

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 12 June 2008

PRESENT:

Father Michael	Chairperson	Pauline Morris	Social Committee
Rodolpho Badilla	Legion of Mary	Vince Mullan	Legion of Mary
Clare Chiles	Bereavement	Seamus O'Connor	SVP
Anne Coombes	SVP	Paul Relf	Sacristan
Frances Graham	Prayer Group	Sheila Smith	Council of Churches
Heather Harris	Catechist	Mansel Usher	Parishioner
Arthur Jones	Catechist		

The meeting began at 7.03 pm with a prayer.

APOLOGIES:

Jeni Burridge, Michael Burridge, Jackie Murray and Jackie Dahlgren.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true record, with an apology from Fr. Michael for their late distribution.

MATTERS ARISING:

Jo Dalton, an Evangelist, was also speaking at the Charismatic Conference.

The altar servers' cassocks are slowly being replaced and there are enough to cover all sizes and ages now.

MATTERS ARISING FROM EACH COMMITTEE:

Worship/Spirituality

The Music group would appreciate more members. There are sufficient sopranos but there is a shortage of alto, tenor and bass voices. In addition another pianist/organist is desperately needed. The music of Holy Week went down very well.

The new sacristans are carrying out their duties at all masses now.

The Legion of Mary continues to visit parishioners in their homes, the hospital and nursing homes.

A spiritual bouquet has been offered for Rev. Phillip Harris and Joyce Aylward.

Canon Morrissey continues to visit the nursing homes. The Legion continues to look for new members to visit and to attend meetings at Rod's house. Fr. M. expressed thanks for the "Flower Petal" prayer commenting it was a great help to know that people were praying for him each day.

The Prayer Group continues to meet on a Monday evening. The Irish Charismatic Conference will take place in Athlone on 22nd June. 8 members from Wales attended the Youth Conference with Fr. Leyshon. Each Diocese has a Youth group now because of

World Youth Day in Sydney, July 2008. The Annual Charismatic Conference will take place at Lampeter from 18th to 21st August. A poster and flyer has been given for display in the Church porch. The website is www.CCRU.org uk

Education

Confirmation takes place at 10.30 am Mass, Sunday 15th June – this should be a good celebration with plenty of parish participation. The four candidates have raised £460 from their sponsored walk. An early Easter prevented a sponsored fast. Fr. M. thanked Arthur and Heather for their hard work. Arthur commented that when groups are small, it is hard to get a good debate going and that sessions are “messed up” if two members are absent.

Social Concerns

The SVP continues to meet regularly and members are visiting 4/5 times a week and also transporting people to Mass and the Over 50's club.

The SVP are sending a family from this parish to the Ozanam Holiday Centre in North Wales. Bernard is making arrangements, through twinnage, for sponsorship of a priest in India for three years.

The Social Group has been very successful in staging the Italian Night and Fr. M. congratulated them on its success. The next themed night will be a Celtic Night. The Parish Quiz was also very enjoyable and it is hoped to repeat this in October. A Craft Fayre has been arranged for this Saturday.

The Bereavement Group has not been very active owing to members' personal problems. More members will be recruited with further training sessions, possibly on a different night to Saturday. Support is needed more than counselling since people are afraid to talk after the death of a loved one.

Administration

White lines have been laid on the road outside the Church to ease the parking situation. In particular this will make things easier for coffins being brought into the Church. The First Aid boxes will be installed in the Centre and back room of Church during the next few weeks.

There were concerns about the poor state of the Presbytery roof as dry rot could set in. The possibility of a grant to repair it will be looked into.

MORRISTON COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Over the past two years, the Catholic Church has been side-lined by the Morriston Council of Churches. Despite providing one third of the numbers at Unity events, nothing happens to involve members from the Church. 50% of the people who attended the Unity Service at Morriston Hospital were Catholic yet there was no acknowledgement of this and similarly the Good Friday service. The MCC minutes thanked Tabernacle for their involvement but there was no acknowledgement that the service started at Sacred Heart Church. Many years ago it was decided that the Catholic Church would support Christian Aid and the other Churches would in turn support Cafod. However, there has been no support for Cafod, and

consequently we provide less support to Christian Aid. Our Centenary Harvest Festival at Sacred Heart Centre was very poorly attended by other Churches despite promises to attend and supply music, etc. It is time to “put the brakes on” and not promote the Joint Unity Service next year but hold one of our own.

Individual members of the Catholic Church would continue to attend the various unity services, but they would not be authorised to speak on behalf of the Catholic Church.

SACRED HEART CENTRE

The Centre is still in danger of flooding and though the use of sandbags has saved major damage, Fr. M. is making enquiries about various forms of flood defences. Ideally flood gates should be placed on the inside of the doors and could cost approximately £700 to £800 per door, but would they work? Arthur Jones knows of a customer with knowledge of a similar system and he will make enquiries and report back.

FUTURE EVENTS

Fr. M. outlined his holiday plans and informed the meeting about his supply cover – Fr. John Murphy will be with us during his absence. There will also be a Mission Appeal from the Comboni Fathers on 13th July.

A meeting to discuss further details for World Youth Day takes place this Sunday at the Cathedral.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no further business.

DATNM

Thursday 9th October at 7.00 pm.

Father Michael thanked all who had attended, and the meeting ended at 8.27 pm with a prayer.