

PARISH FORUM WEDNESDAY 9 APRIL 2014

Mgr John, Peter White, Margaret Donnelly, Fr Frankie, Arnold Marsden, Cliff Astin, Paul Humphreys, Ena Davies, Marie Valovin, Daphne Marsden, Janet Clegg, Patsy Holgate, Betty Collinson, Peter Sutcliffe, Elsie Thomson, Sheila Shore, Jane Brown, Andrew Brown, Michael Smith, Susan White, Paul Dudbidge, Bernard Mercer, Maureen Mercer, Teresa Mercer, Carol Waterworth, Michael Bradley

Apologies: Chris Carr, Lou Marsden, Carol Riley, Les Collinson, Peter Donnelly

1. The meeting opened at 7.30 pm with a prayer led by Fr. Frankie.
2. Peter welcomed everyone to the meeting.
3. **Minutes** of the meeting held on Nov 20th were approved and signed as a true record.
4. **Matters Arising:** Problems with Sabden Car park have now been satisfactorily resolved. .No school reports this Forum

5. Review of Recent events.

- Advent and Christmas services all went well and all happy with times and arrangements .
- **Stations of the Cross** went particularly well at Sabden and were sometimes quite moving. Support from SMSJ was appreciated
- SVP Mass for deceased members was well attended.

6. Holy Week & Easter.

There are 3 tickets still available for the Mass of Chrism.

- **Maundy Thursday** –8 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper, Clitheroe. 12 First Communion children to have feet washed. 9 pm – 10 pm Watching ending with Compline.
- **Good Friday** - 9 am Stations, Clitheroe. 10 am Stations, Sabden. 10 am Ecumenical Service in St. Pauls followed by walk of witness to the Castle gates. Sabden have Ecumenical Service at the Village Cross. We will host Ecumenical Service next year. 3 pm Celebration of the Lords Passion, Clitheroe. This is the most important service of Good Friday. No Sacraments throughout Saturday
- **Saturday** – 8 pm Easter Vigil starting with fire outside. 4 Baptisms this year.
- **Easter Sunday** – usual mass times with renewal of Baptismal Promises at both Masses.
- **Easter Monday** – 12 noon Mass

Choir to sing on Thursday Friday and Saturday.

7. Parish Website.

New website has been launched today following a website meeting on Tuesday. Information needs updating. Groups to provide information.

9. Finance Report

Power point presented by Paul Dudbridge and prepared Paul, Janet Clegg and Peter Lambert.

	2013	2012	2011
Total Revenue (£)	139,805	140,377	135,269
Collections	67,643	70,078	70,166
Total Running Costs	87,718	85,645	99,262

Comparison Summary 2013 – 2012	Income – up – 0.4%
Collections – down – 3.6%	Expenses – up – 2.4%

	2013	2012	2011
Total Surplus for Redevelopment	£52,088	£54,713	£36,007

This money is carried forward to help cover next year's costs and banked for emergency expenditure.

Planned Capital Exp 2013:

Altar Steps - £998, Church signage - £1,500, School Field - £1,176,
Church Repairs - £1,376, Dower House - £2,629, Presbytery Path - £2,022,
Presbytery/Sacristy - £12,500. **Total - £39,766**

Planned capital Exp 2014:

Dower House - £20,000, Church Roof/Redecoration - £70,000

Approx Total - £100,000

In 2013 £23,000 of collections was not gift aided. If 50% of this had been gift aided church would have claimed an additional £2,875 – enough to pay ALL church expenses for 6 weeks.

We need to replace the church roof within the next 5 years. Front Gable needs re-pointing, workmen currently working on house repairs. Still a lot of capital expenditure needed. Collections decrease as people die. Mass attendance has increased but collections haven't. Fr. John suggested that we set up a "Gift Aid and Giving" Committee. This will be done in the Autumn. If possible, all tax payers gift aid. Standing orders should be reviewed.

10. Sabden Sub – Forum.

This is to deal with issues specific to Sabden. Meeting arranged for Tuesday April 15th. Items for discussion are a) School Mass – not approved by Ofsted or the Diocese because this is R.E. time. b) Working Committee for Hall. c) New Crib

11. Social Centre Report.

This has been losing money for 9 years. It is now run as a commercial venture with 3 levels of menu. 2013 weekly bar takings - £1681. First 3 months 2014 - £3846. Also in first 3 months 2014 Catering - £8196, Room Hire - £2635. Projected loss 2013 - £12,000. Projected profit, 2014 -+ £10,000 At this rate it will take 5 years to clear the debt of £40,000 but situation is positive.

12. Social Centre Security.

In future the building will be alarmed so Theresa or Kevin will have to be contacted before groups use the hall.

13. Christmas or Autumn Fair.

It was suggested that this be moved to an earlier date to avoid clash with others. Forum agreed and this year we will have an Autumn Fair on Sat October 18th.

