

St Anne Line Catholic Church
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Monday 25^h February 2025 – 7.40pm – Parish Hall

Attendees:

Patrick Shiel – Chairperson
Fr Barto
Andreas Calle-Rodiguez
Tina Marrai

Greg Eglin
Noreen Paton
Michael Eggleton
Damian O'Connor

1. Opening Prayer
2. Apologies received from: Rev Alan; Paddy Frew; Jacinta Balchin, Juliette Balchin
3. Minutes of last meeting were not presented.
4. Committee reports:
 - a. Finance - A detailed review of the accounts for the 9 months to 5th January 2025 prepared by Paddy was circulated and provided a comprehensive summary of the main points. Patrick drew attention to the increase year on year of the general fund, £4,161 and the increase in offertory collection £6,084 both figures were encouraging.
 - b. Fr Barto provided an update to the Council on youth, liturgical and catechist;
 - i. Christmas was a very busy time, the Parish support was very much appreciated as always. Discussions took place concerning the number of masses said during the day and proposal to reduce the masses to one on Christmas day next year was agreed
 - ii. The Young Adults Group led by Andres and Juliette is having a break due to a fall in attendees. Andreas led a discussion on resurrecting the group with the involvement of neighbouring parishes
 - iii. A meeting of the Clergy to discuss the Vision Year of Jubilee and what steps can be taken to both galvanise parishioners' involvement and liaisons between parishes' will be followed up. Fr Barto suggested our parish make a pilgrimage to our own cathedral in Brentwood. This was agreed and a date is to be set. Pilgrimage to Walshingham is arranged for 24th May. Further pilgrimages to other sacred places in 2026 were discussed including the holy crown of thorns in France.
 - iv. Our parish has a high turnover of parishioners with 70% of the congregation having joined us in the last 4 years. Discussions took place on how to on how to get them involved and welcomed into our church activities. Direct approaches to help people feel a welcome part of the community at various social events were suggested
 - v. Confirmation 2 people only this year however 16 expected to be confirmed next year. The Holy Communion programme is progressing well under the stewardship of Joanna. The going forth mass will be on 6th July

- vi. The Parish celebration on the feast St Anne line last week was a great event and extremely well attended. Discussions took place surrounding extending the numbers attending the meeting felt we should continue with the present format
 - vii. The Lenten collection will be for the Aid to Church in Need
 - viii. The number of Altar Servers is growing in number and the now regular monthly training meetings are well attended. It was proposed and agreed that the parish fund a day out to a adventure resort as an encouragement for their service
 - ix. Volunteers have stepped forward to take the children's; liturgy; unfortunately, there is a delay in processing DBS checks needed before we can commence the programmes
 - x. Fr Barto confirmed that there would be 2 RCIA members making their confirmation with the Parish group in May.
- e Parish Social – Tina provided an update
- i. Nativity play was well received, a thank you to the organiser Lyn Wade and all the parents for their brilliant support. It was agreed to repeat this next year
 - ii. Discussions to hold a single mass one weekend in May and invite all parishioners to attend mass followed by a BBQ in the church grounds. All agreed this was a good idea and 18th May at 11am was selected
 - iii. A quiz night has been arranged for 15th March
 - iv. St. Patricks day mass on Monday 17th March will be followed by a coffee morning with Irish coffee
 - v. A cake sale will be held with a limited table top sale during coffee morning on 11th May
 - vi. Sometime in April an Easter hamper draw and a bingo night and board game to be arranged
 - vii. A murder mystery maybe organised for June, subject to diary availability of Tina
 - viii. The weekly Wednesday club is flourishing with 26 regular attenders. Next meeting will include a meal at a restaurant
 - ix. the Parish summer BBQ will be held on the 5th July
- f Buildings maintenance Health and safety – Damian provided an update
- i. A servicing company has been selected and costings agreed with Brentwood diocese asset team. A project manager has been appointed by the Diocese and works will commence once the contract has been agreed with the main contractor
 - ii. A member of the parish renewed all the lights in the hall replacing them with LED equivalents. The parishioner did not charge for this rather expensive work. God bless Him
 - iii. The newly created raised planter beds need to be populated with plants and vegetables. Parishioners are to be asked for their help in offering

plants and advice and once the content is agreed in planting the selected plants

- iv. Church signage and a church bench are being investigated
- v. Tina raised comments from hall users requesting a micro wave and dishwasher. The microwave was agreed but the dishwasher just needs a written instruction on how to operate it correctly

g SVP

- i. Noreen confirmed that support was provided predominantly from referrals and ongoing individual visits
- ii. Further to a question about its status, Noreen confirmed that the St Anne Line SVP adult conference had been transferred to the conference at St Thomas of Canterbury given the low demand in the local area.

h Justice & Peace

- i. No progress due to personal issues Greg to set up a meeting with various interested parties to draft a plan
- ii. Items to include Missio, Church in Need, Pax Christi
- iii. Greg to co-ordinate with Michael Eggleton on Missio matter

AOB

- The transparency of the Parish Council and general awareness in the Parish was discussed again
 - It was agreed that an abridged version of the minutes would be made available on the Parish Website given the confidential and sensitive nature of some of the matters discussed.
 - It was agreed that roles and names would be put on Website to raise awareness of the members of the Council.
 - It was agreed that Fr Barto would give a blessing to the Council at the 8th March 1st Sunday in lent mass and a brief explanation of what the Council was responsible for would be given by Patrick
 - that the Parish Council representatives could be present at the monthly coffee mornings for parishioners to raise any concerns or questions which could then be raised at the next meeting.
 - The first aid kit needs to be repositioned in the kitchen in a visible place

5. Concluding Prayer

6. Dates for next meetings — ~~3th June 2025 at 7.40~~. Rescheduled Wednesday 18th June 2025 at 19.40