

Parish Pastoral Council Committee Meeting
held on
Monday 14 September 2015 8pm.

Attendees:

President: Father Niall Harrington; Fr Niall
Chair: John Geary; JG
Secretary: Rachael Williams; RSW
Treasurer: Steve Gallagher; SG

Alison Huish; AH
Sue Benjamin; SB
Jenny Sismey; JS
Jacqui Davis; JD
Robin McGuinness; RM

Father Niall opened the meeting with a prayer

1. Apologies received from:
Claire Hopkins; CH
Patricia MacLachlan; PM
Kathy Johnston KJ

2. Minutes of last meeting / matters arising from the minutes not otherwise on the agenda – None.

The minutes of the last meeting on the 12 June 2015 were noted as being satisfactory.

3. Calendar and dates

Future meeting dates and venues are as follows all commencing at 8pm:

October – Monday 12 October at Danbury
November – Monday 09 November at SWF (AGM)

4. Vacancies to fill

None at present, but discussion was had about the forthcoming new PPC year and the AGM. RSW will be standing down as Secretary and JD will not be continuing as a member and so there will be 2 vacancies.

RSW to write to Maria to ask for the new vacancies to be advertised in the Newsletter for the Parish.

JG was happy to book the St Joseph's Hall and the church meeting room for 9 November 2015.

Refreshments would be nice.

5. "Live Simply" campaign

- 27 June was the Live Simply Cheese and wine evening was poorly attended.
- Mrs Spratt and PM were interviewed on the BBC about the Live Simply campaign - it can be heard on the BBC player website.
- 12 September there was a walk which took place.
- PM will be doing an article in the Contact Magazine - its new editors are MH and her daughter Jessica.

6. Justice and Peace CAFOD
no report

7. Fabric report: Danbury and South Woodham Ferrers
The following are the bullet points: -

- The PAT works associated with portable electrical equipment used in the church e.g. vacuum cleaners, kettle, photocopier, water boiler, audio equipment, etc, were completed satisfactorily. The original test certificate was issued to Bob Hemmings with a copy to Steve Gallagher for record purposes.
- All the works associated with the redecoration of the church ceiling, the replacement of the carpet in the church and the two chair stores and the replacement of the meeting room kitchen have been completed. As a gesture of goodwill the decorator re-treated the cross outside of the church.
- Some minor works have been undertaken appertaining to the church boiler room and church gas meter cupboard.
- We are currently establishing ownership of the entrance steps to the east church door as this is a health and safety issue. There are several broken slabs with a few loose slabs. If the investigation confirms, as we suspect it will, that is JCC responsibility we will obtain a quote for the appropriate remedial work.
- The fire officers have been contacted and a date is to be arranged for training fire marshals.
- Quotes are being sought for new notice boards for a) information on Ministers and times of services and b) general notices.
- A quote has been requested for redecoration of the external wood work to the two entrances.

SG added that the ceilings have been paid for. Maplefords for the carpets have been paid.

The new kitchen - no invoice received yet.

Thanks to John and his team for a supreme effort - the works ran smoothly and to time. It was a team effort.

8. Ecumenical report Little Baddow and SWF and JCC
Nothing to report

9. Treasurer's report

Since we last met in June our financial position has greatly improved, with the arrival of our annual Gift Aid amounts, totalling £10,808.

This is the largest Gift Aid return we ever had and as a result has decreased our bank balance down to only being £4,300 overdrawn.

This means we should be returning to the black, some time in 2016.

Across the Summer there have been no notable expenditures or incomes, aside from payment for Father Rocco (£400 which goes to his order) and Father's continuing income from the prison, which totals over £1,500 since April.

10. Anglican PCC

- Bishop John has announced that Julia Hardy will be the assistant curate for Broomfield St Mary with Leonard. Her ordination will take place at Chelmsford Cathedral on Saturday 25 June 2016.
- The Church renovation has prompted a celebration at 3 pm on 4 October 2015. All welcome and it is for all those who took part in the renovation of the church.
- Harvest Festival will be on 27 September 2015 and it will be joint with the Methodists and so it will be at 10.30 am.

11. Methodist PCC

They have welcomed a new Superintendent Rev Mike Lewis on 5 September.

12. Diocesan report

As reported above Claire Hopkins is now our Diocesan representative.

13. Liturgy group

Nothing to report.

14. St Joseph's School

Mrs Alison Huish

The Autumn Term commenced with a staff retreat day for St Francis and St Joseph's teachers on Friday 4th September 2015. This was held at the Abbotswick Diocesan House of Prayer in Brentwood with the Sisters of Walsingham. The staff were guided through a spiritual meditation sessions in the morning by Sister Corrina and Sister Teresa. The staff then spoke about how we would be able to bring meditation in to the classroom to aid the children with their spiritual development.

We were served a delicious lunch which had been prepared by the sisters and then in the afternoon the staff discussed the Come and See Religious Education topics which would be covered during the term. The afternoon was concluded with a simple service of prayer and thanksgiving for the new academic year.

The children returned to school on Monday 7th September and were welcomed in to their new classes. The children have been finding out about the patron saints of the British Isles in vertically grouped assemblies and will support their House teams in various events throughout the year.

Dairy dates have been confirmed with Father Niall for the coming year and once again we look forward to all the class masses and liturgical events with him.

15. Social Committee

16. Presbytery report

Various minor items of ongoing maintenance have been undertaken.

Some works have been undertaken in the garden.

The fridge freezer died during July so a replacement unit was procured and fitted at a total cost of £263.99.

As a result of the quinquennial inspection undertaken by the diocese surveyor quotes have been obtained for the following items of work:-

- The replacement of a concrete spur which has corroded and fractured and which supports the fence between the presbytery (no 36) and the adjoining property (no 38) and for which we have responsibility (namely ownership). The cost is £125.00.
- Remedial work to the fractured brick work in the wall between the presbytery (no 36) and the adjoining property (no 38) and for which responsibility (namely ownership). The cost is £250.00.
- The replacement of the existing timber cladding on the south elevation at first floor level including the gable end. The preferred solution would be to remove the timber cladding and replace it with a maintenance free material (e.g. PVC cladding) and instead of dark brown / black as at present in white. The cost is £1,400.00. Advice concerning planning permission relating to a change in material and a change in colour is currently being sought from Chelmsford City Council.

Some additional bookshelves have been installed in the study.

17. 100 Club

Nothing to report. We do have a full membership.

18. Any other business

RSW brought up the AGM and arrangements - these points have been inserted in the paragraph for 'vacancies'.

Father Niall closed the meeting with a prayer at 8.45 pm.