


Minutes of Parish Meeting, St. Mary Mother of God, Hornchurch
Wednesday 19th September 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Fr. Martin Fletcher, Eddie Allen (Chair), Maria Rayner, Joanne Challis, Jo Luxton, Pat Edwards, Frances Rodgers, Teresa Young, Brenda Kivlehan, Gary Redmond, Jane Tatam, Brian Rodgers (Secretary).
PARISH REPS/OBSERVERS:	John Fells, Jack How, Jackie Caprari, Maureen O'Brien.
APOLOGIES:	Stephen Beech
The meeting was held in the Presbytery and commenced at 20:04 with prayers and a reading from St Paul.	
<p>MINUTES - The minutes of the meeting of 18th July 2018 were approved and signed by the Chair. Brian raised the point of permission for names to be included in the minutes – it was agreed that signing the attendance book would be taken as giving permission.</p> <p>Maureen O'Brien asked why the minutes are not put in the porch. Brian replied that he keeps forgetting!</p>	
MATTERS ARISING	ACTIONS
<p>a) Parish Meeting Room – This is now clear, with comfy chairs. Gary suggested a letter of thanks to Gerry Glynn.</p> <p>b) Parish Census – Gary spoke to Caraid. It is a big job – will do it next year and get the young people to do the donkey work.</p> <p>c) Remembrance Posters – Jackie suggested looking in the flower store [Secretary's note: the missing posters were found there in plain view!]. Frances has bought two pin-boards as a trial for hanging on the pillars. She asked Fr Martin to emphasise the notice in the newsletter. Gary asked about the school doing something for the Remembrance Centenary. Scouts/Guides also, perhaps. Fr Martin said he likes to hold a minute's silence at one Mass on the day. Suggestion of doing special flower display.</p>	Gary/ Eddie
CORRESPONDENCE - None	
PARISH PRIEST'S POINTS	
<p>Altar Servers – had a wonderful evening out, about 43 plus helpers.</p> <p>Hymn Books – new ones going into service the coming weekend. Jack mentioned that another parish has labels in the fronts of the books saying "In memory of". The old books may be sent to Africa.</p> <p>Lourdes Candle – A candle has been brought back from Lourdes and will be lit every Friday for the sick.</p> <p>Priests during the summer – Fr Matthias would like to come again.</p> <p>Praying in the Home – starting this week, then every fortnight.</p> <p>Parish Mission – 18th – 22nd May, with Fr Kieran Brady of the Redemptorists and Mrs Helen Connelly. Coming two weeks before Easter to talk at all the Masses.</p> <p>Bishop and Confirmation – 24th March.</p> <p>January 19th/20th – appeal by the Sacred Heart Fathers of Betharram.</p> <p>Kerala disaster collection – a good sum received.</p> <p>Children's Mass – to start the coming Sunday at 9.30am, to see how it goes. John fells said his grandson is in year 2 and the children have been asked to sing on Sundays. He didn't know what the response had been.</p> <p>Thanksgiving Mass & Social – to express thanks to all who help in the parish, not highlighting any particular group, except children in uniform. Various symbols will be brought forward at the beginning of Mass. After Mass, refreshments in the Parish Hall. Will have a World Map for people to pin where they come from. This will eventually go in the Porch. This is recognising everyone who gives a hand in the parish. Fr Martin said it is just to get together and give thanks for our community. Gary suggested announcing about a One World night.</p>	

Minutes of Parish Meeting, St. Mary Mother of God, Hornchurch
Wednesday 19th September 2018

