


APPROVED

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting, St. Mary Mother of God, Hornchurch
18th November 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Fr. Martin Fletcher, Eddie Allen, Tony Bennett, Jean Horan, Trisa Mahoney, Kathy O’Dea, Gary Redmond, Frances Rodgers, Susan Squire, Jane Tatam, Brian Rodgers (Secretary).
PARISH REPS/OBSERVERS:	Pat Edwards, John Fells, Brenda Kivlehan
APOLOGIES:	Maureen Boorman, Joanne Challis, Theresa Hayes, Sara O’Brien, Dominica Olewunne.
The meeting was held in the Presbytery Dining Room and commenced at 20:22 with a welcome and prayers.	
MINUTES	
The minutes of the meeting of 23 rd Sept 2015 were approved and signed by the Chair.	
MATTERS ARISING	ACTIONS
62. A meeting was held on 27 th Sept to update task prioritisation. Susan will send round the latest list. Gift Aid – leave the appeal till February.	Susan
61. The meeting of catechists on 5 th Oct 2015 was very positive. It decided to go for 16+ age group and 33 applied. The course starts in the New Year. Then looking to open it up to lower ages. 13 catechists – may need more.	
21. Music – Brenda Kivlehan hasn’t managed to get a meeting with David Leech yet. Claire has also been looking into this subject. Julia has detailed the dates and times for the choir – Eddie read out her e-mail. Brenda has a small group who start the singing at 9.30am; also happy to have tapes in case of no live music support. Trisa will lead the singing at 6.30pm to support Julia.	Brenda
CORRESPONDENCE	
Eddie has received a letter from Brian and Maureen, coordinators of Two in the Flesh. Fr. Martin is waiting for the Bishop to decide his course of action. No space in the newsletter so perhaps put it on the website. Gary asked if our letter had gone to the Bishop and if we had had a response. No response, but Eddie said things have moved forward here.	
YOUTH	
John Fells mentioned that the Youth Club have to pay the caretaker £20 per night to use the back playground. Fire exits are being locked when they shouldn’t be. Gary explained why this had happened – the school is in deficit but the security needs meant it had to happen. Eddie commented that what is missing is communication. John also said they should have several First Aiders but they have only one, who volunteers but can’t always come. Gary suggested holding a First Aid evening. He also expanded on the security issue which arose from an Ofsted visit. Gary undertook to keep John informed.	
PARISH PRIEST’S POINTS	
Good meeting of Eucharistic Ministers - more volunteers to go to homes. Awaiting DBS checks. Jean asked about Reconciliation. Fr. Martin said it will be on 15 th Dec. He is waiting to see how many priests can assist. A more general discussion followed on roles in the parish – with less priests, we need more lay people to use their gifts to help run the parish. The Club will be holding a Youth Mass on St Patrick’s Day (17 th Mar). Fr. Martin thought this was a bit too near Easter, maybe it could be a bit earlier. John to agree a date with Fr. Martin.	John/Fr. Martin

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SACRAMENTS		
Jane said there was a week of reconciliation for various groups. Confirmandi helped with various other groups.		
FINANCE		
No report as Jo unable to attend.		
OTHER BUSINESS		
52. General items. 33. Passover Meal – Jean asked if we want on next year. Jean to meet with Fr. Martin. 34. Christmas Eve – Susan reported that Janet James has agreed to run the choir for 6.30pm but needs assistance. Fr. Martin has also asked for children to enact the Gospel. Sheila Birtles is organising this. 35. St Mary's Presents – Brenda said there will be afternoon tea for the elderly on 6 th Dec. Fr. Martin added: 36. Angela Bennett and family will do the music for 11:30am Mass on Christmas Day. 37. Security – there is CCTV around the grounds, but should we have a couple of cameras inside the church? Susan said this is on the job list. Jane added that the light outside the Van Meenen Room is rubbish, Brian agreed – this will be put on the list also. 38. Divine Mercy Picture – this has been donated to the parish. Maybe bless it on Divine Mercy Sunday. Perhaps put it on a stand. To be discussed.		Jean/Fr. M
DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING		
Wednesday 27 th Jan 2016, 8:00pm The Presbytery. [N.B. Moved from 20th Jan.]		
FORTHCOMING MEETINGS – Provisional dates		
16 th March 2016, 18 th May, AGM 15 th June 2016, 20 th July, 21 st Sept, 16 th Nov, 18 th Jan 2017. [Please put these dates in your diaries]		
The meeting closed with prayers at 21:13.		
Brian J. Rodgers Secretary	Signed: Eddie Allen Chairperson	
21 st Dec 2015	Date 28 th January 2016	