

**ST JOHN FISHER ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES**

Minutes of the Meeting held at 19:30 on Monday 11th September 2017

- * Fr Shaun Middleton Parish Priest
- * Kay O'Connor Catechist
- * Michael Parkinson Finance
- + Neville Bayross
- * Neil Cocking Chairman, Music & Liturgy
- + Noel McHugh Safeguarding
- + Claire Mendonca Social Outreach
- * Neville Ransley Education / Catechesis
- * Elspeth Everitt Clerk

* *Member present*

Member present for part of meeting

+ *Apologies*

Item No		Action
1	Opening Prayer The meeting started with prayer led by Fr Shaun.	
2	Apologies Noel McHugh, Neville Bayross, Claire Mendonca	
3	Youth Representative Johnpromise has left to begin training for the priesthood so there is a vacancy for a Council member with responsibility for Youth activities. Kay will consider possible candidates.	KO
4	Minutes of the last meeting (May 2017) Minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair. There were no matters arising.	
5	Chair's remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neil has researched wording for the church noticeboard & will approach Ruislip Signs & Pinner Signs for quotes. • Following the questionnaire about music at Saturday 6pm mass it was agreed that hymns would be sung on school mass weekends (generally the first in the month). The hymns chosen for 10am mass on the Sunday will normally be used. 	NC
6	Annual Parish Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was discussion about how to increase numbers attending & encourage engagement & participation.. • Rather than the traditional giving of information it was proposed that the meeting could divide into discussion groups considering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fund-raising ○ Social outreach ○ Education & Catechesis 	

Item No		Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Youth ○ Music & Liturgy <p>All to consider how to structure the evening for discussion at the 13th November meeting.</p>	All
7	<p>Forthcoming events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singalong concert on 7th October • Seniors lunch in late January 2018 • Possible Portuguese/ Goan evening (a meeting to be arranged) • Saturday morning car park tidy up (date to be confirmed). 	
8	<p>Catechesis 2017-18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Communion (42 participants) & Confirmation (49) programmes have begun. • Confirmation will be on Friday 4th May at 7pm in St John Fisher Church. • The number of Baptisms is increasing and 4 weddings have been booked for next year. 	
9	<p>Finance Report</p> <p>The weekly offertory collection is slightly down on last year but payments by standing order have remained consistent. Parish activities income does not include the International Day proceeds.</p>	
10	<p>Parish Priest's Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fr Shaun & Claudia have produced a new booklet of music for Holy Week & Easter. • Property: An application has been made to the Trinity Fund for a match funding grant to re-wire the hall. A decision is expected on 18th October. A further wiring survey will be carried out on 6th October for a detailed quotation. Minor roof leaks in part of the hall are being investigated. • GiF: The next £20,000 has been requested from the Growing in Faith (GiF) fund. • Theology on Tap will continue but less regularly. • Love in Action: The annual cycle of collections will finish with 'pies for Food Banks' at the end of November to coincide with the Pope's Day of Prayer for the Poor. All the collections have been successful & well supported. • St John Fisher School: Reception classes have a few spaces but the rest of the school is full. Mrs Conlon is acting head until May 2018 when Mrs Lyons' sabbatical ends. • Demographic Shift & the parish: While some families are leaving the area because of high house prices a number of new families have moved into the parish. 	

Item No		Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harrow Citizens: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Listening Exercise. All the member organisations will set up small group meetings to discuss ways to improve life in Harrow. The aim in our parish is for 15 people to host meetings of 10 people. 2. The outcome will be discussed at Borough meetings. 3. A decision will be made on a campaign. 	
11	<p>Future meetings Parish Council Monday 13th November 7:30 pm <i>Main topic will be planning the Annual Parish Meeting.</i> Annual Parish Meeting Monday 27th November</p>	
12	The meeting closed with a prayer at 8:20pm	

Signed..... Date.....