

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

Minutes of the Meeting held at 19:00 on Tuesday 8th May 2018

- * Fr Graham Stokes 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
- * Nuala Rodger Young People
- * Elspeth Everitt Clerk

* *Member present*

Member present for part of meeting

+ *Apologies*

Item No		Action
1	<p>Welcome & Opening Prayer Fr Graham opened the meeting with prayer. Apologies received from Noel McHugh, Neville Bayross & Neville Ransley</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of the last meeting (February 2018) Minutes were agreed as a true record and signed. Matters arising: Item 10. Two possible additional safeguarding officers have been approached. Training will be held in July.</p>	
3	<p>Parish Priest's remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewal plans & pastoral activity. Fr Graham will be organising 'getting to know you' informal afternoons & evenings during May, June and July in parishioners' homes or the presbytery. A resource for parish renewal is <i>Divine Renovation</i> by Fr. James Mallon. Adult faith courses will be organised from September. • Mass times. There will be two 10 am Saturday morning masses in May. A regular Saturday morning mass may be re-instated. The timing of Thursday mass is being reviewed with the possibility of a move to lunch time or evening. • 80th anniversary. The tree to the right of the church porch needs to be removed for structural reasons and could be replaced with a grotto. Ideas for new stained glass were Nicholas Breakspear or St Alban. 	
4	<p>Finance Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-payments of the Diocesan loan continue to be made on schedule. The interest rate on the loan is low. • The Parish finance committee has re-formed and current members are Fr Graham, Mike Parkinson, Tim O'Keeffe 	

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	and Jonathan Fernandes.	
5	<p>Property Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A meeting has been held with the Diocesan surveyor, Chris Fanning. • Cracking of the external glass in the Baptistry window is due to movement in the Imperial Drive side wall. This will be monitored. Quotes for repair of the window and some re-pointing of the brick work are awaited. • An annual gutter clean is scheduled at a cost of £740 per year. This is an insurance requirement. • The hinges and bolts on the car park gates cannot hold up the weight of the gates and have failed. A quote of £1,100 + VAT has been received from the installation company to make them fit for purpose. They will be asked to reduce this given the initial hinges were not strong enough for the gates. A quote from another company will be obtained. • Tree roots have caused damage to the boundary wall to the right of the church and the tree will be taken down. • A further quote for replacement durable units in the church kitchen will be requested in the summer sale. 	
6	<p>Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 47 candidates were confirmed and 44 children made their First Communion last weekend. There is a slow decline in numbers of First Communicants and closer co-operation with the school will be encouraged. 	
7	<p>Young Adults</p> <p>There has been no progress to date in forming a group. Ideas from <i>Divine Renovation</i> may help engage younger parishioners.</p>	
8	<p>Harrow Citizens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Founding Assembly went well on 24th April with over 50 parishioners attending plus Irish dancers and their parents from the school. • To maintain momentum a meeting of those involved or interested in learning more will be arranged. The parish group could include St Alban's parishioners. • Bishop John Sherrington is generally positive about involvement and will look at how other Deanery parishes might participate. • The lack of younger people from our parish at the Assembly was noticeable. Ways to engage younger parishioners will be sought. • Easy, quick actions for all to take part in would be useful, e.g. petitions or online social media campaigns on local issues. 	
9	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>General Data Protection Regulations. The parish are working to comply with the new regulations and guidance for groups</p>	

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	will be circulated.	
13	The meeting closed at 8:30 pm.	
	Next meeting: Parish Council: Monday 24th September 2018 at 7:30pm Parish Council: Tuesday 13th November at 7:30pm Annual Parish Meeting: Monday 26th November	

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

Initialed.....