

Holy Family Catholic Church

(Freckleton and Warton)

1 Lytham Road, Warton, Preston, PR4 1AD

Parish Council Meeting 004

13th January 2009 at 7.45pm

Agenda:

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| 1. Opening Prayer | Father Peter |
| 2. Welcome to Mary Waddington (St Peter's, Lytham) | Bernard |
| 3. Minutes | Distributed |
| 4. Correspondence | Linda |
| 5. Chairperson's Report | Bernard |
| 6. Subcommittee Reports | |
| a. Finance and Administration Report | John F |
| b. Property Management Report | John C |
| c. Pastoral Report | Sally |
| d. Social Report | David |
| 7. Communication | John C |
| 8. AOB | |
| 9. Next Meeting | |
| 10. Closing Remarks | Father Peter |
| 11. Closing Prayer | Father Peter |

Parish Council Members Present:

Rev Peter Burns, Parish Priest
David Allman
Hayley Benyon, CAFOD
John Catterall, Chair, Property Management Team
John Forster, Chair, Parish Finance Team
Linda Forster (minutes),
Denise King
Christina King
Peter McGuinness
Carmel Thomas
Bernard Whittle, Chair, Parish Council

Apologies

Jan Courtney-Whiteside
Michelle Holden
Helen McDowell
Colin Reed
Sally Sutton

Visitor from St Peter's, Lytham, Parish Council:

Mary Waddington

1. Opening Prayer

Father Peter opened the meeting with prayer and a reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians. "The greatest of these is love."

2. Welcome

Bernard welcomed Mary Waddington from the Parish Council at St Peter's, Lytham. Her visit was a direct result of the Study Day at Lytham in mid 2008, which recommended co-operation between our Parish Council and that at St Peter's. Mary thanked Bernard and hoped that a member of Holy Family Parish Council would visit the next meeting of St Peter's.

3. Minutes

These had been distributed earlier. No changes.

Action PC001.05:

Explore possibilities for a year planner in Parish Hall.

Property Management Team

ONGOING

Action PC003.01:

Add Fundraising to Agenda

Linda

This is discussed further in the meeting and will be added to future agendas.

Action PC003.002:

Find out what number of people are allowed in the hall for insurance purposes

John F

The diocesan insurance covers the number of people allowed by the fire service. As any documentation about this seems to have gone missing, the Fire Service contacted, but the enquiry was lost over Christmas.

Post Meeting Note: Fylde Borough Council were contacted, they suggested the Fire Service again. This second approach to the Fire Service resulted in an appointment for the Fire Protection Officer to visit on the 11th February.

4. Chairperson's Report

Bernard thanked the Property Management Team and other volunteers for all their time and hard work.

5. Correspondence

- From Mary Waddington, which was why she was present
- Michael Harrison (Parish Auditor) thanking for the Mass for his intentions. It was the first time this had happened for auditing the accounts and he was very grateful

6. Subcommittee Reports

a. Parish Finance and Administration Report

There was about £12000 in the main account. The No. 2 Account was now available for the building fund. Bernard had discussed the payment for the rest of the work with Stephen More and felt that we should put in another application to spend money on the lighting. The decoration of the church and cost had been discussed in various meetings. People had had the opportunity to see the design, read the minutes and give their own comments. The volunteers had saved £6000. The lighting fund would be a separate fund apart from the general accounts of the parish. Bernard would start an appeal in a few weeks. People do not have to give if they do not wish. Those that

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do will have the opportunity give regularly or as a one off donation. This is an act of faith in the future of the parish. No-one has said that the church is closing. We should maintain the house of the Lord in a fitting manner.

The Property Management Committee had done an inspection of the church and other buildings in November 2007. This had been costed and the figures presented to the Parish Council. All the other teams should also prepare budgets for their plans for inclusion in the overall parish budget.

b. Property Management Report

The actual cost to date has been £9762.79.

The design over the altar had yet to be finalised and the parish would have the opportunity to give their opinion. The carpet will be cleaned at the end of all the work

The work on the sacristy will start at the beginning of February.

Bernard thanked John C, David and Peter for all the work they had done, Denise and Christina for their efforts and assistance in the project, as well as the other parishioners who had given freely of their time and skills.

c. Pastoral Report

The advent and Christmas services followed the routine of the previous year and were very successful. The Children's Mass on Christmas Eve was as full as previous years.

Sally Sutton organised a study evening at her house.

Desperately need more volunteers to help with the flowers and Children's liturgy. It's important to find more support, especially from those not involved at present. The Parish Council needs to examine why there are problems and how the teams can remedy this.

The Children's liturgy group is in danger of folding unless more volunteers were recruited and more children encouraged to attend. Hayley Benyon, the parish CAFOD representative said that CAFOD had a complete range of material for children's liturgy.

Anyone who wants to know more about the material available from CAFOD for all purposes in Christian life should contact Hayley on 01772 632441, as she wants to develop her role in the parish.

d. Social Report

The social team meetings are arranged to support various events, not on a regular basis. There had been a suggestion that the social and pastoral team could work together on some occasions. The next event is before Lent. The distribution of leaflets for Easter and Christmas services was discussed. No-one was available from the Youth Group. Sally's Angels attract 11 girls aged 10-15 and the group is doing well. They went carol singing to Naze Court.

Sunday coffee mornings could do with more helpers- these usually make about £50. New rota has just been completed.

There has been a general downturn in the attendance at social events and this is reflected in the income.

Could we arrange some spiritual events followed by social activities. There could be speakers on the (for example) the Pope's teaching on climate change or the work of Fair Trade.

Lent is a good time to consider new ideas. It's the season for looking outside self and to consider prayer, penance and almsgiving. The government is looking at an anti-obesity campaign, can we use this involve school and parish?

7. Communication

Nothing has yet been done about the Parish Introductory Guide

8. AOB

- The current 500 Club has been closed and Father will put an appeal in the newsletter for people to come to a meeting to discuss a new fund raising event. It may be possible to target the income at a specific requirement.
- The Parish Council wishes to record the Parish's great debt and thanks to Sarah Truscott and her willing band of agents over so many years. Father will celebrate Mass for Sarah's intention.
- How do we attract more young couples with children. Fewer than 40 children attend at a weekend. Attendance seems to have dropped, although this might be because people are avoiding the church whilst decoration is in progress. We have a school with 100 peoples and less than 50% attend Mass.
- It was suggested that we have an audit to ensure that the CRB process is working possible. We have an excellent small team, but we need to ensure that they are kept fully informed of new volunteers and identify any who may have been neglected since the first exercise in 2005. The team does a superb job in the face of the government changing requirements. Father needs to know who he can ask to help in the parish in the knowledge that the checks have been completed.
- Father said that he is required by Canon Law to consult the Finance Committee; he would be foolish not to listen to the views of the parish council, but he was responsible for all aspects of the parish. He would not shirk in his responsibilities to make any decision. He appreciated there were some queries about the Playgroup and apologised if people felt that he had not kept everyone aware of progress. He would compile a report on the Playgroup and report back.

9. Next Meeting

Scheduled for 14th April, but may change as this is Easter Tuesday.

10. Closing Remarks

Father said that the Parish Council should be able to discuss matters relating to the parish freely, but in charity to one another.

11. Closing Prayer

He closed the meeting with the *Our Father*..

The meeting closed at 10.15pm