

MINUTES OF PARISH FORUM MEETING NOVEMBER 20th 2013

Present: Mgr J Corcoran, Peter White, Margaret Donnelly, Arnold Marsden, Chris Carr, Lou Marsden, Janet Clegg, Carol Waterworth, Fr Frankie, Andrew Brown (Sabden), Frances Garner, Alison McNulty, Susan White, Carol Riley, Daphne Marsden, Ena Davies, Patsy Holgate, Marie Valovin, Geraldine Hennigan, Jude Golding, Peter Donnelly, Bernard Mercer, Teresa Mercer, Jane Brown, Andrew Brown (Clitheroe), Les Collinson, Betty Collinson

Apologies: M.Bradley, S.Shore, E.Thomson, B.Parkinson

- 1.The meeting opened at 7.30 pm with a prayer led by Fr. Frankie.
2. Peter welcomed everyone to the meeting. **Apologies** received from Elsie Thompson, Barbara Parkinson, Amanda Taylor, Damien Buggy, Mike Bradley, Claire Halstead.
3. **Minutes** of the meeting held on Sept 11th were approved and signed as a true record.
4. There were no matters arising.

5. Review of Recent events.

- **Presentation Evening** was a fantastic night, thoroughly enjoyed by all, high standard of catering was commented on. Parish should repeat this sort of celebration at appropriate times.
- **Sabden Sausage and Mash** great success, raised £500.
- **Walk for Life** was a good get together for Parishioners, 70 or 80 walkers. Some sponsor money still outstanding.
- **St Nicholas Church Sabden** 50 ladies did an outstanding display for the opening of the refurbished church. It was a fabulous occasion, Clitheroe and Sabden schools both participated and the event raised £6320 for St Nicholas's.

6. Mass of Healing.

This will take place in 2014 on 18th May & 28th September at 2pm.

It was also decided that the Right for Life Walk will be on 26th May and the HCPT Walk on 5th October.

7. Little Church or Crèche?

Some Sundays Little Church can be difficult because of the wide age range of children and large numbers of children and adults in one room. After discussion it was agreed that when necessary both rooms are used with older children in one and younger children in the other. Children who have made their First communion should remain in Church and parents be asked that only one parent go into little Church with children who need them. Parents should be encouraged to help with leading sessions. Fr. John to include these requests in the back page of the newsletter. It was emphasized that we must be careful not to “put families off” from coming.

8. Church Benches.

2 front benches have been adapted to accommodate wheelchairs and are being refurbished. These will be the first benches to have cushions on. £700 has already been donated towards bench refurbishment, total cost for these will be £1580. Ladies to meet to finalize choice of cushions. Consensus of opinion was that it would be worth paying the additional £20 per cushion for piping.

9. Sabden Car Park.

Despite notices parking by residents and visitors has increased. Application for a barrier to be installed has been put in to the council. This will be at the top of the incline and Andy Brown will be the key holder. A letter had been received from Rachel Shipster asking to pay for parking from Monday to Friday on a month by month basis. Meeting was unanimous that this was unadvisable. It was pointed out that use for 7 years would give right of way. Parish to send an official reply politely refusing permission and asking that the temporary gate be removed and the fence be replaced as in the original agreement.

10. Advent and Christmas Services/Service of Light

There will be 1 major Advent service at Clitheroe. Service of Light to be held on 8th Dec. It was felt that the children's involvement in church last year was not sufficient. Fr. John to resolve this with Geraldine and Jude. Sabden will have their Advent story on 3 Tuesdays in advent at 7.30pm. Christmas Service in St Nicholas 1st Dec. at 4pm. Christmas cards have been produced listing all the services over the Christmas period. These will also be displayed on the notice board. Janet needs volunteers to help delivering cards.

11. Christmas Fayres.

Clitheroe. Sat. Nov. 30th, 11.30am – 1.30pm. Same stalls as usual, Cakes, jams etc needed. Frankie will be signing his book. Eucharistic Service to take place as normal.
Sabden. Sat. Dec. 7th. 2 – 4pm. Usual stalls. Grand Draw (I-Pad and Kindle) tickets to be sold at both Fayres. Carole R. suggested that some of the money raised be used to buy a new office computer.

