

Holy Family Catholic Church

(Freckleton and Warton)

1 Lytham Road, Warton, Preston, PR4 1AD

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 003 19th September 2008 7.45pm

This is a shortened version of the minutes. Please contact Linda on 632260 or linda.forster4@btinternet.com for the full version.

Eight parishioners attended and nine others sent apologies.

1. Opening Prayer

Fr Peter opened the meeting with a reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians.

2. Previous Actions

The minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting and there were no changes. Outstanding actions:

ActionPC001.05:

Explore possibilities for a year planner in Parish Hall. ONGOING

3. Chairman's Report

Bernard said that he was surprised how far we have come since we first met to discuss the formation of the Parish Council. He was disappointed in the numbers at this meeting, but recognised that Friday might not be the best evening to meet. The Funday was very successful. There were a lot of people present and a number of passersby joined.

4. Correspondence - none

5. Subcommittee Reports

a. Finance and Admin

The Diocesan Finance Office had asked the parish to repay the amount left from the building of the hall. This has now been paid and the parish does not have a debt. We are operating within the rules of the diocese and it is right to pay off our debt. Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners the parish is able to pay its way and we can now concentrate on the spiritual side.

b. Property

Porch has now been decorated with additional noticeboard. Porch roof has been re-felted and the same company is replacing the slates on the church roof.

The new computer has been installed and the webpage up and running. Helen was thanked and congratulated for the work she has done.

The work on the electrics will start mid-October. It is hoped that some of the decorating, particularly the ceiling, will start then as there will be scaffolding in the church. Weekday Masses could be held in the presbytery for 2 weeks.

Need to check whether insulation is required in the loft

This year's replacement, decoration and maintenance will approx £12000. Add to this the cost of repairs to the porch, presbytery, roof slates, sacristy and confessional at approx £3000 and the total cost is £15000.

The following two years the proposed work will cost about £16000 each year. At some point the roof needs re-doing as the nails are rusting at a cost of £10,000. The barge boards and guttering will cost about £3000. In 2011, there

will need to be some work on the presbytery roof.
Totals about £62000.

Space on the noticeboard needs to be allocated to official Parish Notices, including the insurance notice and CRB co-ordinators.

No single item is over £5000. It may be necessary to introduce a special collection box and other fundraising events. It was also suggested that a list of items be compiled and parishioners could be invited to contribute. The list could include expensive items, but also items that everyone can afford (e.g tins of paint).

c. Pastoral Report

It is proposed that the Play Group should be called the Pre-School Group. This change of name will have to be discussed with the school to determine any possible difficulties. Next World Youth Day with the Pope is in Spain and the parish should plan to send representative(s). One of the parishioners has asked about a CTS rack in church and this is being investigated. The Wednesday Word is now available on a weekly basis.

Jane Ireland has compiled a programme for the Youth Group. It is similar to last year's. Young people need to be encouraged to help as (trainee) leaders in all youth activities.

Boys need to be encouraged to be altar servers, as this is often a first step to the priesthood. Father is planning to talk to last year's first communicants and also at school to encourage more boys and girls to join the team of altar servers.

d. Social

The Funday was a great success. We were blessed with dry weather and many people stayed on after Mass. Some passersby also joined.

The web page is now available to all and Father would advertise it on the newsletter.

The Youth Group had had an enjoyable camping weekend.

The social team will meet prior to Advent to plan some events around Christmas.

Deanery Pastoral Council had proposed a meeting for all involved with young people. It was cancelled, because only two people, both from Holy Family, had indicated they would attend.

The Day for Eucharistic Ministers was well attended.

6. Communication

The webmaster would like some information about each group in the parish for inclusion on the webpage. The newsletter does have the webpage address, but a notice will also be included. The links page is under construction and any possible links should be forwarded to Helen McDowell.

The 2009 dates for the parish council will be set after the AGM and published on the web page.

7. AGM

The AGM is Tuesday 14th October at 7.45pm. Linda will forward the proposed AGM to John C for distribution at Masses on two previous weekends. John will also produce notice for the newsletter.

The chair person of each group will produce half a page for the AGM – preferably bullet points. There will be an open forum until 8.30 pm and the AGM will finish at 9.30. The timing will be monitored to ensure no parishioner is put off by thinking that all parish meetings over run.

It will be proposed that

- i. all current members are willing to continue, but new members are welcome,
- ii. Existing officers are willing to continue unless someone else is willing to take on officership
- iii. Constitution should be approved by the AGM
- iv. The size of the parish council is as stipulated in the constitution
- v. Parishioners are invited to suggest future developments
- vi. Chairman request reports to date

John C will produce a 'planning ahead' sheet for all attendees

8. Next Meeting

Agreed at AGM or later, probably in first Tuesday or Friday in January.

9. Any other Business

Father has submitted the application for *Bene Merenti*. The bishop has read Father's recommendation and is in favour, so will forward the request to Rome.

Bishop's *Fit for Mission Church* is available to members of the Parish Council, who are encouraged to read it & take appropriate action. Pastoral team should consider organising discussions; this may be better at deanery level. Father could also preach on key issues.

10. Closing Remarks

Father said that he was encouraged that the group had come a long way and were implementing the *Fit for Mission* proposal for the parish. He is hopeful that the first AGM will encourage people to work together, thus building on the success of the Funday.

11. Closing Prayer

He closed the meeting by inviting everyone to join him in the *Fit for Mission* prayer.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm