

ST ALBANS CHURCH
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
18TH OCTOBER 2012

Present:- Fr Paul, Maria Neads, Mark Booton, Geoff Rowlands, Jo Rowlands, Fran Wickes, James Kissane, Mary Keogh, Clare Cox, Eileen Rees, Kevin Boyle, Jessica Daykin

Apologies:- Cath Green

Opening Prayer – led by Jo

Welcoming Group – Pat Orrell talked to the council about how the Welcoming Group was set up and functions. Started in 2005 during the re-ordering of the Church – it was felt that there was a bit of discontent. The group was set up to improve communications for those arriving at mass and to reach out to those who were returning to attending mass and those who are disenchanted – in short, evangelise. A pamphlet about St Alban's was produced giving information about the parish – this has recently been updated. Training was given at Mackworth on how best to operate. Work closely with the ushers, meeting once a year with them. Own meeting are every 6-8 weeks - look at how to improve appearance of entering Church – notice board tidied up, “welcome” banner in different languages, prayer books, mass times in local magazines, attend weddings, funerals. Approach new comers after mass. Have visited St Joseph's to discuss how the group works.

Deanery Council Meeting – Angela Fairbrother presented to the council on how the Living Stones meetings have gone with the Deanery Council. All recommendations have been sent to the Bishop's Council – feedback expected in February 2013. Change is inevitable and it is felt that communication to everybody involved – from four parishes – is essential and that there must be collaboration to ensure that everybody can have their say. A meeting in January for St Albans has been recommended to discuss “what a good parish looks like”.

Minutes of Last Meeting – approved.

Matters Arising From Minutes - Peace Garden – a mini digger will be generously provided. Groundworks recommended to commence in January. 200 Club – more people to be encouraged to join.

Water Boiler – to be ordered

Parish Council Constitution – numbers are fine – priest plus 12.

Liturgy Group – meeting set for 7th November. Advent this year will be the first plan. All involved groups to be invited.

Oakwood – new minister started – only at Oakwood one Sunday a month.
Invite to council meeting if he has time?

Recent Events – 14th October – Year of Faith launched at cathedral – very well attended – there are prayer cards, candles and icons of Our Lady – there will also be a new parish prayer for the Year of Faith to be before mass.
Harvest Festival Quiz – raised £140.00
10th October - Child Protection Training

Upcoming Events:- 1st December – Christmas Bazaar.
19th December – carol service at Oakwood.
12th December – initial meeting for First Communion parents
17th November – Time To Remember service
7th November – Oakwood service of remembrance
15th December – parish Christmas meal – to be confirmed
23rd December – St Alban's Carol Service 3pm to 4pm – to be confirmed

Buildings – work on the gates to be completed.

AOB – Children's Liturgy stationery needs topping up - Maria to sort out.
Please see the new parish website
Fire Evacuation Procedure – to be reviewed. Fire Officer to be asked to come in and assess

Future Meetings – 29th November – Opening Prayer – Eileen. Social Group to be invited.

9th January

Closing Prayer – led by Fr Paul