

St Werburgh's Parish Council – Tuesday 25th September 2018

Present: Fr Paul, Marie Broadhurst, Barbara Graves, Denise Jones, Syd Jones (Parish Secretary), Bernice Meredith, Caroline Palmer, Gerry Tighe, Paula Wszolek

Opening Prayer and Welcome

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 23rd May 2018 were reviewed and approved

Arising

Children's Liturgy

Caroline reported on the issue earlier this summer of younger children disrupting children's liturgy.

She also reported recruits as catechists.

Parish Council Election 2018

Parish Council received and considered the results of the 2018 Parish Council election.

Safeguarding

Father Paul updated generally on safeguarding issues and reminded Parish Council of the importance of the process. Work would commence very soon to check the key groups identified, starting with the First Holy Communion catechists.

Gerry raised the issue of adult Altar Servers and Father Paul agreed the matter needed clarification (Father Paul to action).

Great War Memorial Plaque

Father Paul reported on progress on the memorial plaque. The frame was in place and the plaque itself was on schedule for completion as anticipated.

Regrettably, the grant from the Great War Memorial Charity towards the plaque had not been secured and the legacy, also intended to go towards the cost of the plaque, had been delayed for an unknown period.

Father Paul reported he had discussed the financial implications with the Diocesan Finance Manager.

Bag Snatch

Father Paul reminded Parish Council of the circumstances of the bag snatch and that the matter had now been discussed with the police.

The importance of all aspects of church security was highlighted.

Primary School.

Father Paul reported on a discussion he had had with Mrs Kathryn Oates, Headteacher, about the Primary School Governing Body.

Parish Council considered how best Father Paul could support the work of the Governors.

Bishop Mark's forthcoming visits

Father Paul reported the arrangements for Bishop Mark's visit on 10th October (School Commissioners' Mass) and 6th November (Great War Memorial Service of Dedication and Blessing)

Great War Memorial Plaque and Piano: Financial Implications

Father Paul reported more generally on the parish's financial position. This remained healthy, but he acknowledged that there were significant upcoming financial commitments which needed careful thought, including the funding of the memorial and the purchase of the grand piano.

Our Mission Together Funding could be accessed to meet the costs of the plaque and consideration would be given to the purchase of the piano in the next financial year.

Publication of Parish Council Minutes

It was agreed that these should be made available to the parish as soon as possible after the meeting on the noticeboard at the back of church and on our website. (Syd to action)

Parish Heritage Walks

Gerry and Father Paul reported on the parish heritage walks in the coming year; the next walk (to the Garden Quarter on Wednesday 7th November) would be led jointly by Gerry and Geoff Taylor.

2019 Parish Pilgrimage

Gerry reported options for the 2019 Parish pilgrimage including a possible visit to Oscott Seminary or, alternatively Ludlow and the Catholic Church there.

Parish Council agreed Gerry should explore both options.

Repository

Bernice and Paula reported on the repository and suggested some ideas for changing opening arrangements.

Parish Council agreed that these and other options to broaden the scope of the repository, should be further considered.

Church cleanliness and hygiene

At the request of a parishioner Parish Council considered tidiness and litter in church and especially the unpleasant practice of depositing chewing gum under seats.

Parish Council agreed an item on this should be carried in the newsletter and a suitable waste bin be obtained and sited at the back of Church (Denise to action)

Access to church

Parish Council agreed that on all occasions when the church is open and used then the disabled access door must be open (Father Paul to action)

Next Meeting - Tuesday 20th November 2018