

Minutes of the Parish Advisory Council of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church

Held on Monday 9th March 2015

Present: Richard Seamarks (Chair), Fr Andrew, Fr Paul, Mark Slane, Phil King, Arthur Staton, Kathy Davis, Janet Winter, Celia Sharland, Denise Lissaman, Mary Merron, Tim Bray, Paul Bennet, Lindsay Briscoe

Apologies: , John McGowan, Gavin McAleer, Richard Maloney

Father Andrew gave the opening prayer

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved

Finance

- About 2% down on collections from last year
- However, expenditure down with not having cost of parish priest at present
- Redecoration fund continues to grow – especially now that we can see the results
- Unexpected expenditures have been a new photocopier and parish room fridge
- Some radiators in church have been condemned and will need replacing
- Will receive £1800 from Belmont for the exchange between Fr Matthew's and Fr Cenydd's cars

Buildings

- Very happy with new tables. Would like storage trolley so that they do not lean against and mark the walls – **Mark**
- Builders have been very polite and respectful within the church. Would like to thank SC Joseph formally – **Richard S**
- Point was raised about the lighter colour behind the altar. It makes it difficult to see the host at the consecration. Fr Paul stated that heads should be bowed at this time and that faith in the real presence does not require seeing the host
- A solid wall, grill and curtain have been installed in the confessional and the doors have been soundproofed
- There is a chair and a kneeler
- For safeguarding reasons, confession will no longer be heard with priest and penitent in same room, unless it is in a public area such as for the penitential service in Holy Week
- The poor state of the carpet is even more obvious now. Need to look for ideas and prices for replacement – **Mark**
- Exterior of the parish hall needs repainting. Will discuss further and hopefully have some help from parishioners with this job
- Mass times are incorrect on outside board. Temporary amendment to be made
- Exterior lights are being a little temperamental. Switches need investigating – **Richard M**
- The pot holes in the car park have been filled, although not tarred. Disappointment was expressed that this work was carried out without referring back to the person tasked in the last minutes. There has been a lot to do in the past few weeks, but the lines of communication must stay open and be used by everyone

Parish Hall

- With the hall nearly finished, it is time to overhaul and re-launch the Hall hiring
- A new Halls' Committee will be set up, initially to agree on Terms and Conditions

Mark, Richard S, Celia, Denise, Janet, Kathy

- First meeting will be on **Wednesday 18th March at 7:30pm**
- This will be advertised in newsletter for anyone else who wishes to attend – **Celia**
- Points for discussion to include:
 - Open Day
 - Environmental/recycling policy
 - Insurance/ public liability
 - Terms and conditions
 - Contract
 - Key in safe box
 - Storage

Running the Church

- Everything is going very well, thank you to everyone
- Fr Matthew will arrive for Sunday 16th August
- The extraordinary ministers need to become involved in distributing Communion to the sick
- There will be a meeting with Fr Andrew for readers and ministers after Mass on **Friday 20th March**
- Would like to invite Leigh Brazewell to this to discuss safeguarding issues involved in visiting houses
- All ministers to be emailed – **Jan**

Talent Questionnaire

- Received a fair amount of interest and have some names to add to rotas
- Will do this again at a future date and also include the Indian Mass

Calendar of events

- May 16th Quiz
- June 28th Barbecue
- July 19th Strawberry tea and craft
- Sept 26th Harvest Ceilidh
- Nov 14th Quiz
- Nov 28th Christmas fair
- Dec 13th Christmas party

AOB

- A parishioner has raised concerns that they are being charged for marriage preparation at Belmont. Fr Paul will investigate this
- It is not a good time to replace the lectionaries because of the changes happening. However, Fr Paul is trying to track down some used lectionaries to use in the meantime
- The altar servers' albs need replacing. Measurements have been taken from most servers. About 12 are needed at a cost of about £40-£60 each. The washing of new albs will be added to the linen rota
- **Next meeting will be on Monday 20th April 2015, ready to begin by 7:30pm**

Father Andrew closed the meeting with a prayer