

St Anne Line Catholic Church
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Monday 4th June 2024 – 7.45pm – Parish Hall

Attendees:

Patrick Shiel – Chairperson
Fr Barto
Paddy Frew,
Tina Marrai
Damian O'Connor

Robert Kirby
Jacinta Balchin – Minute Secretary
Greg Eglin
Noreen Payton
Andreas Calle-Rodriguez

1. Opening Prayer
2. Apologies: Rev Alan
3. Minutes of last meeting held on Tuesday 12th February 2024 were noted and agreed
4. Matters arising are covered in the committee reports below.
 - a. Finance - A detailed review of the accounts for the year ending 5th April 2024 was circulated.
 - i. For the 12 months there was a total surplus of £118,389 for the General Fund. Without the legacy received in 2023, the general fund would have had a deficit for the same period of £20,484. This is largely due to the cost of unexpected repairs during the year.
 - ii. Total income was £103,556 excluding the legacy compared to £97,970 for the previous year. Increases were seen in items such as offertory income and donations and charitable activities.
 - iii. Total expenditure was £124,041 compared with £103,828 last year with increased costs for items such as premise costs, the diocesan quota and organist costs.
 - b. Youth Update – Jacinta provided a brief update.
 - i. The Youth Group has been busy with a Lenten project to support the Redbridge Food Bank. Throughout Lent, a Food Bank collection cage was placed in the porch for parishioners to donate groceries. The final Food collection was marked with a coffee morning to fundraise for the centre and raise awareness. The coffee morning raised £400 as well as a total of 14 bags of food were delivered to the centre from the Parish.
 - ii. A few weeks ago, the Confirmation Group had a wonderful weekend in the church with the Pentecostal Vigil on the Saturday night and the Confirmation mass the following day. In total, 6 Young people from the Parish were confirmed as well as 3 members of the RCIA group. We will celebrate later in the autumn with a trip to the Southend SVP Centre and Adventure Island.

- c. Fr Barto provided a brief update to the Council.
 - i. The Lenten Appeal raised more than £1,200.
 - ii. Good participation in Church during Holy week
 - iii. Last weekend, 17 Romanian young children made their First Holy Communion and next Sunday, 13 more children from the Parish will receive the sacrament.
 - iv. This weekend, the Parish will be celebrating the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
 - v. Lectio Divina is going well and is well attended.
 - vi. Banners have been purchased to place around the Church to celebrate the year of the jubilee and other important holy days.
 - vii. New lectionaries and hymn books have been purchased for the new liturgical year and financed by the generosity of the Parish.
 - viii. In the May collection for the Sudan appeal, £572 was collected.

- d. Parish Social – Tina provided an update.
 - i. Recently there has been a bit of a low point, with the cancellation of the cheese and wine party planned to discuss Laudato Sí due to a lack of response.
 - ii. Current plans include:
 - Murder Mystery – June
 - BBQ – July
 - Bingo – September
 - Quiz – October
 - Bazaar – November
 - Nativity Play – December
 - Wine tasting possibly after the summer.
 - iii. Engagement with events is particularly challenging and lack of volunteers makes it difficult.

The Parish discussed the possibility of the readers to make announcements about events at the end of a mass and to extend the adverts in the newsletter for these.

- e. Buildings maintenance Health and safety – Damian circulated a maintenance and grounds tracker to cover the status of key items since the last meeting.
 - i. Items of note include the third contractor identified to quote for the car park resurfacing works and the progress in fitting a Parish defibrillator and organising the raised flower beds.
 - ii. Damian has requested support from volunteers with the grounds work.

- f. SVP
 - i. Noreen confirmed that support was provided predominantly from referrals and ongoing individual visits.

- g. Justice & Peace – Greg circulated a list of the activities previously carried out by the Parish and the former group.
 - i. Cafod / Aid to the Church in Need collections – previous ones include Sudan and Ukraine.
 - ii. Laudato Sí efforts in the Parish can move into the Justice and Peace group.
 - iii. Pax Christi action against risk of war
 - iv. Tradecraft / Fairtrade will be re-introduced in July.
 - v. Amnesty International
 - vi. The aim is to meet monthly with OLoL and perhaps tie in with a mass once a quarter.

AOB

- Patrick welcomed Andreas to the Parish Council to speak briefly about the new 18+ Young adults' group that has been running in the parish for some months.
 - Topics are selected each month with a mix between scripture and some fun activities in a relaxed atmosphere.
 - Good consistent attendance so far with 5-6 regular members each time.
 - Aim will be to mix with other groups and perhaps contact Fr Martin at OLoL once the group is established after a year.
- A few questions from the Parish had been received.
 - More information about the Parish Council has been raised. The Council discussed putting the roles and responsibilities on the Parish website. It was also suggested that having council members clearly identified at coffee mornings may also be helpful.
 - Images of each Parish Council member were also suggested.
 - Minutes and accounts on the website were also discussed. Paddy confirmed that an annual summary is put on the website already.

It was agreed that minutes could go on the website once approved by the Council.

- A parishioner has asked that more anti-bac is used during the mass at communion time, and this has been noted.
- A parishioner has asked if it was possible to not have music at one of the Sunday masses, and this has been noted for further consideration.

Patrick to liaise with the office in relation to more information going onto the website for parishioners.

5. Concluding Prayer

6. Dates for next meetings – 15th October 2024 at 7.40pm

Meeting concluded at 9.30pm