

**Parish of St Francis of Assisi, Llay and Christ the King, Rossett**  
**Minutes of the Parish Annual Meeting**  
**20 September 2015 at 12.30 noon**  
**Parish Hall of St Francis of Assisi**

**Present:**

Canon Lordan – parish priest  
Helen Zammit-Willson – chair  
Anne Aitken  
Don Downing  
Geraldine Downing  
Kathy Home  
Lorraine Pizzey  
Ashley Rogers  
Margaret Thompson  
Liz Davies

**Apologies:**

John Fernee  
Christopher Graffius  
Roger Chandler  
Eileen Chandler  
Judith Done  
Carol Wareing  
Eileen Evans  
Val German

**Item**

**Action**

- | Item  | Action |
|---|--------|
| 1.<br>The meeting opened with a prayer  |        |
| 2.<br>Apologies were received as above.   |        |
| 3.<br><b>Approval of minutes from last meeting</b><br>The minutes of the last AGM on 21 September 2014 were approved  |        |
| 4.<br><b>Action points from last meeting</b><br>All completed.<br><br>Canon Lordan queried whether it was necessary to provide a summary of the parish accounts – Helen confirmed that one of the main purposes of the AGM was to report to parishioners about the financial health of the parish.  |        |
| 5.<br><b>Consideration of AGM Report</b><br>This year's AGM report was much shorter than previous years as only limited contributions had been made. The following issues were raised and discussed:  |        |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kathy Home asked if there were any large maintenance or property matters that were still outstanding. Canon reported that there was not – only expenditure expected was routine maintenance.</li> <li>• Canon also reported that the Bishop was continuing to review the structure of the diocese in light of the shortage of priests and that the report was due soon – no major expenditure was expected in the parish until the outcome of this review is known.</li> <li>• Note 3 to the parish accounts was brought to the attention of the meeting. The Sumy Account and the Building Account would be closed and subsumed into the general parish account. This was on the advice of the accountants to address historic</li> </ul> |        |

reconciliation issues, and to make the keeping of the accounts simpler and more auditable. Assurance was given that the parish would still be able to identify what money had been raised for what purpose. All but one of the automatic payments into the building account had been traced and redirected into the main account. All efforts had been made to identify the exception, but without success. Once the building account is closed any monies paid from this source would bounce back to the sender automatically. The meeting approved the proposed course of action and thanked David Davies (Liz's husband) for the assistance and advice provided so far, and volunteered on an ongoing basis.

6.

#### **Issued raised by parishioners**

Geraldine asked if it was possible to have a small crib inside the main body of the church, as well as the one in the porch. Canon responded that having a crib in the main body of church is liturgically incorrect – it only happened in Rossett due to lack of space.

7.

#### **Issues raised by the parish priest**

- a) Canon stated that we have a good parish who are very generous, however, he was disappointed in the response to the call for volunteers for reading, catchists, etc. He asked that anyone who has a skill to offer the parish make themselves known to him (or indeed others to suggest to him others to approach) – skill include musicians, accountants, gardeners, etc. These roles could be undertaken by non-Catholics as well as Catholics – so parishioners were asked to consider if any of their family members would like to volunteer and help as well.
- b) For the role of Eucharistic minister, Canon would appreciate names to be suggested, but this was a role that could only be undertaken by invitation direct by the Parish Priest.
- c) Canon pointed out that he was feeling his age, and that his main duty was to provide the Sacraments. There are times when other duties called upon his time, and this could make him “grumpy”. Parishioners reminded him that if there was anything they could help with he should ask.
- d) Canon mentioned the fledgling SVP group – five members at the moment – there had been a delay in getting the requisite DBS checks, but visits had now started.
- e) Canon also stated he would like to get a Legion of Mary group organised in the parish – there had once been a very strong group in the parish. The Legion of Mary is a complementary group to the SVP.

8.

#### **AOB**

- a) Liz mentioned that there were 11 candidates for First Holy Communion this year. Liz Davies is the Catechist Director, and is assisted by Rhian Barrett, Oonagh Thompson and Vera Darby.
- b) Canon stated he was looking for catechists to undertake Confirmation preparation.

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The meeting ended with the Angelus.