

Minutes of the Parish AGM held on Sunday 29th April 2018 in Greyfriars Hall

Present: Fr Reg Gray OFM (PP), Peter Kehoe (Chair of the PPC), Fr Antony OFM Barry Paddington (Chair of Finance committee), Tom Osman (Parish Administrator – Secretary to AGM) and 42 parishioners [Joe and Maggie Norman, Ann Duddy, Anne-Marie Mitchell, Salvadora and Barry Paddington, Gillian Matthews, Jill Roe, Pat Carey, Bill Hampton, Patrick Murrell, John Callanan, Lauren Nemchenko and Sophie and Theo(!), Tessa Lawrence, Veronica Wainwright, Austin Davis, Paul and Sandy Gale, Pat Brennan, Katrina Newell, Eileen T. Keilaus, S W Bobruk, Ch. Machowski, David and Audrey Thistlewaite, Mary and Tony Bradley, Fred Youde, Sean Henneberry, Pat and Neil Quinn, Kate Tucker, Mary Kehoe, Mario Kossmann, Patrick Dillon, Helen Lee-Williams, Paul Keenan, Elisabeth Loveridge, Anthony Palmer, Paul Spindler.]

Apologies: received from Paul Stathers, Joe Duddy, Bernie Jordan, Mark Britten

1. Father Reg opened the meeting with a prayer and Fr Reg and Peter welcomed everyone.
2. Request for Notification of any other business. The chair asked that any matters arising from last year – option to raise any issues. None raised.
3. Introduction to Reports
 - comments by Chair of PPC (PDK)
 - a) passed 12 months – much to celebrate
Thanks to all who have organised any contributions
Reflecting on past 12 months – thanks for Franciscan Friary support
This situation with Friars could change in several of months' time
(July 2018 – Provincial Chapter)
PDK requested prayers for all that is going to happen
Thanks to Deacons John and Mario too for all their service
 - b) Two major changes:
 - i) Retirement of Mary Bradley – big thanks to all involved to recruit Tom
 - ii) Retirement of Paul Keenan – thanks to him for his service and to Paul and Sandy Gale and the Sacristy Team for taking up this role.
 - c) Tolerance needed for changes and omissions by Sacristy Team, if you have suggestions for the Team, please step forward and help
 - d) Fantastic occasions over past 12 months. Thanks given to all:
-David Wells Talk

- Children's Corner Initiative and Creation
 - Bible Study on Sunday mornings
 - Family Day at Clevedon/Friary Garden in September 2017
 - Epiphany Celebration (7th January 2018)
 - Mahola Day in February 2018 (Deacon Mario)
 - Astronomy Club (Deacon John Woodcock)
- e) Thanks go to choir, candlestick cleaners, Friary Fayre team, cleaners, welcomers, counters, founders of the Greyfriar Friendship club (helpers number 16), CYP&F Committee, maintenance team, PPC (apologies and thanks to anyone who has missed in these thanks)
- comments by Chair of Finance Committee (Barry Paddington -BP)
- BP – copies of the Financial Report circulated
- a) primary job of Finance Team – support parish priests and serve our parishioners
 - b) thank you to parishioners for your monetary contributions. The parish is 100% funded by parishioner donations
 - c) Thank you to all fundraisers
 - d) Thanks to Bill Hampton (GA Officer for the Parish)
 - e) Jan-Dec 2017. Spent £77,823 Compared to 2016: £79,003,
 - f) Jan-Dec 2017. Income: £83,369 Compared to 2016: £80,108
 Offertory was down – partly due to Standard Order payments
 We are in the black and not the red due to large bequests and donations. BP flagged up that we cannot rely upon these donations. Need to be mindful that the rising expenditure is partly due to inflation, e.g. larger increases to energy costs
 - g) San Damiano Fund – borrowed £30,000 from Friars we were given £9,500 for last project by Friars
 - i) Refurbishment of back of church due to water ingress which leaves us owing £18,000 to be paid by Nov 2019. On track to repay this money by the deadline if contributions continue as they are currently going.
 - ii) Lighting in the Sacristy – LEDs to reduce electricity costs
 - h) The Hall – the maintenance costs slightly exceeded the hall hire income in 2017. Parish contributes to the running costs of the hall
 - i) Questions to BP
 - Paul Gale Q: is the Finance Committee aware of buying energy wholesale with other churches? Yes, BP replied saying The Diocese has an overall larger say in where we purchase our energy

- Patrick Murrell – is there scope for investing money? BP replied that we can invest and the finance committee are looking into that through the Diocese
- Anthony Palmer – can we push the hall as a money generating enterprise? BP replied that the hall is for the Parish so we can push it to generate more income but it means the parish won't be able to use the facility as much. BP said that we can look into this though.
- Neil Quinn – care of equipment in the hall needs to be stressed to hirers BP – yes, we need to make hall hirers aware of their responsibility

j) see Booklet Report for more details – Annual Report for Year 2017

4. Announcement of Planned Events

- Downside Pilgrimage 23rd June 2018
- Family Day Out to Tyntesfield – 21st July 2018
- Astronomy Club for Families and others – Fridays (see Newsletter)
- Joe Norman asked about the Parish Picnic again? PDK replied that it will be part of the proposals for 2018-19.

5. Working with our fellow Catholic Parishes (TO)

- TO presented and encouraged the Parish to work with our neighbouring parishes and a great opportunity for doing this is the upcoming Pentecost Vigil Mass at 8pm on Saturday 19th May in St Francis, Nailsea.

Paul Keenan suggested historically that these Masses are 2-hour affairs but TO said he would find out more information about timings of the Pentecost Vigil and place in the newsletter. [Since meeting, TO emailed Fr Tom and Deacon Paul Reddington replied saying no longer than one hour and a half]

6. Discussion on Parish priorities

PDK asked all present to prioritise 4 themes on sheet for development in future

TO to put Priority Sheets in all pews for next weekend (5/6 May). Request made by Fr Reg and Fr Tony to fill them in during After Mass Announcements and entry in newsletter

7. Discussion of AOB items

- a) Request for Name List of Parishioners attending AGM on minutes – see above
- b) Joe Norman – change of venue from newsletter for Schools Speaking Contest, Westbury-on-Trym to Apostles Room, Clifton Cathedral
- c) Rosary on the Coast – 3pm in the church this afternoon (Sun 29th April)
- d) Mary Bradley - Year of Mission information? TO to place spare Year of Mission booklets out in the Narthex for all to peruse
- e) Pat Quinn - Donations to charities, Borderlands, Mahola Project, Springboard, what is happening with these donations? PDK replied that the proposal agreed at AGM – 2017 was for two years and thus 2018, £1330 would be donated to the same in 2018-19 unless Finance Committee advise otherwise. BP added that there is no reason no to continue for another year.

See below for Information from 2017 AGM:

[Planned Giving: This arose from a proposal that as a parish we could and should make a donation to outside the parish. The parish had given a donation of £10,000 over a period of 2 years to Andrew House, for which they have been very grateful. The PPC are proposing that a sum of £4,000-5,000 be given to a number of organisations and proposed suggestions were Borderlands, the Mahola Project and Springboard (early May 2018), a local charity, children with additional needs.]

8. Closing Prayer by Father Reg