

St John Fisher Church Parish Council
Minutes of meeting held on Monday, 16 May 2011
at 1930 hrs in the Upper Room

Present

Fr Kevin Jordan, Brian Morahan (Chair), Ann Anderson, Rob Browne, Stanislaus D'Souza, Jessica Gooch, Dolores McLean-Boyd, Kay O'Connor, Neville Ransley, Penny Ransley, Chris Thoumine

Opening Prayer and Welcome

Fr Kevin opened the meeting with a prayer at 1935 hrs.

Apologies for Absence

Edna Arulanantham, Michael Glynn, Karen Lury, Hilary O'Byrne, John Brennan

Minutes (21/2/1011)

The wording of the Minute of the Finance Report was discussed and it was agreed that they would be re-written. The Minutes were not signed and will be re-submitted at the September 2011 meeting.

Matters Arising

Item 6 Finance Report: The planned quarterly Diocesan review of the Parish Social Club's finances is underway.

The Quiz Night had had a good turn-out and had been well organized. RB to follow-up with Steve Pal about publishing the club's opening hours in the Newsletter.

Action
RB

Post Meeting Note – The timings were subsequently published in the Newsletter of 5 June 2011.

Closed.

Fr K clarified that training for Eucharistic Ministers and Readers takes place every 2 years.

Fr K has discussed arrangements for Exposition on a Saturday with Fr Peter.

Premises Report

No written report was presented.

JG provided an update based on what had been reported at the recent Finance Committee meeting.

JG reported that condition of the perimeter walls had been investigated and it had been established that they had been built with no foundations. As a result they were now 'unsafe' in a number of areas. Fr K added that a great deal of work was to be done in the Sanctuary and he hoped it would be possible to include the walls.

NR raised the need to have the Sanctuary repainted if there was going to be a long gap before the re-ordering work was carried out.

Fr K advised he was preparing a Statement of Needs for the parish, which will be submitted to the Diocese. He displayed sketches of the church interior, a Scott church, showing the Sanctuary, the side aisle and the porch all of which were added in the 1980's. The Architectural Committee of the Diocese had suggested making the whole of the Sanctuary in one with the church; the ceiling of the Sanctuary would be raised.

Included in the submission would be that: the reconciliation room to be a repository (with a door from the porch); a confessional to be where the crib had been; a new fixed font; the Sanctuary

floor to be of wood, perhaps parquet.

The next stage would be that the plans would be submitted Peter Newby, Chair of the Art & Architecture Commission for the Diocese. Fr K planned to meet the Diocesan Surveyor next week.

RB asked for a plan to show how all the changes would be communicated to the parish. Fr K preferred to wait until the diocese had responded.

Finance Report

As per attached report.

Since preparing the report, JG was able to provide an update on the legacy item. The house has now been sold.

Catechist's Report

As per attached report.

In addition, KO'C was able to report that the ratio of First Holy Communion and Confirmation is good in the parish. This was said bearing in mind that some candidates go to the Cathedral for Confirmation.

Parish Priest's Report

As per attached report.

Fr K explained that the "CCS" mentioned in his report referred to an American organization asking priests of the diocese about raising funds. In his discussions with them, Fr K pointed out that people give more if they know precisely what for - sick and retired, the training of priests - rather than just raising money for the Diocese to spend as it sees fit. He added that he would prefer to continue in that vein as it works better and people prefer to see where their money goes.

Any Other Business

AA queried the non availability of Mass books at funerals. Fr K said that there were some which could be put out, but that he had found using them had caused confusion when used in conjunction with the Order of Service handouts that are sometimes distributed.

The meeting closed at 21:09 hrs with a prayer led by Fr Kevin.

Date of next meeting 19 September 2011

Future meetings 14 November 2011

28 November 2011 - APM

Signed as a true record
19 September 2011