

OUR LADY IMMACULATE AND ST CUTHBERT'S CROOK

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting 16th May 2018 7.00.p.m.

Opening Prayer – asking the Lord to support us in our meeting for the benefit of our parish and town.



1. Apologies Eugene and Seana
2. Minutes of the last meeting
 - a. Note Susan Hall our new member and representative on the Partnership
 - b. Mark Hall to be the Parish Safeguarding Officer and the PPC thanks be conveyed to Mark. Brian Jones has offered to show Mark the ropes. Thanks be expressed to Brian for his work over last years and his support for Mark.
 - c. Costs of the paths too great at the moment – notice advising people to be careful of the grass surface to be erected and the matter be deferred until next year.
3. Church Finance Report and Accounts
 - a. Accounts noted and signed ready for submission to the diocese. Total funds as at 31st March up on last year £78,441 though collections down reflecting the falling numbers attending church.
 - b. Ann thanked and congratulated on her excellent accounts and work throughout the year. Thanks also to Marie Louise and all those who help in the office
 - c. Noted that St Cuthbert's Centre had paid for £5000 of work to church and convent fabric; had given £500 to the school for the purchase of books; paid for the cost of a disability scooter for a parishioner with mobility problems and had agreed to pay for a new back door for the Reception Room (back sacristy)
 - d. Social Evening
 - i. June 1st Choir to perform songs from the shows. £5 admission all proceeds towards renewal of vestments at church.
4. Building Issues
 - a. Arrangements for the back of church. Agreed at previous meeting to proceed with the reordering works as consulted and agreed by the parish three years ago.
 - i. Architect – AGREED JOHN NIVEN (ARCHITECT) TO BE APPOINTED TO PROCEED WITH THE SEEKING OF TENDERS AND SUPERVISION OF THE CONTRACT SUBJECT TO COSTS BEING AGREED BY CHAIR, PARISH PRIEST AND TREASURER.
 - ii. Electrics to be looked at - over 30 years since the church were rewired. AGREED STUART AINSLEY TO BE ASKED FOR A REPORT ON THE WIRING AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE TAKEN TO RE-INSTALL THE SPOTLIGHTS ON THE ALTAR, AMBO, CROSS AND CHAIR.
 - b. Church Redecoration.

- i. Historic Churches Committee advice on redecoration and costs includes obtaining the services of a conservation paint analyst. Costs £735. AGREED TO PROCEED BUT SECRETARY TO NEGOTIATE BEST PRICE
 - c. Tree Survey
 - i. Survey noted AGREED TO CARRY OUT THE WORKS OVER A THREE YEAR PERIOD – WORST FIRST
 - ii. TO OBTAIN ANOTHER TENDER TO COMPARE PRICES
 - d. Window replacement programme for the convent
 - i. AGREED TO CONTINUE WITH THE WINDOW REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME AGREED BY THE FORMER FINANCE COMMITTEE. TWO FURTHER WINDOWS TO BE RENEWED THIS YEAR.
 - ii. Noted damp problems from the Centre meeting room affecting the wall of the Convent sitting room. AGREED TO ASK JANETTE TO HAVE A LOOK AND AGREE THE NECESSARY WORKS TO ALLEVIATE THE DAMP
 - iii. Convent Garden Statue of Our Lady given to the convent by Tow Law Parish. AGREED THAT THE STATUE BE REPAINTED
 - e. Health and Safety Report
 - i. AGREED THAT THE REPORT BE NOTED AND RELEVANT ACTIONS CARRIED OUT
- 5. Churches Together
 - a. The Good Friday Witness had been a great success in terms of participation and passers by stopping to watch and listen
 - b. AB reported on the excellent CT Breakfast the very good response and encouraging working together as part of Christian Aid Week. Poor attendance at the Christian Aid Week service. The films shown were thought-provoking – could they be shown at Mass? Noted the limitations on the Street Collection now- suggested that next year we may want to hold some event (wine and cheese; a quiz) to raise money to contribute
- 6. Justice and Peace
 - a. Notes to follow separately
- 7. Ushaw Flower Festival
 - a. It was noted that our church and the Centre were both taking part in the 450 Anniversary Flower Festival at Ushaw. The Lady Chapel and the Oratory respectively. As other parishes were supporting their flower arrangers, we might want to consider likewise. The Centre had agreed to support the display in the Oratory. AGREED THAT THE SUM OF £200 BE CONTRIBUTED TO THE COSTS OF THE ARRANGEMENT ORGANISED BY OUR LADY AND SAINT CUTHBERT'S CHURCH *Consideration might also be given to a bus trip to see the Festival*
- 8. Parish Reports

- a. Partnership issues
 - i. Susan Hall reported back on the meeting of the partnership. Minutes attached.
 - ii. Sponsored walk to Escomb – next event in aid of CAFOD. People encouraged to support.
- b. Youth Group
 - i. Suggested that an alternative date be sought for the cancelled Mission evening. AGREED TO LOOK FOR AN EVENING IN JULY.
- c. Evangelisation Group
 - i. Visit and very helpful advice from parishioners from Prudhoe
 - ii. Card to be given out at church on Whit Sunday – Fr. John will explain the purpose behind it at Sunday Mass.
- d. Convent – visit from Mother General. Very positive and impressed with what we do here and the welcome she received.
- e. St Cuthbert's School – significant assistance with garden fete – no Fancy Dress this year - major dance and football tournament. Happy news for the Headteacher.
- f. SVP £300 sent to the people of Sudan. Thanks from the parish for their work.
- g. St Cuthbert's Centre
 - i. Successful year. Able to help parish as well as keep Centre in good condition.
 - ii. Additional contribution to new presbytery back door which is showing signs of rot after 50 years, gift of £500 to school for books and mobility vehicle for member of parish with mobility issues as request of parishioners
 - iii. Programme of regular events and social evening – Jazz nights.
 - iv. NB THE CENTRE HAS BEEN CHOSED AS A LOCATION FOR ONE OF THE BBC CONTINUITY SLOTS WITH THE LINDY JAZZ DANCE SESSIONS ON WEDNESDAYS
- h. Liturgy
 - i. Holy Week and Easter Review – positive response to very meaningful services at Crook. AGREED TO THANK THOSE WHO HELPED MAKE THE SERVICES SO MEANINGFUL AND ASK FATHER JOHN FOR DISCUSSION ABOUT TIMES OF SERVICES AND LOCATIONS FOR NEXT YEAR.
 - ii. May Procession Noted that parishioners had asked for a procession and AGREED THAT WE NOTE THE RESPONSE
 - iii. AGREED TO TAKE UP PROFESSOR KAREN KILBY OFFER TO COME AND TALK TO THE PARTNERSHIP

Closing Prayer