

ST ALBANS CHURCH
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

19th September 2013

Present:- Fr Paul, Geoff Rowlands, Kevin Boyle, Clare Cox, James Kissane, David McArdle, Sanju Sabu, Lewis Griffin, Dean Clegg, Eddie Duncombe, Simon Baldwin, Fran Wickes

Apologies: - Mark Booton, Eileen Rees

Opening Prayer – led by Fr Paul

Previous Meeting's Minutes – approved, minor alterations

World Youth Day – This took place in Rio from 23-28 July. In the UK, it took place at Aylesford in Kent. Sanju attended with a group from The Briars along with more than 500 others. It was a full on agenda of prayer, music and a live link to Rio.

Living Stones – We split into four groups to discuss how the parish is going to move forward with any potential parish changes which will be presented to us by the Diocese or Deanery. This discussion was based around the following questions:-

How could the PPC best share any future decisional information from the Diocese/Deanery relating to Living Stones with the parish?

- PPC nominee to talk to the Parish about the proposals and lay involvement and leadership
- A positive plan to be put in place to emphasise the importance of moving forward and that this is not a decline
- Specific newsletter to be created related to Living Stones
- Parish Administrator to collate all information
- Key Contacts to be identified
- Regular reports from St Albans & Oakwood
- Website – regular updates to FAQs
- Information to be given out every 3-4 months

How can we further encourage and empower the groups within the parish to be more self-led in decision making and delivery of their roles?

- PPC liaisons nominated – see following item.
- Groups to give information to the PPC.

What practical areas are we lacking in within the current structure and running of the parish that need to be addressed in order to make the parish work with a less hands on approach from clergy? How can these be implemented?

- There are three principle tasks that can only be carried out by a priest – Mass, Reconciliation & Anointing

To be discussed further at future meetings. Living Stones is to be the main focus for the PPC.

Parish Groups – PPC liaisons nominated, as follows:-

Welcomers – Dean; Readers – James; Counters – Eddie; Collectors/Ushers – Dean; Eucharistic Ministers – Sanju; Altar Servers – Sanju; Music Group – Lewis; Spirituality Group – James; Bidding Prayers – James; CAFOD – Dean; SRP Appeal – James; 200 Club – Mark; Cleaning – Eileen; Youth Group – Geoff; Social Committee – Eddie; 1st Communion – Clare; Confirmation – Lewis; Finance – Mark; Children’s Liturgy – Clare; Oakwood Groups – Fran, David, Eileen

Sick & Retired Priests’ Appeal – Sanju put himself forward to assist James with the Appeal.

Report From Oakwood – Finance – originally, St Albans contributed 25% towards the costs of running the Church on Oakwood and received 50% of the income from lettings. This is to be revised to 40% contribution to costs – the discussion is on-going.

AOB:-

- Jessica stepping down from the PPC, she will be replaced by Caroline Collins
- Buildings Committee – meeting 3rd October
- Finance Committee to meet

Closing Prayer – led by Fr Paul