

Record of Feedback received at Meeting on 22nd October 2025

General Reflections

- Transparency extremely important, including for finances
- Communications are paramount – note this is different from information
- As we move from institutional to relational hierarchy, we should make sure we maintain the importance of the Eucharist and Priesthood.
- Training is needed in Synodality and looking outwards
- Strengthening our own faith – both devotions and knowledge
- Important to make sure we are hearing from all cultures / nationalities in our parish
- Information to date was rather academic – need something more practical
- Forums a brilliant idea: an opportunity to air views and concerns in safe environment
- Concerns over how the forum is labelled and formed.
- Ideas were shared from Forum to PPC – so what is the PPC is it the same again?
- Would be helpful if PPC would help with the sharing of all aspects of parish life – so people joining with gifts to share can share them
- Regular changing of committees is important
- The word “synodal” needs translating when engaging with the parish
- As a church we are very synodal already, and inclusive.
- Generally right ideas, but we should be led by the parish, rather than relying on a hierarchy. We should have a foundation of more people.
- Lots of things happen but are taken for granted. The PPC should support and raise awareness of these things (and communicate them).
- The PPC should focus on both the wider community and the existing church family, and the importance of prayer for everyone.
- For Discipleship and Formation, we should look to pick up successful things from the past, such as churches together (e.g. Songs of Praise)
- Prayer should be focussed more on reaching out.
- Liked the collaborative idea and forum: hearing everyone’s voice.
- Proposals sound similar to what was instigated 14 years ago: how do we avoid being complacent again?
- 3 columns should be 4 – Liturgy should exist in its own right (worship).
- Pastoral care needs will be different from outreach care needs – how do we reflect that?
- Question remains – what kind/style of pastoral council is right for the parish? That kind/style question is a precursor to how to select people.
- We should ask the parish what they want from the PPC – e.g. through a conversation in the spirit.

- House groups could be valuable, perhaps in geographic areas.
- This is an opportunity to help people unlock what is meant by Synodality (and avoid them being put off because of baggage)
- PPC should be considered as a Priest support group

Responses to proposed Framework

- What is purpose of PPC? What is it there for, and how is it different to the Forum?
- With a hard barrier between PPC and “operations” / practical things, need to make sure there is a greater understanding between the two sides, e.g. finance group member on the PPC so that they can become an enabler for the PPC.
- Problem solving function needed.
- Hierarchy (direction) for “operations” remains an unanswered question.
- How will people be selected to the PPC + why
- Uncertainty of role of parish priest in the future
- Formation is incumbent on the diocese.
- Formation for all is needed to get greater participation.
- Specific engagement is needed for the young, housebound, etc., as usual meeting types can exclude them
- We need a representative PPC, and one which is engaged with parish organisations
- Suggested to launch at Pentecost, with an annual renewal at that time.
- PPC membership could be selected on a geographic basis.
- Parliament idea has some validity.
- Can the forum be the PPC?
- Similar structures in other churches – such as models of parish-led communities - have some validity.
- Some people who don’t want to get involved in groups like this are still the beating heart of the parish through prayer.