

St Werburgh's Parish Council – Tuesday 14th May 2019

Present: Fr Paul, Marie Broadhurst, Judith Done, Denise Jones, Syd Jones (Parish Secretary), Bernice Meredith, Caroline Palmer, Anne Proctor, Gerry Tighe, Deacon Neill Robb, Paula Wszolek

Apologies: Barbara Graves

Father Paul welcomed Deacon Neill Robb to the meeting

Opening Prayer and Welcome

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th March were reviewed and approved.

Arising

Primary School

Father Paul reported further on discussions with Mrs Kathryn Oates, Headteacher, about the Primary School Governing Body.

Safeguarding

Father Paul reported progress on DBS clearance, now nearing completion.

Social Events

Father Paul reported the success of the Oscott trip, which was oversubscribed. He raised the issue of the best way of ensuring fairness in signing up for social events.

Parish Council agreed that it should always be based on "first come first served" and that parishioners should be discouraged from signing up on other parishioners' behalf.

Laminator

Paula reported arrangements she had made for access to a laminator

Deacon Neill Robb

Arrangement for the forthcoming Priestly Ordination of Deacon Neill were discussed. Everyone looking forward to this special Mass of Ordination.

Annual Financial Return 2018/19

Parish Council received and considered the annual Diocesan Financial Return together with a comparison of income and expenditure in recent years.

Outturn was broadly as anticipated, and no major issues were identified.

Parish Council placed on record its appreciation of the work done by the Finance Team, in overseeing the management of parish finances.

Minor Works

Parish Council again considered the minor works identified by the Parish as part of the OMT funding initiative.

A proposal, prepared by Judith Done and Anne Proctor, was submitted with a suggested approach to assess the various schemes to facilitate an informed decision on priorities for action.

The Parish Council recognised that not all the schemes could be fully funded from the limited OMT funding and the proposal included considering the potential of alternative funding for individual schemes.

Parish Council supported the approach and Anne and Judith were asked to proceed to assess the schemes against the criteria proposed and to then report further.

Parish Council also agreed that three items should be considered as priority:

- New Altar Cloths
- Reupholstery of the dining room chairs
- Purchase of Defibrillator

Finally, Parish Council considered options for the potential funding of the purchase of the grand piano.

Hotel Building

Father Paul updated Parish Council on progress and the outcome of a meeting with the contractors regarding the reinstatement of the walkway to the side of church, which they intended to tarmac.

The area outside the church gate is to be flagged and Father Paul cautioned that there would inevitably be further disruption to church activities whilst the work is undertaken.

Renewal of Parish Ministries

Father Paul raised the issue of the renewal of ministries and the extent to which they should be time limited.

Confirmation 2019: Mass of Enrolment

Parish Council agreed that, if possible, there should be a Mass of Enrolment as part of the Confirmation programme.

National Altar Servers Mass: Saturday 21st September

Father Paul reported much interest from the other parishes in a combined attendance of Altar Servers at the Mass, with St Werburgh's taking the lead on organisation.

Head of Catholic High School

Father Paul reported that no decision had yet been made on the arrangements for a Mass for the retirement of Mr John Murray as Head Teacher.

Holy Communion: Safety

Parish Council again considered the safety of parishioners queuing to receive Holy Communion, given the volume of people involved.

Availability of drinking water at Masses

Father Paul reported that water was always available from the sink in the sacristy.

Confidential Matters

Parish Council considered two confidential matters.

Next Meeting - Tuesday 23rd July 2019 – Parish Council Social