

PARISH PASTORAL FORUM MINUTES: Friday 11 November 2016 in the parish office

Present: Teresa Goodchild (TG) Chair, Fr Lixon Cyriac (LC), Barbara Leigh (BL),
Fr Gerry Mulvihill (GM), Diane Sequeira (DS)
From the Finance Committee: Frances Hawkins (FH); Secretary: Catherine Horan (CH)

1. Opening Prayer

The meeting opened with the forum prayer.

2. Apologies and Minutes

Apologies: Marisa Alcock (MA), Joe Borg (JB), Kim Mwambazi (KM), Michelle Toll (MT). The minutes of the last meeting had been previously agreed. The possibility of publishing the summary minutes on the parish website will be explored.

3. Matters Arising

The Advent Service: the Service will take place on 27 November with the same format as for the previous year's inaugural service.

Welcomers' Committee: this was not discussed in KM's absence.

4. Finance Committee update

All significant and expected bills have been settled for 2016.

Ordinary expenditure still exceeds ordinary income by approx £1k per month. However, this does not take into account the rental income from the cinema.

The Church heating appeal has raised a little over £32k towards our £55k target, not taking into account funds raised from the concert on 4 November. Fundraising efforts are ongoing.

Two large foreseen expenses are on the horizon:

- i) The boundary wall to Court Lane properties, which is now a health & safety issue.
- ii) Organ replacement options continue to be investigated. A digital replacement would be 10% of the cost of a pipe organ.

A safety inspection was successfully carried out and the only item of note was made safe.

5. Fundraising

Concert and feedback: this had been a success, with thanks to everyone who pulled together to make it so. It was estimated to have raised approximately £1,000 for the heating fund.

100 Club: The scheme will be re-launched on its anniversary in April 2017 and meantime new members will be recruited by word of mouth to take up some of the 16 unallocated numbers.

Next events/Quiz: an Irish-themed night around St Patrick's Day in March had been suggested. It was felt that the JPC does not have sufficient floor space, and that there would be a problem in selling enough tickets to make it worthwhile. Options for the quiz will be investigated first.

6. Parish news

BL said that the Cafod Fast Day had gone really well and approximately £2k had been raised. She reported on the Annual Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation Day which she had attended. GM said that the first person to stay in the garden flat had moved on, in line with JRS policy for guests to stay for 2/3 months only. The new occupant was very appreciative of the hospitality of the parish.

DS thanked Fr Gerry & Fr Lixon for the wonderful Mass for the Sick in September. The timing of a Saturday afternoon had worked well and it can be repeated next year.

7. AOB

The annual Carol Service will take place on Sunday, 11 December. **NOTE:** the date has changed to **Sunday 18 December.**

Next meeting: Friday 13 January 2017 at 7.30 pm