

**PARISH MEETING MINUTES**  
**09<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 7.00 pm**

Present: Father Paul Lomas (FP), Deacon Peter Lafferty, Christine Bodley (CB), Cath Cohen(CC), Ruth Hamilton (RH), Joan Bleackley (JB), Paul Kirrane (PK), Ann Lyth (AL), Collette McAndry(CM), Denise Hardman (DH), Carole McCann (CMC).

**Apologies** Julian Cearn (JC),

1. Fr Lomas opened the meeting with a prayer.
2. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2017 were read, signed and accepted as a true record

**3. Matters Arising**

Matters arising were dealt with in the appropriate section

**4. LITURGY**

4.1 everything occurred as it should, over Christmas- PK is putting a reserve EM on the rota, especially when Fr Mike is celebrating. The format for the Midnight Mass was well received, there were comments on how lovely it was.

JB commented on the choir's digression from the printed psalm, on 2 occasions recently, the congregation were perplexed, looking for the words and were not able to follow or join in.

Also, it is sad that there was no singing at the 11 o'clock mass on Christmas day.

4.2 Amendment to November minutes, the decorations were paid for by the church.

4.3 The Children's rehearsal went well

4.4 Some came to the Masses on the Thursday evenings – FP said he would do it again; if done regularly more people may come.

4.5 Carols around the tree went well and raised £544.77

4.6 Bishop's visit: - FP has sent all the information he needs, no response, yet, to the email asking what time he is arriving and what he plans to do.

4.7 The Penitential Mass was not well attended – it didn't bring a great response so may not do it again.

4.8 Next weekend is the Priests' retirement collection – envelopes to be put out on the benches.

**5. YOUTH**

5.1 Many of the confirmation candidates have been attending mass regularly.

5.2 Information from the youth team to be passed on to CB

**6. SAFE GUARDING**

CMC reported that she is not getting much from the Diocese, CM said she is still getting mail and phone calls from the diocese regarding safeguarding. There should be two adults in with the children's liturgy held in the quiet room – suggested we ask Elizabeth and Helen Kirrane.

**7. JUSTICE AND PEACE**

The card signing went well – we sent 77 cards, which is a similar number as previous years.

It was suggested we have something in the porch, for those who can't go in the hall. CC will look into it for next year. Bridget Fenwick publicly thanked Ann and John, in their absence, for their contribution over the years: at least 2 people spoke with her regarding being a CAFOD contact. Bridget is retiring but has passed the information on to her successor.

Ann Taylor received her Papal Blessing for her contribution & involvement in parish activities.

## **LPA/ DEANERY**

8.1 Nothing to report

## **8. MAINTENANCE**

8.1 Discussed carpet for the choir loft - **Action:** PK and CMC will get numbers/quotes for carpeting the choir loft.

8.2 There was a loss of heating in church, vigil mass before New Years Eve, a leaking valve dripped on to the thermostat: McQuillans came and sorted it straight away and fixed a light; the charge was £400 but it is a price we have to pay.

8.3 The Health & Safety report from Dennis was given in but not received by the office. **Action: CC/RH to get a copy**

## **PARISH HALL**

The cistern in the gents is broken, it will be replaced by a disable toilet.

Discussed charges for the hire of the hall. **Action: CC to enquire what other churches in H G charge**

## **9. ECUMENISM**

9.1 There were 4 candidates but no appointment of Minister at St Catherine's

9.2 The interfaith event, at Cheadle Mosque was well attended and very interesting, speaker from Nazarene House; everyone was made welcome. It is good we are building relationships among the different faiths.

## **10. SOCIALS**

10.1 Notice of the Senior Citizens party, on 27<sup>th</sup> January, has been given and we have around 50 so far. Setting up for the party will start at 10.30am. CB needs numbers of attendees by the 21<sup>st</sup>. **Action: CC/RH to email her.**

10.2 Tickets for Jimmy Cricket will be sold from this coming weekend; CC vigil, CM 9am & CMC 11am People to bring their own drink and nibbles. **Action: CC/RH put in newsletter**

## **11. FUND RAISING**

Parish Draw winners: -

December 1<sup>st</sup> prize No. 50 Cath Cohen

2<sup>nd</sup> prize No. 114 Peter Lucas

January 1<sup>st</sup> Prize No. 17 Gerard Hickman

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize No. 25 Betty Murphy

## **14. Any other notified business/correspondence:**

14.1 Discussed the possibility of employing a paid administrator for the office; this would be controlled by the Diocese. Suggestion we put an advert for a volunteer in the newsletter first.

14.2 Heald Green festival- Ged McAndry is retiring from the organisation of it and we will need new volunteers to run the book stall.

14.3 PK raised getting an Advent Wreath candle and having an Easter tomb and figures for the infant Liturgy.

14.4 We need someone to be ready to take over the website, from Graham.

14.5 FP asked us to think about a Pilgrimage in 2019 – suggestions where to go.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm in Meeting Room – Focus on preparation for Christmas Activities.

The meeting ended with a prayer