12. Street Signage.

Another cheque for over £1500.60 has been paid and signs should be put up within 8 weeks of the council receiving it, ie. before Christmas! Mike still chasing this.

School Reports.

Clitheroe:

- **New Head Teacher** Governors appointed Mrs. Zoe Mabbot who will take up post on Mon. Jan. 6th 2014.
- **Changes to Staffing.** Mrs. Jackson Y1 is on maternity leave, George Harry was born on Nov. 16th. Miss Megan Baines teaching Y1 until Mrs. Jackson's return. Mrs. Monaghan has been appointed as Assistant Head.
- **Headstart Award.** School awarded a gold Cardiac Smart award. Thanks to Mrs Jackson for delivering the first aid courses to pupils and adults.
- **Fund raising.** Y6 raised £50 for Macmillan cancer by selling their Halloween magazine and £172.68 for Children in Need with a cake stall. Pupils donated £102 for Philippines disaster.

- **Parking.** Police have raised awareness of some parents parking without consideration for local residents. Police will raise their profile around school at key times.

Sabden.

- **This term** 3 new children in Reception, Visit from Life Education Van teaching healthy living. Y3/4 having swimming lessons. Sacramental Programme underway. Harvest gifts were given to Maundy Grange. Flash, Bang Science visit with all children taking part in investigations.
- School has joined **“Sing Together”** School choir will join other schools in concert, St. George’s Hall, March 2014
- **Book Club** has started in school, run by a local book seller encouraging them to read for pleasure and express opinions.
- **School Council** now up and running ensuring that children are involved in relevant aspects of decision making in school.
- **Trip to France** took place on 30th Sept. Pupils from both schools participated in this. Brilliant working together. Trips included wheat farm, snail farm, goat farm, chocolatier, French markets and supermarkets and the Somme.
- **Advent Performances.** KS1 Dec. 11th Nativity. KS2 Dec 12th “ Santa on Strike”.
- **Santa Stops at Sabden.** Fri. 6th Dec. 3.30pm. Many stalls, all invited.

14. Social Centre Development.

More bookings are now being taken. Need to advertise and make people aware of excellent facilities and catering.

15. Reports.

- **Food Bank.** 181 vouchers collected. 233 adults and 135 children fed. Reasons for vouchers being given: Benefit changes – 26, Benefit delays – 69, Child holiday Meals – 1, Debt – 19, Delayed wages – 6, homeless – 9, Low income – 25, Sickness – 6, Unemployed – 5, Other – 15.
- **Maintenance.** All gutters filled with Hedgehog to prevent clogging. Should reduce leakages. Damaged paths have been repaired. Work in Sanctuary to be finished. Carpet to be removed and broken marble replaced. Bid to spend £20,000 to develop the Dower house with a view to renting it has been submitted to the Diocese. Defibrillator cabinets needed in Confessional (Clitheroe), Social Centre and Sabden Sacristy.
- **Ladies Group.** Interesting and entertaining monthly meetings continue. No change to the committee. Trip to Media City booked for Dec. Recently group have catered for a Chernobyl children’s farewell party, Fr. Frankie and Vincent Murray’s presentation evening (150 people) and took part in Harvest Festival. Coming events are Ladies Group Christmas party, Christmas Fayre (donations at presbytery by 29th Nov), group’s annual meal at Waddow Hall (17th Jan £21), Christmas Tea dance on 18th Dec. (tickets £6.50 from Daphne). There will be a fund raising event for Mary’s Meal fund on 24th Jan. Jimmy Cricket and Jim Nichols will be entertaining.
- **SVP.** 16 people gave their names after recent appeal for new members. Peter D. arranging meetings.

16. AOB. Ecumenical events. URC 4 Tuesdays in Advent, St. Nicholas night, Trinity musical 14th Dec. Christmas Tree festival at St. Mary's.

Concern expressed about difficulty of answering questionnaire in preparation for the synod on the family to be held next year in Rome.

17. Date of next Meeting 19th February 2014 7.30pm Clitheroe

Meeting closed at 9.30pm.