

## **MINUTES OF PARISH FORUM MEETING : 7<sup>th</sup>. September 2009**

Opening prayer by Canon John. \_

### **Present:**

Canon John, Eileen Stronge, Nigel Stokes (minutes), Joe Marsh (chair), Geraldine Glover, Nigel Bishop, Maureen Everington, Pam Smyth, David Tinkler, Rose Stokes, Sr. Marion, Wanda Leckie

### **Apologies:**

Vivien & Peter Caldwell, Tony Noone. John McGrenaghan, Anne Randell, Colette Morgan, Peter Roberts, Sue Macfarlane, Eugene Hammond, Keith Williams, Nathan Hawkins, Andy Sipple, Jen Harley, Frank Lehman

**Minutes:** The minutes of the last meeting were accepted without amendment.

### **Matters Arising:**

Ireson Fund – chair has received minutes of last Ireson committee meeting where it had been decided to offer 50% of the amount sought in successful requests but reserve the right to consider the final amount. The remainder of the money should then be raised by the claimant through legal and proper sponsored events or donations. Follow up report is required from the applicant after each event. ‘Youth’ would be defined as young persons over the age of 12 years (possibly into early 20’s). The creation of a young persons’ group/club has been suggested – Fr Andy to be involved. Need to promote the need for young persons (20’s group?) as leaders of youth group/activities. The funds would not be used to fund claims from primary schools. Support for groups eg. Scouts, Guides and other young persons youth groups could be considered.

CRB’s: Tony Noone has had 26 completed forms and offered 19<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> September as further dates for applications to be made at Thomas More school.

Relics of St Therese – further request for trip? Canon to ask M. Forsdyke.

### **Group Leaders Reports:**

- **Churches Together** – The Christ Abundant Life Ministries (a largely black church meeting at Central Methodist Church) has joined CT in Kettering & District. Meeting soon on Week of Prayer for Unity. Community groups in North Northants were invited to consultation event on the Regional Plan for housing. Andy (representing CT) was the only person to turn up! More than 70,000 new homes are to be allocated to North Northants

**Sick Pilgrims Trust** - Fantastic pilgrimage, Fr Andy was a big hit. The next newsletter and calendars are in preparation.

**Liturgy** – Correspondence received from Anne that arrangements for giving out holy communion during the swine flu pandemic remain in place, therefore the number of special ministers required will be reflected in the new rota, out soon. The congregation need to be reminded about receiving the host into the hand as a number are choosing to

ignore this advice. A second wave of swine flu is expected at any time and Anne felt that we have a duty of care to each other. As a parish we have gone a long way to protect ourselves and thanks are extended to Canon John for taking these measures.

**RCIA** – Rose reported this starts Tuesday. 8 candidates expressed interest including some from Corby. Maureen stated that the Summer school was well attended – Fr Andy gave theological talk and Sr Aiden does a lot of hard work to make the event a success.

**Flowers** – Meeting in church on Wednesday to organise harvest flowers. Professional coming to demonstrate – could open up to parish when Hall back in use.

**Religious** – Sr. Marion gave details of visiting sisters. Good to see so many coming to Convent gardens Open Day for tea and cakes.

**KSC** - Building and garden work ongoing at B.Latimer and St Edwards.

### **Parish Development:**

**Website** - Work on the Sacraments page is ongoing. A request for ideas/copy for the Quiet Moments area of the website was made. The Deanery page needs to be updated in light of the move to a Pastoral Diocese area. Geraldine to follow through with Canon John or Peter Roberts. Jen Harley would welcome copy for the Parish News area of the website. Discussion about creating a Planned Giving Page came to the conclusion that the area of Gift Aid needs to be followed through once the Presbytery is returned to base and therefore creating a webpage will be left for later examination. The online Discussion Forum is under the process of being created but Geraldine has yet to follow through on asking other online forums for any problems they may have experienced in operating them. Discussion left for next meeting.

**Parish Archive** - The Special Features area currently includes copy from former evacuees and Sr. Jo. Langley about her family. It is planned that this area will be online this month in time for the Langley family visiting for their memorial on 27th September.

**Copyright** - clearance has begun: Evening Telegraph and The Vine have agreed.

**Indexing** continues, once the Presbytery has returned to normal then we will revisit the task of scanning articles. At present it is estimated that about 2000 articles and photographs are in the archive.

Geraldine requested that if anyone sees information/article in the papers that involves our Parish or parishioners that the newspaper could be held onto for inclusion in the archive and passed onto her.

### **Pastoral Area ‘Ground Plan’:**

Canon is now Dean of newly defined pastoral area (Thrapston, Kettering, Corby, Oundle). Bishop wants steering group to oversee pastoral area with Pastoral Area Liaison Officer to co-ordinate. Deanery Pastoral Council will restart but with smaller membership. Interparochial activity encouraged (eg: Fr Brian’s bible talks and swaps with clergy). Canon proposed idea that, in the event of unforeseen circumstances leading to no priest being available to say mass, some lay leaders should be trained to take the service. These should be from local congregations. Appropriate to ask parishioners to choose secretly in each outlying mass centre. General approval given to idea and Canon to propose to Bishop. Any comments to Canon.

### **Parish Repairs and maintenance:**

St. Edward's: Presbytery refurbishment and Toilet/ramp work under way and should be finished by October. Decorating should provide an opportunity to brighten up Hall. Builders responsible for cleaning up.

Burton Lat: Ramp and minor repairs completed.

Rothwell: Work completed but need to ask Deacon to find a volunteer to keep Grotto tidy.

New signage for all churches now done.

**Health and Safety:**

No incidents reported. Risk and Fire assessment 2007 is with KSC secretary. Will be re-examined after move back into presbytery as this should be done annually.

**A.O.B:**

- Memorial to Langley family, a statue of OL of Walsingham, to be installed into baptistry after mass on September 27<sup>th</sup>.

When move back into presbytery, looking for help with archiving books etc. now in storage. Need to establish what is worth keeping and get valuation. Canon also asked for volunteers to do filing for both parish and new Deanery area. May need a secretary on paid basis if files to be kept up to date?

Closing Prayer from Canon John  
**November 9th.** at 8.00 pm.

Next meeting of Forum – **Monday**