


APPROVED

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting, St. Mary Mother of God, Hornchurch
15th July 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Fr. Martin Fletcher, Eddie Allen, Maureen Boorman, Joanne Challis, Jean Horan, Trisa Mahoney, Sara O'Brien, Kathy O'Dea, Dominica Olewunne, Susan Squire, Jane Tatam, Brian Rodgers (Secretary).
PARISH REPS/OBSERVERS:	
APOLOGIES:	Frances Rodgers, Theresa Hayes, Gary Redmond, Claire Trew.
The meeting was held in the Presbytery Dining Room and commenced at 20:07 with a welcome and prayers.	
ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN	- Eddie Allen was nominated by Brian, sec. by Susan. There being no other nominations, Eddie was elected unopposed.
MINUTES	
The minutes of the meeting of 20 th May 2015 were approved and signed by the Chair.	
MATTERS ARISING	ACTIONS
<p>60. Eddie said the list of jobs has been set up. Started to align people with roles but did not immediately fill the needs. Eddie to re-issue the list via Brian. Difficulty in contacting people as we only have first names or no telephone number. Jo suggested we each take ownership for those we have put forward and then let Brian know.</p> <p>61. Eddie spoke on the meeting of catechists. Various items were discussed and actions arising. Confirmation – age being lowered because many felt GCSE year not a good year for it. Two teenagers had missed confirmation and felt they had been bypassed. Much debate, many accolades and many suggestions. Fr. Martin said the 14+ level will start Jan '16, after the present group that is waiting have done their course. Jane said it was a very positive meeting. Parents weren't concerned about the courses but about the method of delivery. Baptism is fine. Many parents she has spoken to have chosen to come to St. Mary's! Fr. Martin added that at present, they have the Rite of Welcome at the 9.30am Mass between the two course sessions. Starting in the autumn, we are going to add, on the Sunday after the course, presenting the child at the Offertory. Of course, any parents who are not happy with this need not participate. Dominica made a point about cultural considerations for parents over presenting their baby. Susan commented that the Rite of Welcome is such a joy. First Communion – maybe get the children, on the Sundays their groups are not on, to go out to the Children's Liturgy.</p> <p>62. Susan said we are getting a momentum on this. Going to review the original, un-prioritised list and prioritise those still outstanding.</p> <p>Youth – no-one present to provide update.</p> <p>21. Brian spoke to the choir, who did not feel they could do every Sunday as there are not many in the choir. Need to get more members – anyone can join. Eddie has put Jacques in touch with Michael Wigley. Fr. Martin said there are one or two others also willing to get involved.</p>	
CORRESPONDENCE	
Eddie read out a letter from Theresa Young asking about the website and ease of updating it. This is already the subject of discussion.	
PARISH PRIEST'S POINTS	
Summer Fayre – a big thanks to all who helped in any way. Locking the church – a number of people are doing this in the evenings. Also trying to get people to help set up for Mass on Saturday evenings. A Polish priest is coming for a month in August. Another friend (also Polish) is visiting for a while	

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<p>and will help. Fr. Andrew is around until appointed to the Cathedral (hopefully after August!).</p> <p>Music – need to advertise for more help.</p> <p>Readers & Eucharistic Ministers – will have a meeting with them in the autumn. Also need to get more Eucharistic Ministers visiting the sick with communion.</p> <p>Also looking at Welcomers (Greeters) as a ministry – we need more.</p> <p>Work is going on in the house. We need to find someone to assist with odd jobs.</p> <p>First Friday in October – there will be adoration during the day followed by evening Mass with anointing of the sick. Maybe have adoration at other times, but with help from Eucharistic Ministers. Kathy suggested Thursday after Mass.</p> <p>Anointing of the Sick after Mass - last weekend two people came by.</p> <p>Offertory Procession – it has been pointed out that we bring the money first! Perhaps we should reverse this and present the collection last. The meeting agreed.</p> <p>Liturgy Group – get a few people together in the autumn.</p> <p>Weekday 8.30am Mass – children read but not always clearly (and a reduced version of the readings). Comment made that as the children also serve and do the offertory procession, why not get adults to read? Eddie and others disagreed, and felt we should work more with them, to coach them and help them to develop. Eileen Jonas is willing to go into the school and coach them. David Leech to be approached.</p> <p>Fr. Martin may go on retreat in early August – he hasn't been for several years.</p>		
SACRAMENTS		
OK!		
FINANCE		
<p>52-22. Summer Fayre - Jo said the provisional figure was around £7.5k, £2k higher than last year.</p> <p>55. Boilers – The church boiler is being changed! The house boiler will be done when it will cause minimum disruption for any visiting priests. Fr. Martin said everyone should be thanked for their contribution.</p>		
YOUTH		
Nothing to report		
OTHER BUSINESS		
<p>52. General items.</p> <p>28. Decision made at St. Mary's Presents meeting to combine with the PFA and form a common events organising group.</p>		
DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING		
Wednesday 23rd Sept 2015 , 8:00pm The Presbytery.		
FORTHCOMING MEETINGS – Provisional dates		
18 th Nov, 20 th Jan 2016, 16 th March 2016, 18 th May 2016, AGM 15 th June 2016, 20 th July 2016. [Please put these dates in your diaries]		
The meeting closed with prayers at 21:05.		
Brian J. Rodgers Secretary	Signed: Eddie Allen Chairperson	
16 th Sept 2015	Date 23 rd Sept 2015	