

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

Minutes of the Meeting held at 19:30 on Tuesday 14th May 2019

- * Fr Graham Stokes Parish Priest
- * Kay O'Connor Catechist
- * Michael Parkinson Finance
- + Neville Bayross
- * Neil Cocking Chairman, Music & Liturgy
- * Claire Mendonca-Yeboah Social Outreach
- * Gerald O'Keefe Safeguarding
- + Delores McLean-Boyd Safeguarding
- + 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 have been received from Delores Mclean-Boyd, Neville Bayross and Neville Ransley</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of the last meeting (February 2019) Minutes were agreed as a true record and signed.</p>	
3	<p>Parish Priest's remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Finance Committee has 3 new members. There is a need to increase financial control and organise a planned giving campaign. • The Parish is now compliant following the internal Audit Report. • Harrow Citizens has a low level of active parishioner involvement. Father Graham is meeting the local organiser (Paul Amuzie) to discuss the future relationship. • Fire proof padding is needed under the hall stage and a quote for £2,000 has been received. Another quote will be sought. • Drain clearance is to be organised. • First Communion went well and Confirmation will be at the Cathedral on 1st June. • There was a reasonable turnout for the Lent Bible Course but there is a need to think about how to attract different people to attend. • The Carnevale mass, when Johnpromise returned to preach, united people from all the Sunday masses & different communities. 	

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4.	<p>80th Anniversary</p> <p>Father Graham reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A quiz and the Carnevale celebration with shared lunch have taken place and went well. • A meeting is to be set up for organisers of the celebration on 23rd June. • There is a need to enkindle more initiative and involvement in planning and running events among parishioners. • There has been little interest in the Rome trip but more for the day in Walsingham. 	
5	<p>Finance Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Planned Giving campaign in September (provisional date) will run over 3 weekends and use support materials from the Diocese. • The need for the campaign is demonstrated by the fact that the collection to the end of April was £34,000 compared with £41,000 for the same period in 2018. Envelope giving is down by over £3,000 and many new boxes of envelopes have not been collected. It was suggested that those left could be posted out. Giving by text is possible. • At the end of April the outstanding loan was under £160,000 and the bank balance was about £173,000. 	
6	<p>Property Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Social Club toilets have been fixed. • There has been a small theft of cabling from the outside lighting system. • The Baptistry continues to be monitored for subsidence. • Some sanctuary floor tiles are sinking and cracking & this is being monitored. • New Church kitchen units are ready to be fitted. • There is evidence that the car park gates were not fitted correctly. Neil & Fr Graham will write to the installers to ask that they are re-fitted. • A damp patch on the side of the church is being monitored. • The processional cross is being repaired & acolyte torches will also be repaired in time for 23rd June. • Neil has offered to donate a cross with a bronze figure of Christ for the outside of the front porch. • Caroline and Tony Benyon are possible stained glass artists for the 80th anniversary windows www.benyonstainedglass.com. <p>Saint John Southworth and Our Lady of Walsingham are possible subjects. The cost of each window is in the region of £10,000. More than £10,000 has been donated</p>	<p>Neil/ Fr Graham</p>

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	<p>for a window. Fr Graham will ask Fr Guy who has designed Harrow-on-the-Hill church windows. The designers of the Baptistry window and the Diocese Art and Architecture expert will also be approached. A small project group of parishioners will be set up to work on this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work has been carried out on the kitchen & bathroom ventilation in the flat at 11 Imperial Drive. 	Fr Graham
7	<p>Safeguarding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SVP, Extraordinary Ministers & Bereavement visitors are being DBS checked. • Children’s Liturgy, Holy Communion workshop leaders & Confirmation catechists will be next. • Newsletter notices & a poster have publicised contact details for Delores and Gerald. A page will go on the website with links to Diocesan safeguarding policies. • Safeguarding aspects of hall letting are being investigated. The status of the pre-school and regular bookings will be checked. • Research is also looking at safeguarding requirements for pilgrimages. 	
8	<p>Liturgy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The organ mother-board has been re-programmed and is working. • Musicians have agreed to try out the New Celtic liturgy. Some of it is in the hymn book. • Fr Graham will set up a meeting with musicians. • There was discussion about how to encourage more people to sing. Announcing hymn numbers may help those who can’t see the boards. 	
9	<p>Young Adults</p> <p>Information about Diocesan meetings for young people have been shared but it is not known whether anyone attended.</p>	
10	<p>Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St John Fisher School became an Academy on 1st May & the Bishop came for a celebratory mass. • 43 children have made their First Communion. • 35 will be confirmed on 1st June plus 2 who were confirmed at the Easter Vigil. 	
11	<p>Harrow Citizens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 to 10 parishioners are involved in action groups. • 2 houses for refugee families have been found and are being decorated and furnished. At least one parishioner responded to the appeal for volunteer decorators. • The housing action group has distributed leaflets in 	

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	Wealdstone with information for tenants on rights, responsibilities.	
12	<p>Any Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saturday 8th June 10.30-12. Car park tidy up. • Johnpromise's ordination day – a coach for parishioners will be considered. A presentation will be arranged for his first mass at St John Fisher. • Father Graham attended a Civic event to show solidarity with the Christians of Sri Lanka. • About 150 people came to a vigil for Sri Lanka on May Day bank holiday morning. 	
	The meeting ended at 9:05 pm	
	<p>Next meeting: Parish Council: Monday 16th September at 7:30pm</p>	

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

Initialed.....