14. Church Amplification.

A new control box has been fitted with a computer and CD unit incorporated. Sound is greatly improved. Cost £700 + VAT.

Fr. Frankie suggested that some music, without singing, would greatly enhance the Saturday evening Liturgy. Forum agreed to this but asked that Saturday evening congregation are asked for their feelings about it after the first liturgy with music. Start after Easter with an explanation by Fr. Frankie on the back page. People to express their feelings about music on leaving Church.

15. Church Benches.

Possibility of having 3 thin cushions on each bench. Daphne has this in hand.

16. Weld Day.

July 6th. Follow the usual programme. 10 am Mass, outside if possible. No Mass at Sabden. Fr. John to ask Zoe (new head) if she could organize the strawberries and Vincent to contact the ice cream man. Byrnes will provide the wine. A discussion followed about provision for youth. It is extremely difficult to engage youth and concern expressed but no suggestions or ideas. There will be nothing specific for them this year at Weld Day.

17. Student arriving.

Student, Mark Paver, half way through training for the priesthood, placed with us. He was to come in February but because of serious illness of the Parish Priest in his current placement, he will not arrive until May 23rd he will stay until July.

18. Seedlings. This group now require a Management Committee and this is in hand.

19. Volunteers.

- **Funerals.** Extra help is needed when Maureen or Teresa are not available to prepare everything that is needed for the service.
- **Church Cleaners.** Urgently needed to help each Monday morning. It was suggested that a direct approach works well!
- **Rosary Rota.** Volunteers required to lead Rosary each morning after Mass and mid-day on Saturday
- **Chair of Cafod.** A new chair person is needed for this very rewarding group. Maureen.

20. Maundy Grange. Following a TV programme about Maundy Grange and its work, Peter Donnelly was approached to ask the Forum to consider major fund raising in our parish. The programme had indicated that Maundy Grange may have to close eventually if funds were not available. Fr. John said that the situation needed to be investigated. Peter to contact Caritas for further information. The Ladies are holding a

coffee morning to raise funds for Maundy Grange and also have a book stall tonight and Sunday.

21. Street Signage.

Signs are all up and completed giving clear direction to the Church.

Signs are needed for the defibrillators; awaiting ambulance service to provide boxes.

22. No School Reports.

23. Reports.

K.S.C. Jumble Sale – Sat 26th April at 2 pm. Mass of Healing – 18th May at 2 pm. £604 given to St. Augustines, £500 donated to Mary's meals and £500 to Right for Life.

Foodbank. Since opening in July, 17 tons of food donated. 9 tons given out, 8 tons in stock. Longridge now have a foodbank with food provided from Clitheroe. Ruth Haldane is to be the first paid employee.

Pro Life walk takes place on May 26th at 1 pm from Church.

Cafod. May 10th at 9. am in St Mary's Hall - Churches in Clitheroe organizing town event "Feed a Friend" as a follow up to the IF Rally in London and Clitheroe Food Festival. Various speakers concluding with a simple bread and soup lunch at 12.30 pm. Volunteers needed to make soup.

Ladies Group: Nov 27th Christmas Party, Jan 17th Annual Christmas Dinner

Jan 23rd The Jimmy Cricket Laughter Show. This was a complete sell out and we raised £2231.00 for Mary's Meals. Special thanks to all who helped.

Jan 29th "Spellbound" gave us a very interesting film show of various places. Raffle raised £50 for Mary's meals.

Feb 26th Talk by David Tomlinson, retired. technical director of Warburtons Bakery on the history of Warburton's Bakery. March 6th Women's World Day of prayer.

St Michael & St John's hosted this year. March 26th Talk by Pat Osbourne on Lady Randy, Winston Churchill's mother. At this meeting we presented the cheque for £2250 to Mary's Meals. March 28th Ladies Group led Stations of the Cross April 9th & 13th Book sale in aid of Maundy Grange. £100 raised last year from sale of books.

Coach Outings - see booklet

Future Events May 3rd Annual Coffee morning at the Mayor's Parlour, Church Brow – 10.00 am to 12 noon. Tickets on sale this weekend after both Masses

@£1.Proceeds to Maundy Grange.

Oct 2014 Milnthorpe Steel band. Jan 2015 Go on Tour – group of people who sing dance etc. Anniversary of World War 1. Proceeds to "Help the Hero's" .

Oct 2015 (to be confirmed) RMVC singing in Church.

At Fathers request proceeds to "Clitheroe Food Bank"

16. AOB

It was noticed that the hall has no crucifix. This will be looked into.

Fr. Keane's funeral – 10.30, Mon 14th April at St. Wilfred's Preston.

17. Date of next Meeting 4th June 2014 7.30pm Sabden

Meeting closed at 9.30pm.