

ST CHARLES BORROMEIO CHURCH PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3RD DECEMBER 2014

Present: Fr Don, Nick Collins (chair), Ann Black, Julia Bradley, Derek Handley, Val Gebbett, Norman Garlick, Sue Hoolahan, Owen le Blanc, Catherine Rolls, Sylvia Shaw, Terry Walsh

1. Opening prayer

2. Apologies: Emma Parkinson, Chris Wild

3. Chair's actions

Nick, Fr Don and Derek attended a meeting in Matlock to discuss diocesan finances.

4. Previous minutes

Minutes of the meeting of 8th September 2014 accepted as correct.

5. Matters arising from the previous minutes

Terry spoke about the lack of youth musicians to replace those who are now otherwise engaged and as he no longer has input into school since retiring there have been no replacements forthcoming. Needed someone to lead musicians forward and there is no-one at SPH. He was of the view that the school would be happy to become involved in an initiative/project which would lead the children to become engaged and enthuse other young people and be seen to have a useful outcome for the school.

Terry is willing to look around and see what other parishes are doing and report back to the next meeting.

6. Report from the Pastoral Working Group

Nick gave a resume of the meeting held on 22nd October 2014.

Julia said the training for EMs should be undertaken whilst there was a priest available.

Fr Don has spoken to Brother Philip Revell who is keen to play a part in religious worship whilst he remains in the area. He has also learned the Diocesan EM training group is arranging regional training for lay led Sunday and mid week worship. Work in this area will be undertaken through the Chair of the Parish Council and EMs.

Nick suggested working jointly with Broadbottom/Gamesley and will set up a meeting with the new PC Chair once this person is in place.

Julia to organise a meeting of the EMs which Nick will attend but not lead. Feedback at next PC meeting.

Sue has undertaken training in the Catholic ALPHA course and has literature available. She is willing to run a course to help engage with lapsed Catholics.

Not all those coming for baptisms want to attend Mass although they are always encouraged to do so. Suggested it would be a good idea to be more proactive and 'meet and greet' baptism parties who often stand about outside church whilst the service is in progress. Could offer a cup of tea in the offertory.

Nick said he would go out at the next baptism to welcome people and invite them in if they

are standing outside.

Suggested adding on to the weekly rota for readers, etc., a list of "greeters". Needs to be people regularly attending Sunday Mass. To discuss with Young Families Group.

Request for volunteers could also be made in the parish newsletter.

Some churches are using Facebook. We need younger people to engage with this. Suggestion to call it School and Parents Facebook. Catherine Rolls agreed to follow up with the young families to see if they could run it as it would benefit them most. Nick commented that St. Charles Borromeo's web presence is invisible due to the Grasshopper hosting that we use.

Fr Don has been approached by a concerned parishioner about the change in direction of the Holy Communion programme and the lack of involvement in this by the school. Diocese not in support of catechesis in the school and the children now attend church an hour in advance of Mass on Sunday for instruction in the oratory. Ann mentioned that people using the oratory before Mass caused distraction to the children and making it hard to hold their attention.

Fr Don requested to have some feedback from catechists about this.

6. Report from Finance & Fabric Committee

Financial statement for first two quarters circulated. Sorted out budget for running of parish and a 5 year capital plan spending should be available for the next meeting. A sub-committee is due to meet on 4th January to look at gift aid payment and how best to approach people with this information.

Julia suggested displaying photos of people showing what they do and how to approach them similar to displays in hospital.

Suggestion of some cushioned seating in church which could be paid for out of £8,000 legacy. Ann Black to pursue this.

Little progress in the sale of church hall at present.

7. Update from the Church groups for action

Family Group meeting last Sunday. Arranging family Mass in February. Will target Year 2 and Year 4 in school for readers. Plan to hold a social event in school possibly in March. Need to promote above to congregation.

Ann Black offered to go on the altar to speak.

Cleaners. Still have only three regular cleaners. Insufficient for task.

8. Any Other Business

a. Fr. Don reported there have been three visits from David Butterworth Diocesan organ consultant re the organ. He is to submit a three option plan to restore organ to the Diocesan Building and Sales Commission. Should have some more information at the next meeting.

b. Co-opt two young people on to the Parish Council - revise constitution next year. Terry Walsh to come forward with some ideas.

c. Could Christmas Day Mass start earlier. 11 a.m. is late for some parishioners.

d. School produce a newsletter once a month which is not sent to the church regularly. Norman to chase up.

d. Christmas tree. Some people unhappy with white tree. Fr Don happy to have a real tree but needs arranging. Sue to pursue. Could be paid for out tea fund. Decorate on

Friday 19th December at 6.00 p.m.

e. Owen in process of training to become a Deacon. Going before the Bishop of Salford on Salford supported by several members of the parish.

f. Tom Ginnis is going to be commissioned as an EM tomorrow.

Date of next meeting is 25th March 2015
