

MINUTES OF PARISH FORUM MEETING July 1st 2015

PRESENT: Mgr J Corcoran, Margaret Donnelly, Andrew Brown (Clitheroe), Jane Brown, Susan Broughton, Arnold Marsden, Michael Bradley, Peter Lambert, Janet Clegg, Peter Donnelly, Anthony Brown, Teresa Mercer, Bernard Mercer, Peter White, Susan White, Pat Whitwell Margaret Waling, Andrew Brown (Sabden) Margaret Parsons, Tony Galea.

1. The meeting opened at 7.30 pm with a prayer, led by Peter White asking for guidance on our meeting and especially for the successful amalgamation of St. Hubert's, Dunsop Bridge with our parish.

2. Mike welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies: Teresa Mercer, Maureen Mercer, Betty & Les Collinson, Daphne & Lou Marsden, Caroline Muldoon, Carol Riley

3. **Minutes** of the meeting held in April were approved and signed as a true record.

4. Matters Arising

- Since the last meeting Elaine Marsden has had a serious stroke. She is making a good recovery, our good wishes and prayers are with her.
- Trafficking is now on the website.
- Carole Riley asked that Fr. Frankie be replaced as the organizer of the committee for the Autumn Fayre. Fr. John to ask Fr. Jo to do this.

5. Review of Recent Events.

- **Sacramental Programme.** From next year children will no longer be Confirmed in Yr. 3. The materials for Reconciliation and First Communion are to be amended for next year's programme. Peter D mentioned that there was some difficulty with prayer friends as these are mostly housebound or very unwell, elderly people who are not able to come to the party given by the children for their prayer friends. Some children are then disappointed. An S.V.P. member is to have a meeting in school to try and resolve this.
- **Right to Life Walk.** A very successful afternoon! £3800 collected to date.
- **Fr. Frankie's Presentation Evening.** This was a huge success and great appreciation to Fr. Frankie was demonstrated by everyone's generosity. Thanks to the choir, the caterers and everyone who contributed to it's success. It was noted that in future when arranging an event we must be very clear on how we manage, it particularly in relation to cost!

6. Finance.

a) **Report** – Peter Lambert presented a clear and comprehensive power point report. The following is a summary.

	2014	2013	2012
Total Revenue(£)	147,744	139,805	140,377
Collections	71,124	67,643	70,078
Total Running Costs	90,325	87,716	85,645
Total Surplus for Redevelopment	(6,137)	520,088	54,731

Comparison Summary 2014-2013

Income – up - 5.7% Collections – up - 5.1%

In 2014 we spent more than we received but used surplus from previous years to balance the books. Any balance is carried forward to help cover increasing costs. Expenditure on the renovation of the Dower House is already being recuperated in rent.

Capital Exp. 2014 - Dower House £26,811, Emergency Fund £14,656, Other repairs £22,092 (Sabden car park, school gates, repairs to church, hall, presbytery, benches)

Planned Capital and Emergency Exp. 2015

Church Roof/decoration - £70,000

Total Capital Exp – Approximately £

In 2014- £24,133 of collection was not gift aided. If 50% of this had been gift aided the church would have claimed an additional £3,016 of revenue. This would have paid all church expenses for 6 weeks. Please Gift Aid!

Peter said he would produce a profit and loss account for Sabden.

b) Derek Pearce – has been invited back to speak to the Finance Committee on 14th July with a view to making an appeal for increased giving and gift aid. this is planned for October when Mass attendance is at its highest. Benefits to church of direct debit giving are that there is a guaranteed amount, it is always paid and requires no counting.

c) Parish Draw – Janet now has 130 but this cannot run with less than 180 members. Fr. John to appeal this week.

d) Management Responsibility – Bishop is instructing priests to make the parishioners run the Parish ie. more responsibility to be taken by all of us. There are many things that Fr. John intends to leave to parishioners in future. eg. Weld Day, Altar servers outing and more.

7. Parish Priest Update

a) Online Failure has caused communication problems. The system has crashed and fault is found but difficult to mend. It is in hand.

b) Bishop's Survey is to be distributed next weekend and is also available on line. it is his promised consultation on key matters set out in "Preparing the Way" The questions relate to diocesan governance, sacramental programme, deacons, lay involvement, education, vocations, Wardley Hall and the diocesan development plan. It is to be submitted by August 7th.

c) Lourdes Meeting to take place on Thursday 9th July at 8pm when Fr. Frankie will be able to come and update those going on arrangements etc.

d) Fr. Frankie's Memory Book is now available to look at but not take away!

e) Dunsop Bridge became part of our Parish 3 weeks ago. Fr. John has met with parishioners who recognize the need for amalgamation. Fr. Chaloner will live in the presbytery as long as he wishes and will say 10am Mass on Sundays. Fr. John is to train some parishioners to step in in emergency. On Sept. 6th Fr. John will say the Sunday Mass and it will be followed by a meeting of all parishioners in the school. Fr.

John will say Mass at 9.30 am on Tuesdays. Fr. John and Peter Lambert to meet re. finance with Fr Chaloner and his bookkeeper.

f) Fr. Peter Birmingham is very sick and has chosen not to have more chemotherapy. He is in Burnley Hospital but is to go to Nazareth House in Manchester for end of life care. We pray for him.

g) Proclaim 15 is gathering in Birmingham to explore ways of developing Mission in our parishes. 3 representatives from our “99 group” will attend.

8. Society Reports

a) Ladies Group. - Susan Broughton - Group provide hospitality and catering for special occasions eg. Welds Day, Walk for life; took part in Women’s World Day of Prayer, they visit and support sick where appropriate. Charities supported this year through special fund raising are Help the Heroes (£620) and Ribble Valley Food Bank (£465) . Proceeds from the Rossendale Male Voice Choir concert will go towards the food bank. Christmas meal on 29th January 2016 at the New Drop Inn, Longridge with entertainment by Jimmy Cricket.

b) Trafficking - Anthony Brown - a) Anti Slavery Week 18th to 24th October. Elsa Harris attending and speaking, there will be Question Time Session and school competitions in Lancaster, Middlesbrough and Salford. Anthony is visiting schools in these Diocese. b) Year of Mercy Dec. 8th 2015 to Nov. 29th 2016. During this time Fr. John and priests of Deanery will have Trafficking as its theme under the Justice Banner. There will be Mass appeals, a play by Donna Worthington of Tabor as well as other things. Anthony to try and involve schools in the 3 Dioceses. c) Work with DCI Sion Hall. Trying to respond to the Pope’s call “ Every citizen of every country must be made aware of human trafficking and join the fight against it” by working with Sion, the Advertiser and the press. d) Website. Trafficking under groups on website and is being developed further.

c) Mass of Healing. 27th September, usual organization and arrangements.

d) Right to Life. 11th September there will be a Private Members Bill on Euthanasia. Nigel Evans says he does not support it. We will be asked to lobby our M.P. against it.

9. Date and Venue of next Meetings

Clitheroe - 16th Sept 7.30pm

Clitheroe – 18th Nov. 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm