

Holy Rosary Parish & Finance Council Meeting

Date and time of meeting: 2nd October 2024 @ 7pm

Attendees		
Msg P Inch (PI)	J Hardman (JH)	A Stokes (AS)
P Cunningham (PC)	J Richardson (JR)	P Crabtree (PCr) – Minutes
Apologies		
P Kelly (PK)		
Item discussed		
1	<p>PI opened the newly constituted Holy Rosary Parish & Finance Council and welcomed all members. Apologies from PK were noted.</p>	
2	<p>Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Parish Hall</i> PI advised that all the external woodwork to the former parish centre has been painted. This cost more than originally estimated, as the work required four coats of paint and though this work has been an improvement, it has highlighted that the woodwork is deteriorating. Longer term this may cause a problem, and it will be monitored. The toilet in the parish hall has been refurbished and new taps fitted to the sink in the hall. PI advised that the Baby Sensory tenant is unlikely to stay long-term and may vacate by Christmas. This presents an option for the Parish to retain the lounge area and reinstate use by the parish or find a new tenant. However, leasing the room generates rental income to the parish and PI is confident that a new tenant could be secured. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Church</i> PI highlighted that the whole of the internal flooring of the main seating area of the church has been recarpeted and the kneelers fully repaired. PI referred to an historic design fault affecting the concrete pillars to the main structure of church, i.e. the internal steel rods are beginning to perish, with some rust seeping into paintwork. The internal walls were painted five years ago and now need repainting. PI also referred to problems observed during funerals whereby the location of the coffin in the aisle makes it difficult for wheelchair users to come forward with others for Holy Communion. PI suggested the second/third row of benches could be shortened which would create space to alleviate this problem. PI asked the meeting to approve this work. PI referred to the house on Aintree Lane adjacent to the driveway entrance to the rear car park. While the owner has undertaken work to erect fencing and has completed some resurfacing work to the land, ownership of the land has been retained by the church and PI has an agreement in place regarding this arrangement. 	
3	<p>Parish Missals On the first Sunday of Advent, the Parish Mass books become obsolete. This prompted a discussion about whether or not to replace the Mass books. If not, readings each week</p>	

	<p>could be included in the newsletter as has been done in the pat. The other option is to replace the books like-for-like. PI advised that for this option, the parish would need to purchase up to 120 Mass books at a total of £3,600 (one book for each year). However PI advised that Redemptorist is producing a Missal that has all three years in one edition. PI asked the meeting to advise their preferred option.</p>
4	<p>Christmas 2024 It was agreed to repeat the same services and format as the last few years.</p>
5	<p>Parish Workers Night Out This was held last year at the Alba Restaurant in Melling. It was agreed to book the same venue for this year's parish workers night out (to take place early in new year).</p>
6	<p>DSC update AS is Holy Rosary's representative and he outlined the main discussion held at last meeting re Families of Parishes where it was agreed to make ours one single Deanery. In addition, we have ceased membership of the SVP with a view to introducing Caritas, which has similar objectives as the SVP but is locally managed and less bureaucratic in operation and structure. There will be a facilitated process to move towards the nine parishes in Deanery to become one, which will enable a range of resources to be pooled to maximise use and build on best practice.</p>
7	<p>Safeguarding PI acknowledged the work completed by PCr (Safeguarding Coordinator) in completing the recent audit, which is almost complete.</p>
8	<p>Ecumenical issues PI referred to a Christmas pilgrimage that will facilitate a mobile carol service to each of the churches in Aintree Village.</p> <p>In addition, given the biggest issue facing many people living in Aintree Village is loneliness, it has been suggested to stage a Summer 'stay at home' week which will involve organising and hosting a range of activities and events. K Collins is the link representing our parish.</p>
9	<p>AOB <i>Covid</i> – JR highlighted that Covid is still active in our communities and advised caution when Eucharistic Ministers are serving. PI to remind Eucharistic Ministers to be especially careful wiping the Chalice when serving.</p> <p><i>Children's Chapel</i> – It has been noted that families using the children's chapel may not realise that noise levels can be heard in church during Mass, and this is causing disruption during Mass. PI to put a sign in the area to remind parents to keep noise levels down.</p>
10	<p>Date and time of next meeting Wednesday 4 Dec @ 7pm.</p>

