

Parish of St Francis of Assisi, Llay and Christ the King, Rossett
Minutes of the Parish Annual Meeting
15 September 2013 at 12 noon
Parish Hall of St Francis of Assisi

Present:

Canon Lordan – parish priest
Helen Zammit-Willson – chair
Anne Aitken
Ashley Rogers
Jasmine Zammit-Willson
Geraldine Downing
Eileen Chandler
Roger Chandler
Lorraine Pizzey
Sheilagh Humphreys-Jones

Apologies:

Judith Done
Val German
Kathy Home
Clodagh Cherry
John Fernee
Carole Wareing
Derek Hannaby
Charlotte Hannaby

Item		Action
1.	The meeting opened with a prayer.	
2.	Apologies Apologies were received as above.	
3.	Approval of minutes from last meeting The minutes of the last AGM on 30 September 2012 were approved.	
4.	Action points from last meeting All completed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Diocesan Director of Music will come to the parish at our request in the Autumn to review the music in the Mass for the diocese. • Year of Faith – Canon Lordan thinks it should be an ongoing scheme to enrich our understanding of our faith and our faith itself. He also thinks we are blessed to have so many shrines, pilgrimages and retreats on our door step and Lordan would like more feedback from parishoners who attend such activities or events. 	
5.	Consideration of AGM Report Approved.	
6.	Update from Finance Group The Parish Finance Committee have advised the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the role of preparing the accounts and auditing them kept separate are in future. The previous system had led to the carry-forward from the 2011-12 accounts being incorrect. We have been in touch with the Diocesan Accountants and the accounts for the year starting 6th April 2013 will be correct. • The structure of the accounting system has been altered to conform to the Diocesan structure. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Parish Secretary, Geraldine Downing, will now enter all the data on the system and this will be audited separately. • The present accounting package is Quicken. We are looking at introducing a different package 'Sage' which is the one the Bishop would prefer. <p>The 2012-13 Accounts The net parish balances improved by £35,002.54.</p> <p>This was due mainly to a lack on expenditure on maintenance or capital projects.</p> <p>There is still £15,612 (£300 per week) that comes is non-gift aided per annum.</p> <p>Per Mass attendance (including children) the income is £350 per person per annum and the expenditure £178. Wages & Priests expenses comes to £61 per week.</p> <p>General Notes There is no interest shown on the accounts as there was none. The system is that all parishes bank with the same bank and that the Bishop uses the interest to run Bishop's House and to support the diocese. This way the poorer parishes pay less. The Capital is used for poor parishes to get interest free loans for capital projects, just as we did when building the church at Rossett.</p> <p>Last year's account did not show the cost of electricity separately from the income from solar panels, but Canon confirmed this will be done for future accounts.</p> <p>We need to have a holistic approach to the needs of the diocese. Our surplus helps parts of our far flung diocese to exist. There has been a suggested proposal (not yet formalised) for more well off parishes to invest a part of their surplus into a Diocesan scheme to help pay off the diocesan deficit. It would be a three year investment with a 0.5% per annum return, with no risk of loosing the invested money. It was accepted by those attending the AGM, in principle, that should this proposal be confirmed the parish should particiapte.</p> <p>End of April accounts do not include the recent pay outs of the computer and printer as well as Canon Lordan's belated withdrawal of his expenses.</p>	Geraldine
7.	<p>Consideration of 100 club proposal It was suggested that the profits from the 100 club be used for the specific purpose of supporting the spiritual formation of the young people in the parish. This could be in the form of sponsoring (in whole or in part) the attendance of young parishioners to the next World Youth Day in Poland, or to other events such as retreats, Invocation events, etc. This was agreed by those attending the meeting, and Roger Chandler was asked to take this initiative forward.</p>	Roger Chandler
8.	<p>Consideration of visit from Konotop parishioners When discussing the fundraising it was made clear that there was no such</p>	

	<p>thing as a Sumy Group and all functions should be held under the guidance of the Social and Fundraising Committee. However, as the only surviving members of this committee are Lorraine Pizzey and Alison Williams it was accepted that responsibility for all fundraising events was too much to expect from just two people. It was therefore agreed that events to fund raise for Sumy could only take place if there was sufficient volunteers to organise them – but that Lorraine as leader of the Social and Fundraising Committee would need to be kept informed of what events were being organised and by whom.</p> <p>It was also agreed that due to the fact that the Diocese was struggling financially due to low interest rates being paid on parishes’ deposits, that we could not expect the usual £1000 that has been historically received to fund Sumy activities. We have just over £2000 in the bank for Sumy activities and we would need to raise an additional £3000 for the visit from Konotop parishioners to go ahead.</p> <p>It was agreed that a letter will be drafted and given to parshioners in late October with a slip for a vote about continuing the Sumy exchange. This letter would outline the financial commitment involved, it would also emphasis that whatever the decision fund raising for Valentina and the Sumy Soup Kitchen will continue via the coffee and cake event, and the Soup Supper.</p>	<p>HZW & Canon Lordan</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Any other issues Carole Wareing apologises for cancelling the Good Shepherd Sunday Mass due to bad weather and holidays, but will be organising the Christ the King youth Mass this year.</p> <p>Harvest Sunday Mass to be held 6 October with a collection of food to be taken to the Poor Clares. Lorraine Pizzey will organise 6pm Mass and Anne Aitkin will organise 11am Mass, Helen Zammit-Willson will organise 9am Mass in Rossett and will take all food collected to the Poor Clares.</p> <p>Geraldine Downing raised an issue that one of out parishoners son is confined to a wheelchair and the only chance of him walking again is a £60,000 operation in the States. She was wondering whether the parish could contribute or donate via the justgiving site. She agreed to organise a parish appeal, and this would take place prior to the Sumy decision letter to ensure that parishioners were fully informed of the options regarding fund raising commitments that existed.</p> <p>A request was made that the Mission report include the amount of money raised per annum.</p> <p>A request was made for the time taken for announcements at the end of Mass be reduced as it was felt that this detracted from the spiritual experience. However, Canon disagreed with this as the Mass needed to be a community experience and cannot cut itself away from the events that are happening in the parish and Diocese. There was also substantial agreement from other members of the meeting that reminding people of imminent events was essential so that they were encouraged to participate.</p>	<p>Carole Wareing</p> <p>Lorraine, Anne Aitken and HZW</p> <p>Geraldine</p> <p>HZW</p>

	<p>A suggestion was made that there should be a parish pilgrimage to Walsingham or similar location. However, as there was no volunteer who was willing to take the organisational responsibility it was agreed that this was not possible.</p> <p>It was requested that someone be asked to take responsibility for ensuring Altar Servers had albs that fit, etc. It was suggested that Canon should ask Rhian nee Saunders (Andrew Saunder's sister) to help as she had been a very keen Altar Servers in the past.</p>	Canon
12	The meeting ended with a prayer.	