

PARISH OF ENGLISH MARTYRS, DANBURY
with
HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, SOUTH WOODHAM FERRERS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
MONDAY 12th NOVEMBER 2012

The following attended the meeting: Kath Gable, Kathy Johnston, Rosemary Tidmarsh, Tony White, Fr Niall, June White, David Williamson, Marian Green, Lynne Pursell, Barbara Fenn, Alan Hegner, Mary Reed, Matt Harris, Cathy Hain, Jim Tidmarsh, Margaret Godfrey, Francis Hunter, Sharon Docherty, Nina Patrick, Rosemary Royce, Brian Royce, Pauline Spratt, Steve Gallagher, Anna Tickle, Mary Huntinton, Yvonne Wheeler. Jaqui Clarke, Adrian Symonds, John Geary, Pat Geary, Chris Perry, Val Weidenaur, Sue Benjamin.

Apologies for absence: Frank Lo, Elisabeth Bourn, Alison Huish, Sylvia Lanz, Alasdair Mackay.

	Discussion	Action
1)	Opening Prayer: Father Niall opened the meeting with a prayer.	
2)	The minutes of the last AGM on 14 th November 2011 were agreed and signed. Matters arising: There were no matters arising	
3)	Report from the Chair: Pauline Spratt welcomed Fr. Niall to the Parish & said how grateful we are to have him & hopes he will be very happy with us. Pauline welcomed all the parishoners . Last year has been a very difficult year for the Parish & I would like to thank the Parish Council for all their hard work & support which has made my life much easier. In particular I would like to thank Kath Gable, Lynn Purcell, Sylvia Lanz & Maria Smith for their patience, advice & tolerance. Thanks must go to Fr. Ivor Morris who helped us through a very difficult year & who went way beyond the call of duty. I hope he will be very happy at Blessed Sacrament. I would like to thank those Councillors who are stepping down – Sharon Docherty, Frank Lo & Alan Hegner, & I welcome the new Councillors-John Geary, Rosemary Tidmarsh, Kathy Johnston & Chris Perry. We look forward to a good year & the elimination of our Parish debt. <u>Nominations for the coming year</u> – Pauline Spratt – Chair, Steve Gallagher – Treasurer, David Williamson – Vice Chair, Barbara Fenn – Secretary.	
4)	Treasurers Report : Current Account Balance: At this meeting last year we were £11,200 in credit, today we are £12,800 in the red; a fall of £24,000 in one year.	

	<p>There are 3 key reasons & 4 underlying reasons for this dramatic change.</p> <p>Key reasons: The Danbury extension has cost £17,000. This was budgeted for & has a development fund in place to pay this off. With the ill-health of Fr. Robert supply priests have cost £8,500. We would normally pay £1000 per year for supply priests. No financial relief from Brentwood has been forthcoming. Since September last year we have begun contributing £600 per month to St. Joseph's - a total of £9000 to date.</p> <p>Underlying reasons: Recent changes in Gift Aid legislation has meant that our annual refund has fallen £1600 in a year. Our annual offertories have fallen £7,000. Fr. Paul's prison chaplaincy contributed £2,500 per annum. This has now ceased. All categories of expenditure have increased due to rise in the 'cost of living.'</p> <p>Income: The vast majority of our general income comes from offertories & our annual Gift Aid cheque. In 2011/2012 financial year general income equalled £66,586 – Offertories £49,911 – Gift Aid £7,655.</p> <p>Expenditure: Pastoral Personnel & expenses, £25,000 (includes Fathers car, salary, housekeeping & supply priests (£8,500). Quotas cost £19,200 per annum - Brentwood Diocese £1,100 per month & Joint Church Council SWF £1,500 per year. Danbury extension £17,000. Education running at £600 per month (Since September 2011 £9,000 in monthly payments.</p> <p>Parish Presbytery: Looking forward, we are renovating the bathroom - estimated to cost £2,500.</p> <p>Get Well Plan: Our target is to get back to a zero balance by September 2014. Assuming our income will be £65,000 & our expenditure matches this we will end this financial year (September 2013)£8,000 overdrawn. To reach a zero balance by Sept. 2014 we propose – No new Capital projects for the next 2 years. No further supply priests expenses. Reduce school contributions to £300 per month. Regular fundraising for the Danbury Extension. Then with an estimated Gift Aid refund of £7,500 in 2014 we should close the 2013/2014 account at a zero balance.,</p>	
<p>5)</p>	<p>Report from the Parish Priest: Fr. Niall thanked everyone for a warm welcome. He has two tickets for the Bishops farewell Mass. There will be a draw to decide who will go.</p>	

Reports from around the Parish:

a) Holy Trinity Fabric report:

The main cost of repairs to the church was £544.88 for roofing repairs. Other expenses were £350+ plus for one off expenses, With £782 for regular servicing to boiler, cold water tank & fire extinguisher & £162.60 for miscellaneous costs. Deaf Loop driver was paid for by an anonymous benefactor.

