

**Parish of St Francis of Assisi, Llay and Christ the King, Rossett**  
**Minutes of the Parish Advisory Meeting**  
**6 July 2017 at 7.45 pm**  
**Parish Hall of St Francis of Assisi**

**Present:** Canon DB Lordan, Parish Priest; Geraldine Downing, Parish Secretary; Ashley Rogers, Finance Committee; John Fernee, Property Group

**Item 1 - Opening Prayer**

Canon Lordan opened the meeting with prayer.

**Item 2 – Apologies**

None received

**Item 3 – Approval of Minutes from the last meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting on 23 February 2017 were accepted as a true record.

**Item 4 – Property**

John Fernee advised that there was nothing to report on the property front.

**Item 5 – Finance**

Geraldine advised that the parish financial return had been completed and submitted with little difficulty. The new software, SAGE 50, is working well.

Ashley advised that in the circumstances it was unnecessary for Geraldine to maintain both SAGE and QUICKEN as this was double handling. It was agreed that for the moment QUICKEN would be maintained for Gift Aid only and that maintenance of the parish accounts would now be carried out on SAGE only.

**Item 6 – AOB**

The low turnout this evening prompted a discussion on the future of the PAC. Geraldine proposed that consideration be given to closing down the PAC and replace it with an annual parish meeting to report to the parishioners items such as: Finance; property matters; future proposals affecting the parish; concerns raised by parishioners and consideration of any ideas suggested by parishioners. The reasoning behind the proposal is as follows:

The PAC has been in existence for many years and was most active when the parish was organised differently. It is also noted that during those years, the number and variety of parishioners were very different; the parish was involved in a number of interests; there was greater involvement by parishioners in parish life and there was also a significant building project within the parish. All of these issues meant that the PAC was very helpful in building and nurturing the parish at that time.

However, many things have changed since then and support and interest in the PAC has significantly reduced, not just in attendance but also the willingness to take on the various roles. It is also noted that very few of the published Minutes are taken from the back of the church, indicating still further the lack of interest and support. As a consequence the question has to be asked – does the parish really need or want

a PAC and all the formality that goes with it; or would it be more beneficial to everyone to have a much simpler system of a single annual meeting where matters already mentioned can be reported back to the parishioners all in the environment of an open forum and without the need for a formal structure and operation.

Of course, if anything arises at any time within the parish, a parish meeting can be called e.g. any developments regarding "Into the Future"

John Fernee raised the point that it was believed that the PAC existed because the Bishop wanted the parish to have one. There were different views on this, so it was agreed that Geraldine would contact the Bishop to clarify this point.

Canon advised that when we have the information the entire issue will be put to the parishioners at the AGM in September for their consideration and comment.

**ACTION POINT: Geraldine to contact Bishop Peter re PAC**

**Item 6 – Closing Prayer**

There being no further business Canon closed the meeting with prayer.

**Date of Next Meeting: The AGM Sunday 17 September 2017 after the 11.00am Mass in Llay**