

SVP St Lewis' Conference

Minutes of Meeting held on 25 August 2021, 7.00pm

In attendance:

Kath Lee, Madeline Blears, Debbie Knowles, Gerry Hamilton, Gill Hamilton, Maureen Talbot, Fr Gordon, Rita McKay, Josie Sudworth, Denise Fletcher, Carol Parr, Debbie Knowles

Opening Prayer read by Gill.

Matters Discussed:

It was agreed that meetings would take place on the first Wednesday of every month, the next one being 6 October 2021.

It was discussed that Martyn Griffiths has been unable to continue his participation in the group, so there is currently a vacancy with regard to the role of Treasurer.

Kath advised that during lockdown, there had been £570 in private donations to the group.

In terms of assistance provided during the pandemic there had been:

- 2 grants totalling £150 to families at St Lewis's school
- Purchase of a cooker for another family in need
- 1 food hamper provided to a family in need
- 11 food hampers provided to families in St Lewis's school

Kath advised that there was approximately £230 in remaining funds.

Kath gave all attendees a folder containing the SVP Safeguarding Policy and Expectations of Members document.

Kath discussed that references for Carol Parr and Maureen Horn were missing, and may need to be re-done.

It was discussed that all members needed to have a 1-2-1 interview with Kath/Gerry/Gill before the next meeting in order to comply with SVP procedures regarding new members.

Denise agreed that she was happy to be an auxiliary member as she had time to assist with fundraising, but did not have the capacity to take on any further visits.

Kath proposed a monthly social drop-in event/coffee group, to be held in Culcheth. Everyone agreed to think about possible venues prior to the next meeting.

Kath discussed the SVP website and the new 'knowledge hub', which contains lots of information, and training videos for members.

It was discussed that consideration might be given to an SVP Facebook group in the future, but not in the short term.

Madeleine suggested approaching St Lewis' school with regard to children undertaking a sponsored event in aid of the SVP. It was observed that the headmistress was very supportive, and so this may be a definite possibility. Also a stall at the Christmas Fair. Gill agreed to ask Maureen Horn to liaise.

The All Saints Foodbank was discussed, and Fr Gordon agreed to looking at the possibility of adding the details on the All Saints Website in order to increase take up. Access to the Foodbank will ordinarily be via a referral agency, but Fr Gordon explained that no-one without a referral would be turned away.

Gill discussed the need to increase the profile of the SVP St Lewis's group and agreed to update a leaflet that she had put together before COVID. Fr Gordon said that the All Saints office could assist with printing, and could distribute with the newsletter.

A repeat of the Coffee Morning held after 9.00am mass at St Lewis was suggested and agreed.

Possible Visits:

Wife of parishioner recently deceased. Denise will approach her at the appropriate time to see if she would like a visit/coffee from SVP.

Elderly gentleman with dementia. His carer may welcome some respite from an appropriate agency. Gill agreed to contact her and assess what was needed.

Family in Lowton – Gerry to contact

Date of next meeting:

6thth October 2021., 7.00pm

Closing Prayers were said.