

Parish of St Francis of Assisi, Llay and Christ the King, Rossett

Minutes of the Parish Advisory Meeting

23 February 2017 at 7.45 pm

Parish Hall of St Francis of Assisi

Present: Canon DB Lordan, Parish Priest; Geraldine Downing, Parish Secretary; Helen Zammit-Willson; Don Downing; Barrie Williams; Carol Williams; Ashley Rogers

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 20 October 2016 were accepted as a true record.

Item 4 - Action points from last meeting

Item 5 – Helen reported that she has been in contact with the Bishop for a progress report on the parish appraisal. The Bishop advised there was no further progress to report at the moment. Helen informed us that the whole process is likely to take up to 5 years, so we shouldn't be surprised or alarmed at the time taken.

Item 5 – 100 Club Update

Peter Burke, a parishioner from Rossett, is now running the 100 Club.

Item 6 – Social and Fund Raising Update

Ashley drew our attention to “The Great Get Together”, in memory of murdered MP Jo Cox. The initiative is designed to bring communities together by a number of events e.g. street parties, picnics, baking competitions etc. It was proposed that we contact Llay Parish Council to advise them that we would want to be part of it, as a community. Those present were unfamiliar with the initiative and a short discussion took place. Ashley agreed to contact the local councillor to find out what was happening locally. Following the meeting, Ashley advised the parish office that he has been in contact with Cllr Rob Walsh. Cllr Walsh informed that the matter has been brought up at the Wrexham Council meeting and that he would keep Ashley informed of what the Council is hoping to do and who will be coordinating it. He thinks that the Community Council in Llay may not be involved as there are elections due in May.

Geraldine informed the meeting that a vintage afternoon tea party to be held in sometime in summer was under consideration. This was warmly welcomed due to the success of the first one in 2015. The proceeds would go to Nightingale House.

Item 7 – Property

The property group advised the following update on jobs completed within the parish since 2016 AGM.

- Llay church – new door closers fitted to narthex doors
- Llay church entrance toilet – new toilet seat fitted
- Llay church internal door to hall – keypad lock and new handles fitted
- Llay church and hall – several pictures of Pope Francis and Bishop Peter hung on the walls
- Parish hall entrance door – door bell installed for the office
- Parish hall disabled toilet – new motion sensor installed
- Parish hall corridor – 2 new LED lights installed

The new lighting and security measures (lock and doorbell) are particularly welcome.

It was asked that consideration be given to redecorating the interior of our church in Llay. All agreed it needed doing and that it would be disruptive. With this in mind it was suggested that we obtain the relevant quotes and aim to do the work whilst Canon is on his summer holidays. This would cause the least disruption to all. Canon said he would give the proposal due consideration in time but not at this precise moment as he was working to a very busy schedule.

Canon drew out attention to a storage heating system he had had installed in the small parish hall in May 2016. The system is “Fischer Future Heat UK” and includes one wall-mounted storage radiator and one mobile “electric stove”. Canon is familiar with this system and pointed out that it was energy efficient and controlled by a wireless digital thermostat. The electric stove is very welcome in the parish office, it is much warmer than the simple convector heater.

Item 8 – Lenten and Easter Services

Penitential Services will be held as follows

Saturday 18 March at the Cathedral 10.00am to 12 noon

Thursday 30 March at St Francis of Assisi, Llay, 7pm in the evening with Stations of the Cross

24 Hours for the Lord – will be held Friday 24th March to Saturday 25th March at St Winifride’s, Holywell.

Stations of the Cross will be held on each of the following days at St Francis of Assisi, Llay

- Friday 10th March - with CYTUN
- Friday 17th March - ?
- Friday 24th March – Geraldine Downing
- Thursday 30 March - Helen Zammit-Willson including Penitential Service
- Friday 7th April – Ashley Rogers and Carol Williams

Saturday 8th April – Proposed to take a coach to the Franciscan Retreat Centre in Pantasaph to walk the Stations of the Cross. Geraldine will arrange this.

ITEM 10 AOB

The meeting was reminded that this year sees the 100th Anniversary of the Apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima. Geraldine and Don had attended Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 18 February as Cardinal Nichols Consecrated England and Wales to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. It was also the first visit of the National Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima. It was a great occasion and was filmed by EWTN UK so do look out for it. The Statue will be visiting each Cathedral in England & Wales during 2017. Wrexham is yet to advise a date but we are hopeful it will be in October. Our Diocese will be holding an event in Bala on Saturday 13 May 2017. Geraldine will provide more details very soon and it was agreed that we should make every effort to fill a coach with parishioners for the occasion. Geraldine will organise this.

Item 11 – Closing Prayer

Canon closed the meeting with prayer.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 6 July 2017 after the 7.00pm Mass in Llay, about 7.45pm