APPROVED

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting, St. Mary Mother of God, Hornchurch Thursday 28th January 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Fr. Martin Fletcher, Eddie Allen (Chair), Tony Bennett, Jean Horan, Sara O'Brien, Kathy O'Dea, Gary Redmond, Jane Tatam, Brian Rodgers (Secretary).	
PARISH REPS/ OBSERVERS:	John Fells, Paul Hayes	
APOLOGIES:	Joanne Challis, Trisa Mahoney, Dominica Olewunne, Frances Rodgers.	
The meeting was	held in the Presbytery Dining Room and commenced at 19:35 with a welcome an	d prayers.
MINUTES		
The minutes of th	e meeting of 18 th Nov 2015 were approved and signed by the Chair.	
MATTERS ARISIN	G	ACTIONS
 Youth. Gary thought it was agreed that the parish would pay £10 towards the cost of the caretaker. The meeting agreed and John Fells presented an invoice for the amount. 62. Eddie to check with Susan about the list. 21. Music – A young woman played at 11.30am Mass during the holidays but Fr. Martin didn't know her name. 		Eddie
Youth Mass – John will be away a couple of weeks in March, so probably after Easter. 52.33 Passover Meal (19 th March) – Jean has been trying to contact Pat Martin but has had no response. If not a Passover Meal, then do a shared supper – Jean and Brenda will organise.		
CORRESPONDENC	CE	
afternoons ar explained the	d a letter (unsigned) regarding use of incense at Exposition on Thursday and Friday. Kathy said it is only used at the beginning of Exposition. Fr. Martin use of incense but added it isn't essential. Could we use it only on First to be put in newsletter about it.	
PARISH PRIEST'S	POINTS	
Lent - starts a week on Wednesday, Masses at 8.30am, 7.30pm and for the School at 1.45pm. Stations of the Cross on Friday evenings. Fr. Martin asked who led them. Kathy thought it had been Fr. Daniel or herself and Eileen Jonas. Kathy to find out who can help lead it. Holy Week – go with the usual times.		Kathy
	ing in the Blessed Sacrament chapel afterwards.	
Friday – children'	s stations, see who can organise them. Walk of Witness – who is leading it this in the evening.	
	to be brought into the church.	
Children's Liturgy – Tony asked to ask Angela. Gary said school can organise readers.		Tony
	ters – more now taking to the sick, and a couple more potential ministers.	
Robbery – a worker's van was smashed open and tools stolen. Although on CCTV, the car had false number plates and they wore gloves. Discussion followed. We need to look at lighting, cameras, etc. Eddie was concerned about people's safety. Discussion also about putting cameras in church – to be passed to Maintenance Committee.		
Playgrounds - front playground needs potholes filled in. New fences and gates are required as part of safeguarding, also the rear fencing around the field and playground needs replacing. All this failed under Ofsted. Grants are available but the parish will need to contribute (some thousands?). To go to Finance Committee.		

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SACRAMENTS		
Theresa Hayes is no longer a Sacramental Co-ordinator. Jane said she cannot do it all on her own but will try to maintain the Holy Communion and Baptism programmes. Confirmation will have to handed back to the parish. The Confirmation Course is due to start the coming Wednesday but so far nothing has been done, although a group of catechists have been involved in planning it. Confirmation, with the Bishop, will be on 21 st September.		
Strong feelings were expressed by John concerning the handling of the situation. He and other catechists will be writing to the Bishop about the issue. He wanted to know what the parish's intentions were concerning appointment of another co-ordinator. Fr. Martin explained, as he did when he met the First Holy Communion catechists the previous Sunday, he could not say anything, out of respect for Theresa and confidentiality, as it is now under employment law process and thus not open to discussion.		
Tony pointed out that there are two separate issues, one of employment and one of impact. We need to deal with the impact.		
Eddie said we need to see what needs getting ready for Confirmation training to start on Wednesday. Where is the programme? Fr. Martin said that something will happen on Wednesday but he can't locate details from the meeting with the catechists who will be helping.		
Generally, the parish is doing very well with catechesis, including the school.		
Jane asked Gary what could be done to get the Hall heating working. It needs a £560 controller. Gary will ask Mr. Leech.		
Van Meenen Room outside light – to go to Maintenance Committee.	Mtce Ctte	
John asked why the Parish Council meetings had moved from the Meeting Room to the Presbytery. It was because Fr. Martin invited us (and it's warmer!).		
FINANCE		
No report as Jo unable to attend.		
Jane commented that nothing had happened with the Hall kitchen yet – Jean said there was not enough money yet.		
УОИТН		
John affirmed that the Club was grateful for the donation, and also that the Youth Mass was postponed.		
First Aid — Mr Leech (Snr) will do the training for nothing but it needs to be a one-day affair. Perhaps in April or early May. Limit is 20 people. Can be young people (e.g. those at Duke of Edinburgh Award level) — find out how many interested via the Youth Club, and then catechists, making up the numbers with other interested parishioners.		
Sr. Teresa – Youth Club would like to get a memorial plaque for Sr. T as she did a lot of work with and for the Club.		
OTHER BUSINESS		
52. General items.		
39. Parish's memorial plaque to Sr. Teresa to go next to Fr. Patrick's, along with one to the Lowe sisters.		
40. Brian asked about putting an additional notice board on the pillar to the right of the existing board. Agreed by Fr. Martin.		
41. Parking outside Rodwell House. A child was nearly knocked down recently by someone reversing off. Notice to go in newsletter to warn people.		
42. Gary commented on empty spaces in church with people standing at the back. Can we		

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announce for people to move down? It is usually the ushers who organise this but we are short of ushers. Can we get more?

Fr. Martin added:

43. Possibility of a May Procession on 22nd May. Would it be welcomed? The meeting thought it would. Perhaps merge the 9.30 and 11.30am Masses and hold a 10am Mass on the field?

DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 16th Mar 2016, 8:00pm The Presbytery.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS – Provisional dates

18th May, AGM 15th June 2016, 20th July, 21st Sept, 16th Nov, 18th Jan 2017, 15th March 2017.

[Please put these dates in your diaries]

The meeting closed with prayers at 21:00.



