

PASTORAL CO-ORDINATING GROUP MEETING
Thursday 2nd April 2009

PRESENT: Fr Robert	George Phillips	John Ballard
Jacek Kostuch	Mary Phillips	June Blakemore
Ann Bassett	Tom Regan	Linda Nolan
Sarah Down	Breda Kurth	Cathy Pope

1. OPENING PRAYER

Father Robert welcomed Lionel Rigby to the meeting

2. APOLOGIES: Deacon John, Sharon Mileham

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: Agreed. Noted that February should be altered to March

PARISH WEBSITE: Fr. Robert introduced Lionel Rigby who runs the parish website. He also drew the PCG's attention to the questionnaire he had prepared.

Cost of Website - £98.00 for two years of website space.

Possible use of website was discussed and the following suggestions were made:

- Holidaymakers/visitors to find out times of masses and where the church is.
- Up to date information for our own parishioners to include items from the weekly news bulletin and minutes of the J & P meeting.
- Parish directory to be included.
- Fr. Robert's Sunday homilies to be included in form of a 'blog'.
- Photographs and small reports of church social events.

Links

- Fr. Robert to assess any new links and PCG to discuss at their monthly meetings.
- Accessibility facilities for people with disabilities in line with the Disability Discrimination Act.

ACTION:

PCG minutes to be sent to Lionel to form the basis of monthly update. Lionel and Jacek to meet together to compose a brief policy to cover the control of the website.

Fr. Robert did comment that it was important that the website should not become too large and unwieldy. It was better for it to be smaller and up to date.

CHURCH EMAIL ADDRESS: Initially only members of PCG to have access to Email address.

4. MATTERS ARISING: Fr. Robert showed the PCG a copy of the letter explaining the "Procession of Gifts" on Maundy Thursday that is enclosed in the newsletter. John Ballard commented that the Peace and Justice Group had read it and thought that it was very clear.

FUNDRAISING: Fr. Robert drew attention to the outline of fundraising issues he had prepared for the meeting.

- **State of Parish Finances:** Tom Regan reported that general income was 15% lower than last year and that there was an £8,000 deficit on last year. This was largely due to the fact that mass collections, fundraising and bank interest were down.
- **Parish Debt:** now £26,164. Fr. Robert emphasised that the parish debt has to have priority since that money could be used for projects in more needy parishes. We are committed to paying off £10,000 a year.
- **Heating System:** Fundraising issues have been highlighted by the need of replacing the heating system in the church which is a very costly outlay. The elderly and infirm suffer much with the poor heating in the church.

MEANS OF FUNDRAISING

- **Second collections and Appeals:** There is already one second collection a month. This is made up of compulsory diocesan collections and special appeals i.e. Cafod and missionary appeals. (List of this year's compulsory collections given to PCG) Fr. Robert commented that second collections only had the end result of normal giving being divided between the two collections.
- **Major Fundraising: Autumn Bazaar, Auction, Plant Sale.** It was agreed that the existing major fundraising events were very effective, although it was noted that only a portion of the CWL's auction went towards the parish. However it was felt that to increase the number of major fundraising events in the year would not be advisable as it put too much burden on the comparatively small number of parishioners who were involved in this way.
- **Other fundraising:** Fr. Robert commented that the parish took an important role in raising funds for other causes. The CWL raised a lot of funds for other needs as did the parish as a whole through Lenten alms, Advent giving and its response to other appeals.
- **Minor fundraising:** The meeting was reminded of the church debt box in the porch. George Phillips introduced the idea of giving concerts in order to tap a wider pool of givers. Jacek Kostuch reminded the PCG that St. Mewan Sinfonia was giving a concert in June. George also commented that the outcome of fundraising events had to be worth the effort put in. Cathy Pope asked whether the idea of hiring out the church rooms should be reconsidered.
- **Feast week and Gift day:** A small number of parishioners worked very hard and Fr. Robert mentioned that it was evident from the number of returned gift envelopes that it was also a small proportion who contributed financially.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

It was agreed that fundraising ideas should be deferred to next month's PCG meeting as a separate agenda item and that the Chairman would respond to the letters relating to fundraising ideas indicating this. It was also agreed that fundraising ideas put forward should be followed by a concrete proposal for the PCG to approve.

Church Tapestry: The immediate solution to the problem with the tapestry is to move the candles further away from it. The idea of scotch-guarding the tapestry with fire retardant spray was put forward. Ann said that she would make inquiries.

6. JUSTICE & PEACE REPORT

John Ballard reported that there were no minutes from last Tuesday's meeting. Three members went to the Cafod Climate Campaign day at Buckfast Abbey. They would like to

distribute Cafod "hands", a leaflet about Cafod's climate campaign in preparation for an international meeting on climate change in Copenhagen in December John Ballard asked if the leaflets could be given out at a convenient time after Easter. This was agreed.

7. REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

Tom reported that necessary repairs, repainting etc will be assessed after the financial year has ended.

8. DEANERY MATTERS

June said that, as the Deanery Representative, it was her task to represent parishioners and their concerns at the meeting and to bring information back. Cathy asked June to take news of Dorkinen, the multi-faith centre to the meeting and asked whether June could bring back any good fundraising ideas.

9. SOCIAL GROUP REPORT:

None

Sewing Group – None, other than they are encouraging support of plant sale.

10. ECUMENICAL MATTERS

John Ballard reported that the first meeting of the Churches Together Forum on 16th March was well attended as are the series of Lent meditations on a Wednesday evening. Sylvia Ryan and John Ballard, together with Fr. Robert are St. Augustine's representatives on the Forum. Minutes of St. Austell, Par and Mevagissey Churches Together are going to be displayed on the notice board. Cathy mentioned that the Radio Cornwall stand at the Royal Cornwall Show is going to have a multi-faith table and that there was a multi-faith pilgrimage planned for June. Cathy will have more details of that later.

Date of next meeting:

Thursday 14th April 2009 7.30pm
Followed by glass of wine with Judy and Mike!