

# Minutes of the Pastoral Parish Council Meeting of St Cuthbert and the First Martyrs of Rome

held on Wednesday, January 11th 2017 at First Martyrs Church Hall.

**Meeting commenced at 7.30 pm**

**Present:** Anne Balson (AB)-Chair, Eileen Boyle (EB), Yvonne Coppin (YC), Hermie Davy (HD), Mary Gilmartin (MG), Gregory Knowles (GK), Mick Moriarty (MM), Philip Walsh (PW), James Wierzbicki (JW), and Jo Geoghegan (JG)-Secretary.

## 1 Welcome and Opening Prayer

AB welcomed everybody to the meeting and asked Fr. Gregory to lead us in an opening prayer.

## 2 Apologies for Absence

Christine Walker (CW) & Liz Firth (LF)

## 3 Minutes of meeting May 17<sup>th</sup> 2016

These were accepted as a true record, proposed YC, seconded by PW.

## 4 Matters Arising

The hearing loop was discussed. Some enquiries have been made; there may be difficulties with the church being round. It possibly needs servicing. JW would contact the original installer for advice.

## 5 Reports

### Finance-PW

PW tabled a summary of accounts comparing the half year to September with the full year 2015-16.

It shows a deficit of £6,800 but there are many items not yet included so it is not thought to be a true figure. Weekly offering is maintained if not improved. The sheet will go on the noticeboards in each of the churches.

### Flower Team-YC

The team is as active as ever with fewer members. Appreciation was expressed by all of the beautiful Christmas flower decorations at both churches.

### Property-JW

The boiler at St Cuthbert's failed just before Christmas but it is functioning again. Outside lighting has been fixed at First Martyrs.

### Social-MM

Events are regular in the parish and have included a Quiz Night and Race Night which were successful. MM is still 'enjoying' encouraging people to buy tickets. As usual discussion followed of how to involve all sections of the parish including our ethnic minorities. A calendar was discussed further as a separate item below.

### UCM-MG

MG thanked the parish for the generous support for the Diocesan Mission to Peru in the Christmas New-To-You in December. £193.50 was raised which was wonderful.

### Youth-LF via email

Rainbow, Brownies & Guides are all working positively. All groups are lively and enjoying their activities led by a small but enthusiastic leadership team!

### SVP-PW

SVP is functioning well with good financial support. The group has a good profile in the parish. At present there are 6 members but still a need for volunteers of a younger age group. This prompted the now familiar need to get more parishioners involved in activities!

### St Cuthbert's Players

The play about the life of Margaret McMillian put on in early December was well received. Numbers were low for the first performance but improved for the final two nights. A panto will be performed in March.

## Action

JW

Parish  
secretary

### Hospitality

After Mass (SC: Saturday evening, FM: Sunday morning) coffee is doing well. From May-October £203.40 has been given to CAFOD and the same amount to kitchen refurbishment. The Buffalo percolator at FM had problems; it was sent back and its replacement is working well. May McGovern has decided not to remain and the rota and thanks were expressed for her many years of service.

### Children's' Liturgy

No report available.

### Justice & Peace/Churches Together-David Somerville via email

A list of activities was given with minutes from a meeting on 24-11-2016 and a notice of a meeting to be held on 12-01-2017. Discussion followed about how these activities are embedded in parish life. Two proposals were made: 1. that the minutes should be displayed to the parish and 2. it would be good if a named representative was a member of the Parish Council. At the moment these groups are not specifically represented.

### **6 Bulletin Notice-GK**

It was decided to continue the practice of inserting a notice in the weekly newsletter advising of an forthcoming meeting and asking for items from parishioners for inclusion on the agenda. Items should be about positive activities in the parish involving the various groups represented on the Council. It helps in the preparation of the agenda if there is a brief outline of the item and the name of the person submitting it.

### **7 Social Calendar-MM**

Discussion took place with regard to the spacing of events over 12 months and the publicity surrounding each event. People do help with each event which is very good. As always there need to encourage attendance at the occasion!

### **8 St Cuthbert's Church: choir and children-MM**

It was suggested that it would be good if the choir could sing sometimes at St Cuthbert's church. Not only would it enhance the liturgy but also encourage the congregation to sing! At the same time it was asked if some events involving children and young people could be held at St Cuthbert's church as they are at First Martyrs'.

### **9 Chernobyl Children's Appeal**

MM asked if this event could be brought to the notice of the parish again this year. He was very grateful for the support and for the gift of toys supplied by the parish. It was agreed wholeheartedly. An appeal will be made later in the year.

### **10 Disabled Access at FM**

There is no news on this item; it has been sent to the Diocesan Property Committee.

### **11 A.O.B**

A request was made by MG for disposable rowels with dispenser could be installed in all the w.c. facilities at FM. It was agreed.

A number of small jobs need tackling in the parish and it was agreed to use some of the hospitality money and remainder of the Chordiality donation.

### **12 Date & place of next meeting**

Wednesday April 26<sup>th</sup> 2017 at St Cuthbert's Unity Hall at 5.00pm.

The meeting ended at 6.50pm.

### **Action**

**J & P  
DS**

**JG**

**AB/PS**

**MM**

**JW**

**GK**