

ST ALBANS CHURCH
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

1ST MARCH 2012

Present:- Fr Paul, Maria Neads, Shaun Read, Geoff Rowlands, Jo Rowlands, Mark Booton, Fran Wickes, Cath Green, Clare Cox, James Kissane, Kevin Boyle

Apologies:- Mary Keogh, Eileen Rees

Opening Prayer – led by Mark

Minutes of Last Meeting – approved

Council Communication – minutes to be placed on noticeboards at both St Albans and The Church On Oakwood. Copy of minutes to be sent to Simon Baldwin for posting on website.

The Dean has sent a form relating to “Living Stones which needs to be filled out and returned by 11th March. Two representatives from the Deanery Pastoral Council will run through it with Maria and Shaun at a date to be confirmed.

Letters – Paul Wilson has suggested having St Albans Easter & Christmas cards printed – we decided not to proceed with the Easter cards, however it was agreed to discuss Christmas further.

The parish is required to renew confirmation of the Gambling Act provisions relating to the 200 Club.

A pamphlet all about the parish is to be printed – all agreed it is excellent – there are a few revisions to be made – any comments or amendments, please pass to Geoff by 15th March.

General – a few comments have been passed on that the building projects undertaken have not been communicated sufficiently – these are all passed on in one form or another, however the comments are taken on board for the future.

Pastoral Plan – copy to be printed and placed on table in entrance to St Albans and to be mentioned in the weekly newsletter - also, to be posted on website.

Geoff, Maria and Shaun to meet after this meeting to discuss the group meetings which have taken place and how the information will be fed back. The parish constitution needs to be checked to ensure if there are enough members on the council following the resignation of Lorraine.

A new music supplement is to be composed – a donation from Helen Booton’s funeral will go towards this.

Buildings & Maintenance – risk assessments have now been completed and the Diocese Curia Office has been informed.

The boilers for the Hall and the house require annual certification.
PAT Testing to be carried out.
Maintenance Log Book to be compiled and placed in office.
Fencing – all completed – a bit more paving to be added.
Proposals for a new main gate to ease access in to the car park, particularly for the hearse, have been received.

CAFOD – Connect2 to Rwanda – a letter of thanks from the village has been received. It needs to be decided whether the parish continues to contribute money to Rwanda or select another community.

Oakwood – Christian Unity Service on 18th January to be led by Fr Paul was well attended. Eight people from other denominations from Oakwood attended the Ash Wednesday service at St Albans. Lenten course started on 29th February and was well attended.

Children's Liturgy – all going well. Visiting priests need to be informed about the format, especially when the children return to Mass. It was discussed how the children could be involved at Easter – bidding prayers

Garden Seating Area – we discussed how this should proceed in making it into a prayer garden. A sub group is to be formed and parishioners will be invited if they wish to be on this group – to be stated in weekly newsletter. A meeting will be held on 20th March at 7:30pm.

Recent Events – Living Stones – first meeting was extremely well attended – 55 people from the three parishes - generating vibrant discussion.
First Communion and Confirmation enrolment masses have taken place.
Ash Wednesday followed by frugal supper – well attended.

Upcoming Events:–

1st Communion 27th May – services to be held on Saturday evening and Sunday morning

Living Stones – second meeting at St Hugh's on Monday 12th March

Xavierian Missionary Appeal – 14th & 15th April

Confirmation – 11th July

Stations of Cross – alternate between St Alban's & St Hugh's

AOB – stained glass windows – backlighting to improve appearance.
Speakers in the Church may need to be changed
Attendance of the Blessed Sacrament needs to be reviewed

Future Meetings –26th April, 21st June

Closing Prayer – led by Fr Paul