

**St Mary's Leyland
Parish Council
Wednesday 1st July 2015**

PRESENT: Fr Jonathan, Fr Paul, Sister Veronica, Alex Anthony, Peter Barron, Gaye Beirne, Christine Lemmon, Ann Ward, Sue Mills, Edward Almond, Lesley Raven, Jeremy Watson, Jenny Hollinshead.

APOLOGIES: Liz McGrath, Pauline Strachan, Celia Neill, Fr Stephen, Tim Sullivan.

INTRODUCTIONS: New PPC member Jenny Hollinshead was welcomed by the chair Peter Barron & all present introduced themselves to Jenny.

PRAYER: Led by Gaye Beirne

MINUTES: The Minutes of the last meeting were accepted by all present.

MATTERS ARISING: The Way of Life parish initiative will be discussed as an agenda item during this meeting.

Fr Jonathan confirmed that the work to be done around the Safeguarding Policy is in hand after an enquiry by Sue Mills.

PARISH EVENTS:

Holy Communion Celebrations
Good Shepherd Mass
Mass for the Sick and Housebound
Head of School Resignation & resulting changes
Pentecost Service
Leyland Festival – CTL Float
Mayoral Service – Fr Jonathan Chaplain for the year.
PPC election process
Service at St Anne's
Joint Celebration Service after Holy Communions.

PARISH INITIATIVE: Fr Jonathan commented that we should reflect on the initiative at this mid point of the year – where do we go from here?
There has been positive feedback from Parishioners to the initiative which is very much alive and kicking in the Parish and in particular the initiative for the lapsed over the Lent period was very beneficial. The chosen theme for the next two weeks is Mercy and a two week gap between themes does seem a suitable. The introduction before the start of the mass is working well and has been welcomed. Most present thought that it was gaining the attention of the Congregation and might be further improved by a pre mass bell followed by the introduction.

Fr Jonathan shared that in time we can all proclaim the deeds we do because the Lord is inside us and should be proclaimed. Evil is strong and wants to isolate us but gradually people should enter a mindset of sharing good news and experiences. Be braver, it is a cultural thing to stay within one's self. Look into and explore the Joy of the Gospel individually and as a group as many ideas will result.

GUINEA BISSAU VISIT: As previously discussed there has been an offer from Fr Celso, one of four Missionary Priests, for a group of Parishioners to visit the community in Guinea Bissau in which our Parish have made a £10,000 contribution towards the building of a new church. Fr Jonathan is keen to accept this invitation and make preparations for a visit possibly later this year. People are anxious about visiting certain African countries from a safety point of view but there does not seem a problem in Guinea Bissau. Edward read a summary of the proposal and Fr Jonathan commented that the visit would be beneficial to gain knowledge of other places and cultures and it might also be possible to get the youth of the Parish involved. It was not thought that fundraising would be possible as it would only benefit a small number of people. Peter Barron will look into travel requirements and report back. There is no definite date in mind but possibly sometime in November or it was suggested to wait until 2016 when the church project would be completed.

IDEAS/PROJECTS for 2015/16 : Raising £10,000 was a helpful amount for a focus for fundraising activities.

Positive ideas/fundraising:

1. Rosemere Clinic at Royal Preston Hospital – used by many parishioners and their families.
2. Re-tarmacking of the car park and painting of car park spaces (estimate needed)

Time of launch – September. Time to be thinking about initiating the fundraising.

Target monitor chart would be useful for parishioners to help to work towards the amount. For example car parking places on a chart could be coloured in each time a specific amount is raised.

Could we go for a community grant?

Could we run two ideas at the same time?

Working party to discuss the ideas and plans; Fr Jonathan, Lesley, Peter, Gaye & Pam Baron.

Two potholes on the car park are extremely dangerous and need immediate attention. We are in the process of getting estimates for the repairs.

A.O.B.

1. Fr Jonathan mentioned that the accounts are in a favourable situation. Car park repairs are an immediate cost. The kitchen in the Priory House has been replaced. The Angel windows in the Blessed Sacrament chapel need attention. The Link corridor needs attention from heat energy point of view as it is inefficient. Heating costs are high because of the Management System controls needing adjustment. Fr Jonathan's car may need replacing in the near future.

2. The Benedictine Living experience day is on Saturday 18th July. There is a programme and poster with interest groups for the day. The challenge is how do modern people relate to God? How do we do this as Christians today? The church has to develop and change in time.

3. Edward Almond had a letter from the MP re the Initiative form from the environment. She couldn't go to the meeting. She praised CAFOD and the work it does.

4. Patronal Feast; For the past two years we have celebrated this with a retreat and an Art Exhibition. Are we celebrating again this year and how? Hymns to Our Lady has been suggested; a songs of praise idea.

Parishioners to be asked for ideas. Lesley to ask Kate Jordan whether or not there is a Holy Hour for the Patronal Feast on the Thursday before.

5. Peter Barron, on behalf of the PPC, thanked Ann Ward for her membership and contributions to the Parish over the last decade. Her input has been very supportive and she has contributed with enthusiasm.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING; Thursday 10th September 2015 at 7.30pm

CHAIR; Edward Almond

PRAYERS; Sister Veronica

Meeting closed at 9pm