MINUTES OF PARISH FORUM HELD WEDNESDAY 14th September 2011

Present: Mgr Corcoran, P.Hardwick, , J.Clegg, L.Marsden, B.Collinson, M.Manning, M.Valovin, E.Davies, M.Procter, P.Holgate, A.Brown, J.Woodend, D.Marsden, C.Riley, P.Sutcliffe, A.Harkin, M.Mercer, K.Shepherd, A.Taylor, C Carr, J.Byrne, C.Waterworth, G.Hennigan, M.Bradley, B.Mercer, A.Marsden, J.Kelly, T.Mercer

Apologies: L Collinson, C Muldoon, S.Shore, P & S White,

1. **Prayers were led by A Marsden**

2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The Minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

3. **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising from the last meeting.

4. **Parish Forum Constitution**

The Parish Forum had started with an initiative by Bishop Brain at the Jubilee to gather together parishioners into a Forum to discuss relevant issues. It had developed since then and with the arrival of Mgr. Corcoran, his vision was that the Forum could effectively be the Parish Council but remain in its current form. This avoided the "downside" of a Council where only elected officials could speak as the Forum allowed any interested Parishioner to fully participate.

PH then read out each element of the proposed constitution (published in the previous weekend's Parish Newsletter) and the following amendments were suggested:

1. The third paragraph should now read, "and to attempt to meet those needs". This was overwhelmingly accepted.

2. There was a discussion as to whether reports should be limited to three minutes but it was decided that items for discussion should be put as an agenda item. The Chairman should also have discretion to extend the discussion period if it was required. This was accepted by 19 "yes", 2 "no" and 3 abstention votes.

There were no other suggestions or amendments made and the Constitution was overwhelmingly accepted.

5. **Election of Chair/Secretary**

There was concern that there were significantly fewer attendees at this Forum, possibly due to a change in date and a clash of meetings for those from Sabden. The meeting debated as to whether candidates for the Chair could or should be nominated in their absence. It was decided by an overwhelming majority that the elections for the Chair and Secretary should be postponed until the next meeting. However it was essential that interested individuals attend this meeting and that those nominating the person, did so with the approval of the nominee.

7. **All Hallows**

Discussions had begun last year as to the viability of arranging an event to reclaim the traditional Christian meaning of Halloween. Unfortunately the hall was not available on this date and whilst Sabden was suggested and accepted as a suitable venue, the traffic "lock down" would make it impossible to travel or park.

Mr. Murray will assess with the PTA, the level of interest in a Family Night in the Social Centre on Thursday 20th of November.

8. **Christmas Services**

Clitheroe	**Sabden (as last year for both Churches)**
Christmas Eve	
1730 hrs - Carol Service	2000 hrs - Mass
1800 hrs – Mass	
Christmas Day	
10.00 hrs Mass.	

9. **Day for Ministers of Holy Communion**
A Day for Ministers and Readers was to be held on 19th November from 0900 to 1600 hrs at the Tabor Retreat House in Preston. Everyone was encouraged to attend.

10. **Finance Committee**
The Finance Committee would meet in the Presbytery on 27th September at 1930 hrs.

11. **Social Centre Committee**
There will be meeting for the Joint Committee at 1930 hrs on Tuesday 4th October.

12. **Website Development Committee**
A committee is required to redesign (where appropriate) and promote the website amongst Parish Groups to ensure that we fully utilise the website and its functions. There were three volunteers from the meeting: Andy Brown, Kevin Shepherd, Julie Woodhead.

13. **Reports from the Mission Groups**

Update on Family Attendance at Mass

The raw data had been collated and sent to the members of the group. It was disappointing that only 13 replies had been received, especially as all the parents in the primary school had received a copy by e-mail. However, those questionnaires which were returned had excellent suggestions. Next actions:

- Categorise data into a form which the group could use to make specific suggestions.
- Ask for input from the parents at Seedlings.
- Request feedback from the PTA as to why there had been a low response rate.

14. **Broadcasting Church Services**

NCN Offer a service where a static camera is put into the Church and it may be accessed from home using a website or "digi box" costing £150 (a one-off cost). The initial set up costs for the Parish were £4500 + an £1000 annual charge. There were various questions to be answered:

- Would those who received the Blessed Sacrament at home, value the new service? (Please note that this would be an additional possibility and would not replace visits by Eucharistic Ministers which were highly valued).

- How many people would be interested? Would they have access to the internet and/or wish to pay for a "digibox"?

- A website only function could be installed locally at a much lower cost.

It was agreed to seek further information and opinions using Eucharistic Ministers, SVP and anyone with an interest in the service.

15. **Children**
New books had been ordered to replace the existing children's liturgy books and were designed for two different age groups.

"Day by Day" books for Children covering the Advent period had been received and opinions were invited as to whether additional copies should be ordered.

16. **Any Other Business**

KC Report

This is attached and contains dates of fund raising and social events.

Ladies Group

Thanks to their supporters as £400 had been raised by the Coffee Morning for the Parkinson's Disease Charity.

Little Church

The new rotas had been distributed and each leader will ring around to ensure that everyone is aware of their dates. Invitations have been sent out to parents with children in Reception through to Year 3 to invite them to attend and for volunteers to help.

Seedlings

The upper room cleared and the spare toys would be donated to charity or the Christmas Fair. Numbers remain stable, but posters are being distributed around Clitheroe to attract more children.

Changes to the Liturgy

Disappointment was expressed as to the apparent lack of consultation by the Hierarchy before implementing changes which were expensive and seemed only to be a return to the pre-Vatican Two Liturgy. It was explained that the last translation had been a transliteration rather than a strict translation which reflected references to Scripture. The changes were essential to establish this link once more.

Forthcoming Events:

Fashion Show at Sabden Saturday 8th October 2011.

Christmas Fair Meeting 15th September at 1930 hrs in the Presbytery.

17. The next Meeting will be in Sabden at 1930 hrs on 9th November 2011.