

## MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 9 November 2006

### PRESENT:

Father Michael	Chairperson	Anne Coombes	SVP
Joyce Aylward	Legion of Mary	Clare Chiles	Bereavement
Sheila Smith	Prayer Group	Jackie Murray	Parishioner
Arthur Jones	Catechist	Kirsty O'Brien	Altar Server
Paul Relf	Sacristy	Irene O'Brien	Altar Server

The meeting began at 7.03 pm with a prayer.

### APOLOGIES:

Jeni and Michael Burridge, Tim Hannifin, Frances Graham and Seamus O'Connor.

### MINUTES:

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true record.

### MATTERS ARISING:

There were no matters arising.

### MATTERS ARISING FROM EACH COMMITTEE:

#### Worship/Spirituality

Paul commented that the organ has been adjusted to make it sound louder: a piece of wood preventing the full opening of the swell box has been removed.

There are only two organists and one guitarist in the Parish which puts a lot of pressure on these musicians to provide music for Sunday Masses, as the ideal is to have some musical accompaniment at all Masses. Sharon Buckley-Draisey has offered to play 'once in a blue moon' but this is not really a solution. The Filipinos have been asked to integrate a lot more in the Parish and there may be some musicians amongst them.

A request was made for more popular hymns from the past to be played. At the same time a request was made to sing less of the ancient hymns with 'thee' and 'thou'. Finally, most people know the older music and complaints are received at new music which they don't always know. It was suggested that modern music should encourage new people to attend Church but does this happen?. Fr. M. replied that the music was chosen by the Liturgy group to fit in with the liturgy of the day. The whole message of Sunday is important – it is not just about "nice" hymns.

People will need to be suitably catechised with the arrival of the new Mass. One Saturday a month could be a Latin Mass!

Morrison Council of Churches is meeting at Pentrepoeth Methodist Church on Monday 20 November. New officers are being sought and new people to attend the meetings.

A United Carol Service will be held outside St David's Church, Woodfield Street on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 11.00 am.

A reminder was issued about the centenary of Zoar Chapel in 2007.

The Legion of Mary has been visiting the local Nursing Homes.

The Prayer Group hosted a successful Day of renewal at the Sacred Heart Centre – there were twenty people in attendance. The next day will focus on Forgiveness and Healing but this has yet to be arranged. Greenfields has been instrumental in starting a prayer group at 213 Sway Road, at 8.00 pm on Monday evenings. There are currently 20 people attending who pray for the concern about drugs and promiscuity among the youth of Morriston. Frances and Sheila have been asked to speak about their jobs at Greenfields and they were warmly welcomed at the launch service.

### Education

The Confirmation programme will be starting on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November. This date has been advertised in the Parish Calendar and will also be in the newsletter. New material has arrived and a meeting will be arranged to discuss this.

### Social Concerns

The SVP is continuing to visit parishioners in their homes and also at St Martin's Court. Members attended the district meeting last night. They are currently organising a list of people who might need help over Christmas and are hoping to sponsor two people in India. Fr. Michael thought that this might be a problem as SVP funds have to stay in this country.

The Mass of Remembrance was very well attended and many favourable comments were received. The Bereavement Group was present and gave support to many of the grieving individuals.

## **ADVENT/CHRISTMAS**

An Advent Preparation evening will be held on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November at 5.00 pm.

A Penitential Service will be held at St Benedict's, Clydach on 7<sup>th</sup> December.

The Mass of Anointing will take place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent.

A Carol Service will take place in the Church on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 7.00 pm followed by refreshments – it is hoped that many will remain and help to put up the Christmas tree.

The major problem with Christmas falling on a Monday is to get the message across that there will be no Sunday evening Mass of the Fourth Sunday of Advent. Parishioners must therefore attend morning masses to fulfil their Sunday obligation. There will be a Mass in the evening, BUT it will be the Vigil Mass of Christmas. Attendance at this Mass will fulfil the Christmas obligation.

## **SACRED HEART CENTRE**

Owing to the very heavy rains in October, the Centre has been flooded yet again but the large hall was not affected this time. The council was alerted and came immediately to clear the drains and supplied a large number of sandbags to block the doorways in the hope of preventing further water damage. Arthur Jones and his 'gang' moved in to help clear up and install dryers. Part of the floor has risen in the small hall and the altro flooring skirting

boards have peeled off. The Head of Highways promised to look into the reason for the flooding, which is caused by the faulty installation of new drains further up Pentrepoeth Road; it is not just the Centre that has been affected. Our Insurance company will contact the Council and sue for damages.

## **FUTURE EVENTS**

A Parish social evening has been arranged for Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December at the Red Lion. Brian and Colleen Griffiths are arranging the entertainment, buffet and an auction. The profit from the evening will go towards the Parish Project for Nepal. If successful, it is hoped that this will be the first of many such evenings.

Father Michael has been approached by Val Newton of Wales Romanian Aid in the hope that the parish will adopt her charity as the Parish Project for the next two years. Val continues with her visits since the death of her husband, and has been instrumental in building numerous homes for poor families at about £500 each. Father Michael will invite her to the parish where she can give more details of her work.

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no business to discuss.

## **DATNM**

Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00pm at 7 pm.

Father Michael thanked all who had attended, and the meeting ended at 8.05 pm with a prayer.