to whether it would continue. Alternatively maybe the information could be put in the newsletter on the first week of the month to help people plan other events</p> <p>12.2 PT and CH to go ahead training the Parish Council Members</p> <p>12.3 There was a query as to why the Word and Communion Service is not put in the Newsletter anymore and would it be possible to return it to the newsletter. There was much discussion around this and it was felt that parishioners should know the cycle of the services</p>
13. Agenda Items for the next meeting	
CH	<p>Proposed agenda for Noddfa</p> <p>Parish councils training outline of what will be done and where that would happen</p> <p>Holyhead – Decision regarding the mass times</p> <p>Financial year end information</p> <p>Lent</p> <p>News from areas</p>
14. Date of Next Meeting	
FrJD	February 8 th 2023
15. Closing Prayer	
SR	Led the Closing Prayer (AH to led the prayers next week)