

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

St John Vianney, Halewood

Tuesday 19th July 2016

The meeting opened at 6pm with a prayer led by Fr. Vin.

Present: Fr Vin (acting chair), Agnes Cannon, Richard Coakley, Emily Crompton, Peter Crompton, Jenny Jones, Geraldine Marsh (from 6:20pm), Jim Moore, Chris Myles. Invited attendees: Maureen Conley, Jo Hennessey, Hazel.

Apologies: Carole Clancy, Kami Lester

Minutes of Previous Meeting: accepted as true record

Matters arising: none

Notification of Any Other Business: none

Correspondence: none

Vianney's Voice: A Sport's Day is being planned for the future and will take place in SFX sports field. Five members of Vianney's Voice will be going to Lourdes later this month.

With You Always: all has progressed well this year. Thanks were expressed to Kami Lester and all the catechists for their work. She has met with Fr Matthew and the first meeting of the new year will be held on 29th September. Parents of Year 3 children need to give their consent to Chris Myles as soon as possible.

Tots: continues to go well. The team will continue to run two sessions during the summer as part of Sure Start.

Schools: St Mark's school has recently celebrated its 50th anniversary. Richard Coakley presented a potted history of the school developments. Bishop Tom celebrated an anniversary Mass in school where an assembly was held for all parents. Carole Clancy spoke about the early years of the school at the Children's University event at Hope University. The author, Frank Lawless, gave a talk to the children about his time at St. Mark's. Gill Holland reported that letters about the change to sacramental timing have been sent out to parents of children at Holy Family school. Jan Cunningham confirmed that the school was awarded the grade of 'outstanding' in its recent Religious Inspection.

Parish developments: these are on hold until Fr. Matthew arrives as it will now be his responsibility to plan for the future. Fr Vin finishes at St. John Vianney on the last weekend in August (27th/28th August). In the interim before Fr. Matthew joins us supply priests will be provided by the Widnes team.

Baptism: all parents needing baptism for their children in the near future have dates for the administration of the sacrament. As a result all Sundays are fully booked until December. It was agreed that no more than 3 children should be baptised at any session. There is potential for a serious backlog in September/October. Fr Vin is to approach Fr Matthew to ask if he could consider holding some baptisms on Saturdays. Information about this will be reported in the newsletter. The Council was pleased to hear that Carole Clancy hopes to return to the Baptism programme in the very near future.

RCIA: To date, one candidate has registered for the next programme.

Health & Safety Committee: Jim Harrison is managing health and safety issues. He will oversee a form that the Parish Priest is required to complete with respect to Health & Safety issues.

Safeguarding: Chris Myles and Agnes Cannon attended the annual safeguarding Mass for our Pastoral Area. The Mass which was celebrated by Archbishop Malcolm was held at St. Paschal Baylon. Jayne Cross coordinated everything and the Council expressed their thanks for her efforts.

Ladies' Group: the group held a Barn Dance on 17th June. Once expenses were paid a profit of £550 was made. The group agreed to give £300 to the Lourdes fund with the remaining to be kept to fund various sundry costs that might arise during the year. Events planned for the future include a City Tour social, the Spirit of Christmas event, Cinderella at the Echo Arena, and the presentation of a Dementia talk.

The group is overseeing fund-raising for a Calvary to be erected at Holy Family church once the developments are complete. This will be a memorial to former parishioners of St. Andrew's church.

Any Other Business: none

Date of next meeting: TBC

Fr Vin held a small social to express his thanks to the members of the Parish Council