Relations with Sao Paulo and Piet Retief – to go on agenda for next meeting. Names of sick people – Maureen O’Brien asked why this was not in the newsletter. Brian thought it was a GDPR issue and being cautious about conforming with the law.	
SACRAMENTS	
Jane said the new sessions started the previous Sunday. Every parent has signed a GDPR consent form, roughly 70 of them. Baptisms – none during the summer. Steady flow, otherwise, with Rite of Welcome at Mass, so the parish can see them. Eddie suggested linking Holy Communion with coffee mornings. Jane said they ask parents for a number of other commitments so is reluctant to add more. Good idea for groups to do a coffee morning to say ‘this is who we are’. Could help get more people joining groups. Jane suggested people helping with a coffee morning, rather than run it, just being there. John said the Youth Club run a ‘taster’ night where they explain to children and parents just what happens and who the leaders are. Some parents have started reading at 9.30am Mass. Eddie asked if now is the time to resurrect the Youth Committee initiative. Gary said Mary is losing several young catechists. Teresa asked about training being provided – yes, it is. Jane said the diocese is holding a training day for catechists at Sacred Heart in November. Everyone is welcome – just let Jane know. Confirmation – the new format is working well. Gary suggested getting parents to come to a coffee evening.	
FINANCE	
Joanne apologised for the lateness of the figures. We are bang on budget. Year to date there is a small deficit but we are waiting for Gift Aid returns.	
YOUTH	
John said 5 members of the Youth Club went to Lourdes and had a wonderful time. They have put their names down for next year. Used some of Jack Petchey funding to help send them. Recently, 3 members gained Jack Petchey awards. Mary Redmond is in charge of Jack Petchey Award applications. Youth Club – reopens the following Friday, 90-plus members. All required paperwork has been processed. Jane said Rose and Caraid have discussed the data protection issue very recently and it is in hand. Rose is doing a grand job with the admin. Gary asked why they have a waiting list. John replied that they can have any number as long as they have enough helpers! The rule now is that if they don’t come for 6 weeks, they forfeit their membership. Now is the time for another push for helpers, although this is put to all parents on the application form. Need to put message in the newsletter.	
RESTRUCTURING OF THE DIOCESE	
Jack said they are putting together a programme for stewards. One day for readers, another as part of formation for stewards. He listed various other days. He had a meeting with Stephen from Upminster and the new steward from English Martyrs. Been asked again about employing a Youth Worker to cover the deanery or several parishes. This will be pursued at their next meeting. Purpose of the Youth Worker would be to work with schools and parish young people. Joanne	

**Minutes of Parish Meeting, St. Mary Mother of God, Hornchurch
Wednesday 19th September 2018**

<p>mentioned the floated introduction of MATS, which might influence this option. John said he has never met a representative from the Diocesan Youth Office. Gary said they came to Confirmation and other events but not to the Youth Club. Jack added that this is not to counter what is being done in parishes already but to add another layer. Maureen asked Fr Martin if the clergy still meet regularly – yes, they do. Gary added that heads of the primary schools meet twice a year with the clergy.</p>		
OTHER BUSINESS		
<p>GDPR – covered. Car Park – Maureen said the markings need to be re-thought – the two disabled bays do not work. They are at a sharp angle. She felt the two bays on the curve are the only suitable places for disabled parking. Gary has had someone look at it and who will be returning the following week with plans. Gallery – Caraid checked the safety report and nothing in it is about the gallery. The signs about parental responsibility have gone up, but Fr Martin has seen nothing in writing. Jackie said Precision did put it in their report and she can show him the page that says no child under age of 10 allowed in the gallery. Fr Martin said other parishes have had no comments from Precision in similar situations. Jackie to send the relevant document to Brian for circulation around the Parish council. We can discuss it at the next meeting and come to a final decision. Security – Gary said a teacher’s car was stolen from the car park. The CCTV is shocking – blind spots and not convenient. He suggested digital cameras. Quotes to go to Joanne. John reported a problem with the light down the back access, a potential accident risk. Youth Club are happy to pay for the repair. It will need to be done by the school’s electrician. Pat reported that two young ladies had asked if there was anything in the parish for singles to get together. Eddie said Bernadette Tsocos was asking the same thing. Need to look at this. St Mary’s Parish Presents could be a useful contact point. Christmas Bazaar date? Fr Martin said to check the parish diary before fixing any date, to avoid clashes.</p>		<p>Jackie/ Brian</p> <p>Gary</p> <p>Gary</p>
DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING		
<p>Wednesday 21st Nov 2018, 8:00pm The Presbytery (or Van Meenen Room). Subsequently changed to Wednesday 14th Nov 2018, at Fr Martin’s request.</p>		
FORTHCOMING MEETINGS		
<p>Next meeting – Wednesday 16th January 2019 Subsequent dates to be published when the day for meetings has been finally decided.</p>		
<p>The meeting closed with prayers at around 21:26.</p>		
<p>Brian J. Rodgers Secretary</p>	<p>Signed: Fr Martin Fletcher Chairperson (in the absence of Chairman Eddie Allen)</p>	
<p>2nd November 2018</p>	<p>Date 14th November 2018</p>	