On going issues & future plans: Sound & AV System (partly to be paid for anonymously). Further problems with leaking roof. Vertical blinds for various windows. Repairs to wall outside church. Various painting jobs & possible kitchen upgrade. Review of carpet/flooring in body of church. Possible replacement of entry doors, & building extension.

b) English Martyrs Fabric Report:

Conservatory completed & in use with thanks to June White & daughter for decorating & laying the floor covering.

Paths have been laid around the Conservatory & the garden cleared & re-laid. With thanks to Jenny Tolhurst & gardeners for advice, & anonymous donor & anyone else who played any part in these projects.

One section of guttering & 2 down pipes have been replaced after metal theft.

For the future there are a number of small jobs to do & a small team is being recruited to tackle these.

c) Ecumenism in Little Baddow:

Another busy year with 3 meetings of Christian Council. The Catholics have led 2 Evening services (Stations of the Cross & Peace, Justice Reconciliation.) with collections taken for Pax Christi. The new Pastor of the Chapel was welcomed.

United services on Good Friday, with march of witness, & Harvest Thanksgiving with collections of food for CHES.

Monthly evangelical activities include – “Messy Church”, Edward Bear, Prayer Fellowship.

Practical action in Community garden & helping to refurbish the kitchen at CHES. Village prayer sheets are compiled every 4 months. Summer evening reflections with Celtic Praise, also a monthly mens night ‘Points of View’. URC run ‘Breakfast Church’ & occasional evening discussion groups. A Pastoral Care course for lay & ordained was held in Lt. Baddow. The visiting group continues & the Tuesday lunches & monthly Sunday lunches.

d) Padre Pio:

Yvonne reported how the group met once a month. We spend the hour thinking about Padre Pios’ life and miracles in detail asking for his intercession & giving thanks for his help.

Also time is devoted to anything the group would like to discuss.

This month (November) we will be thinking about St. Pio’s devotion to the Holy Souls who he said were his constant companions throughout his life & he was their untiring

	<p>intercessor before the Lord. Our aim is to spread devotion to Padre Pio & promote his causes.</p> <p>e) Justice and Social Responsibility: The group meet monthly & have tried to focus mainly on local issues but have raised money for an international project. Sisters from the Melbourne (Chelmsford) project came & talked to us & subsequently funds were raised for them through 2 cake bakes. A speaker from CHESS addressed us & last Advent dry foodstuffs & gifts were collected & taken to the night shelter. Similar events will take place over the coming year. Fairtrade goods are promoted in the Parish & are sold after mass & at various WI groups where Christmas goods and produce is sold. 2 successful lunches have been held in the barn at the home of Jenny & Philip Tolhurst with proceeds going to the Parish Development Fund. The annual Jumble Sale raised £587 with £385 being donated to the 'All Souls Orphanage' in Zimbabwe & £100 to the Parish Development Fund. 2 members attended the J&P conference in London in March & Another attended a conference at Brentwood Cathedral.</p> <p>f) CAFOD: (Catholic Fund for Overseas Development) An important year as CAFOD celebrates its 50th Anniversary. Pauline attended a Mass of Celebration at Westminster Cathedral, & with Sylvia attended a Diocesan celebration at Chigwell Convent. 200 cards in support of clean water were signed by the Parish & sent to the Prime Minister with hopes also that there will be similar support for new cards in support of the ending of hunger in the world. We collected over £500 for clean water during Lent which has been matched by the Government. The Harvest Fast Day raised £682.</p> <p>g) RCIA: (Rites of Christian initiation of adults) continues with strength.. We have a helpful group of supporters & leaders. Last year we welcomed & guided one person in coming into full communion with the church. This year we have a group of 3 enquirers.</p> <p>h) EFDA(Evangelisation and Faith development for Adults.) In this, the Pope's Year of Faith, we hope to continue the work of Evangelisation in the Parish. Things like new Cafe evenings are being discussed. CaFE is being used for the catechesis of the Holy Communion parents evenings.</p> <p>i)Liturgy The Christmas Liturgies have been organised with the usual service times to include 8pm Vigil at Holy Trinity & 10pm (midnight) Mass at English Martyrs.</p> <p>i)Brentwood Diocesan Pastoral Council The council has reps from all parishes & meets twice a year, even after the Bishop's resignation. The last meeting discussed the Olympic & Paralympics legacy. Although the Bishop has no news of his successor he expects one to be announced soon.</p>	
	<p>j) St. Joseph's School' Report received after AGM due to Alison's illness & will be read</p>	

	<p>at meeting in December.</p> <p><u>Any other business.</u></p> <p>a)A request was made for Gift Aid envelopes for visitors to be made available.</p> <p>b)A new cooker for the Presbytery will be bought soon.</p> <p>c)100 Club Draw: November:1st Frank Lo. 2nd Mrs. V Poulton. 3rd Harriet Middelbow.</p> <p>Fr Niall thanked everyone for attending and ended the meeting with a closing prayer.</p>	

These minutes are a true account of the proceedings of the Parish Pastoral Council Annual General Meeting held on 12th November 2012 in English Martyrs Conservatory, Danbury.

Signed.....Proposed Name

Dated.....

Signed..... Seconded name

dated.....