

Our Lady and St Charles Borromeo Church

Parish-In-Council meeting 23 February 2018

ACTION

Fr James welcomed 16 parishioners to the meeting thanking everyone for their attendance.

Apologies had been received from Carmen Green, Helen Willatt, Marion King

The meeting commenced with a prayer from Fr James.

Review of the Last Quarter

18/01 Fr James outlined the work of the parish during the last quarter.

- Advent went very well with the Posada dates being filled very quickly.
- A very full and busy Christmas had been supported well by our Servers.
- There has been one Baptism, four funerals, with three already booked for March. Although there had been no wedding there had been one convalidation of a marriage. One wedding is booked for August.
- An Ordinariate priest has been appointed to Whitemoor Prison but is not in post yet so Fr James continues to say Mass there.
- 15 Children are undertaking the First Holy Communion preparation, thanks to Veronica, Barbara and Isabella for their work.
- There are eight Confirmation candidates, with the Bishop visiting on 10th July. Thanks to Helen, Roisin, Michael and Irene for their help.
- Fr James had his holiday to South Africa
- The courtyard has been tidied and thanks were given to Jemima for her work in planting bulbs in containers.
- Lithuanian Mass has been celebrated by Fr Andrejus.

18/02 Matters arising from previous minutes

- Fr James had no response to his request for thoughts about the Wednesday evening Mass. The current position is that the evening Mass has been discontinued and during Lent house Masses would be held on Wednesdays.
- The new sound system has been installed which is working well but still need some refinement.
- The boundary fence is now complete and is a great improvement and liked by the neighbours.
- The relationship with Churches Together is now improved and it is proposed to continue membership.
- The poem for Remembrance Sunday was corrected by Michael Albone.
- The website is due to go live very soon. Additions will be able to be made with forthcoming events and a gallery of past events.

18/03 Presentation of the Quarterly Accounts

Chris outlined quarterly accounts for 3 months ending 31 December 2017

- Offertory collection is still going down, but income for the quarter is of a similar nature to the previous quarter.
- Annual levies and insurance have been paid.
- Expenditure is similar to the previous quarter apart from the payment

for the fence.

- Eventually there will be income from the Alive in Faith. If funds are needed in the meantime then it is possible to borrow from the Diocese.
- Chris would be preparing the Annual Accounts shortly and these will be presented to the parish and sent through to Diocese.

C Alecock

Questions were asked for clarification.

The levies are based on the previous years offertory collection.

There is no interest on any money borrowed from Diocese.

No money has been ring fenced for works arising from the Quinquennial report.

Thanks were given to Chris for the presentation of the accounts.

18/04 Pastoral Care of the Housebound and Sick

The current list of housebound parishioners is in need of revision and updating. Several volunteers visit these parishioners on a regular basis. **Fr James asked for a volunteer to act as co-ordinator** to ensure that those in need of a visitor has one.

All
Parishioners

18/05 Safeguarding

Helena Clarke reported that 15 DBS checks have been completed since the last meeting. It is recommended that each DBS is renewed every three years.

There is now a requirement for someone to monitor the movement of people between the church and the Rosmini centre during Mass on Saturday and Sunday. This ensures security and safeguarding for the centre.

18/06 Report on the Fabric of the Buildings

Kevin Tallon reported that we are in receipt of a health and safety report which requires some work on emergency lights and fire alarms. This would incur some expenditure but nothing too great.

K. Tallon

From the Quinquennial report the hoops to the ladder to the tower would be fitted in March.

There is a leak in the kitchen coming from the flat roof around the chimney stack which needs attention.

Kevin is looking into the cost of a way of double glazing the windows in the church to help with the loss of heat.

The rendering on the outside wall is bubbling and is in need of attention.

The wrong rendering was used in the first instance so it will need to be removed and re-rendered.

The roof will need attention in the next few years.

A question was asked about the damp in the church, which has been on the agenda for some years. Some of the problem is caused by a faulty gutter which will be dealt with by Kevin when the weather improves.

Thanks were given to Kevin for his work.

18/07 Social Committee

- Isabella Alecock reported on the activities undertaken since the last meeting which have included
- Cupcake morning in aid of Alzheimer's.
- Bingo and Fish and Chip supper, Borrromeo supper and Harvest supper
- Christmas lunch and annual draw and Carol Service.
- A new event was held this year for Epiphany with a shared lunch and Secret Santa.
- A pancake evening was held following the success of last year's event.
- £150 donation was given to Fr John for his books
- £1380 was donated for the sound system in the church.
- The Social Committee also run a monthly cake stall for after Mass and a monthly Birthday Club

Forthcoming events

- Student Cross would be on the Tuesday 27 March
- Mass for the Sick & Afternoon Tea afterwards on 14 March 2pm

Full list of event are on the noticeboard at the back of church plus there will be a garden party at the home of the Albone's.

Isabella thanked the usual group for their support

The Social Committee were thanked for their hard work in organising all the events for the parish.

18/08 Any Other Business

It was suggested that the noticeboards at the front of church are in need of replacement. Chris Alecock will investigate.

C. Alecock

It was proposed a while ago to have new robes for the servers. Not all the servers were keen on the change so the ideas was left at the moment.

It was asked if there could be some co-ordination between the setting of the rotas to avoid duplication of duties for individuals. Michael Albone volunteer to co-ordinate

M. Albone

Ann informed the meeting that it was decided to open the church for Rose Fair from Thursday. There was a need for volunteers to man the church and to do arrangement.

All Parishioners

Fr James suggested that we have just two meetings a year and the parishioners are asked for agenda items. Change of constitution will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 20.13 with a prayer from Fr James

Next meeting to be Friday 18th May 2018