


APPROVED

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting, St. Mary Mother of God, Hornchurch
21st January 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Fr. Paul Fox, Fr. Daniel Kelly, Joanne Challis, Trisa Mahoney, Kathy O’Dea, Susan Squire, Claire Trew, Brian Rodgers (Secretary).
PARISH REPS/OBSERVERS:	Gary Redmond.
APOLOGIES:	Eddie Allen, Sara O’Brien, Jean Horan, Maureen Boorman.
The meeting was held in the Parish Meeting Room and commenced at 20:05 with a welcome and prayers. Susan Squire was asked to chair the meeting.	
MINUTES	
The minutes of the meeting of 19 th November 2014 were approved and signed by the Chair.	
MATTERS ARISING	ACTIONS
10, 32.1, 36 & 40 Susan reported on the meeting with Fr. Paul, Eddie and Brenda. A full discussion on various matters. St Mary’s Presents... are having problems in getting support. We need to see about helping to ease the pressure on them in future. Need to meet with the Finance Committee. Will look at some quick-win ideas for clearing up, etc. Susan is willing to organise the volunteers but we all need to encourage people to volunteer. Discussion followed. We need to forget the past, look at the current make-up of the parish and see what will now work best. It was suggested that we use the Wednesday Coffee Morning (after morning Mass) to approach people to get involved. Susan will discuss this with Eddie when she returns. Christmas Dinner – Fr. Paul said it went very well, thanks to Josie and Peter. A fabulous day, 35 or 36 elderly people. The food and decorations were wonderful and it was a lovely atmosphere. Susan said she had 42 at HOPWA House so some 70-80 people were not alone on Christmas Day.	All Susan
CORRESPONDENCE - None	
PARISH PRIEST’S POINTS	
53. Fr. Patrick - Fr. Paul said the parish is still stunned. The funeral would be the following week. After the funeral, Fr. Paul will arrange with Fr. Patrick’s sister for a Memorial Mass. 54. Christmas Liturgy - This went well. Thanks to the ladies who do the flowers, the choirs, servers, etc. 55. Boilers - Someone has said, anonymously, that he will make up any deficit. 56. Christmas Bazaar - Fr. Paul said it was quite successful, raising around £6000. He didn’t realise that the date of the Summer Fayre is fixed (27 th June). 57. Repairs & Maintenance <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. External door to rear toilets – to be replaced.2. Church inner doors need attention, to quieten them.3. Presbytery roof being fixed, hopefully under insurance.	
SCHOOL	
Gary reported that the temporary heads are working well and the school is moving in the right	

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<p>direction. The advertisement has been put out for a new head and applications are being received. Decision will be made in a week or so. The temporary head will stay as long as it takes to appoint a new head. Gary gave an outline of the general situation in the school, and the challenges.</p>		
SACRAMENTS		
<p>CONFIRMATION</p> <p>Fr. Daniel said the new programme is absolutely brilliant, 9 are doing the course at present and getting very involved. They ran a coffee morning recently and he has never seen so many people at a coffee morning! Those waiting to join the course are coming regularly to Mass and enjoying it. These will be confirmed in November.</p> <p>Thanks to the Confirmation group, Fr. Daniel now has a Youth group for years 10-13, meeting on a Saturday afternoon once a month. Plan to have a Saturday evening once a term, with pizza or similar, and videos etc. The young people opted to call it "Dan and Paul's Saturday Night Take-Away". Now need people to help run it, as the members are under 18.</p> <p>This group was deemed by Walsingham House to be the best group they have ever had.</p> <p>Bidding Prayers – there was a minor query about the presence or absence of the bidding prayers. Fr. Paul said that if there aren't any, he or Fr. Daniel will make them up.</p>		
FINANCE		
<p>Jo reported that in 18 months, St. Mary's Presents... has raised £15,800, hence the new boilers are paid for. Jo and Christine are going to get the actual figures settled and then we can make an announcement and thank the parish.</p> <p>Next event is a Quiz on 7th Feb.</p>		
YOUTH		
<p>Susan asked if we get any Council funding, because they are going to cut 95% of the budget.</p>		
OTHER BUSINESS		
<p>52. General items.</p> <p>12. Susan mentioned that Age Concern in Havering has changed its name to Tapestry, following its separation from the main body, Age Concern, which has merged with Help The Aged to form Age UK.</p> <p>13. Hall Heating – Eileen to ask Steve to put it on when required.</p> <p>Gary felt we need to do more, not just talk at this meeting.</p>		
DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING		
<p>Wednesday 18th Mar 2015, 8:00pm Parish Meeting Room.</p>		
FORTHCOMING MEETINGS		
<p>20th May, AGM 17th June, 15th July, 16th Sept, 18th Nov, 20th Jan 2016, 16th March 2016. [Please put these dates in your diaries]</p>		
<p>The meeting closed with prayers at 21:04.</p>		
<p>Brian J. Rodgers Secretary</p>	<p>Signed: Susan Squire Chairperson pp. Eddie Allen</p>	
<p>31st January 2015</p>	<p>Date 18th March 2015</p>	