

**Parish of St Francis of Assisi, Llay and Christ the King, Rossett**  
**Minutes of the Parish Advisory Council**  
**23 July 2015 at 7.45 pm**  
**Parish Hall of St Francis of Assisi**

**Present:**

Canon Lordan – parish priest  
Helen Zammit-Willson – chair  
John Fernee  
Carol Wareing  
Sheila Humphreys-Jones  
Geraldine Downing  
Don Downing  
Roger Chandler  
Eileen Chandler  
Oonagh Thompson  
Margaret Robbins  
Margaret Brown

**Apologies:**

Val German  
Ashley Rogers

Item		Action
1.	The meeting opened with a prayer.	
2.	<b>Apologies</b> Apologies were received as above.	
3.	<b>Approval of minutes from last meeting</b> The minutes of the last meeting on 12 February 2015 were approved.	
4.	<b>Action points from last meeting</b> All action points from the last meeting were completed.	
5.	<b>Update of parish finances</b> No figures were available as the parish accounts are with the accountant. A report will be ready for the AGM on 20 September.	
6.	<b>Update from 100 Club</b> The Christmas gift voucher scheme was very successful, as it increased the membership to 91. It is hoped to offer the scheme again this Christmas.	
7.	<b>Update from Property Group</b> A considerable amount of work has been carried out to refurbish the Hall kitchen at Llay and install a new fridge.  The men's and ladies' toilets in Llay have also been extensively refurbished.  New lighting has been installed in the archive room.  A leak has been fixed in the toilet at Rossett.  A key chain has been installed on the hall emergency exit	

	<p>Miscellaneous light bulbs have been replaced.</p> <p>Thanks were offered to the Property Group as much of the work has been done by the individual members.</p> <p>An appeal was made for helpers to do hedge cutting in August.</p>	
8.	<p><b>Update on Health and Safety</b> Ongoing maintenance work and inspections have been carried out.</p> <p>The only new issue reported was about the spacing between pews at St Francis. It was decided to re-align the pews manually after the meeting.</p>	
9.	<p><b>Update from Sumy</b> A total of £1600 was raised for the care of Valentina.</p> <p>The Sumy Soup Supper will take place on the first Friday of Advent</p> <p>Our prayers are asked for members of Sumy parish and also for the Ukraine.</p>	
10.	<p><b>Update from social and fundraising committee</b> No report was available.</p>	
11.	<p><b>Music in the parish</b> Following two diocesan meetings to promote and demonstrate new music available for the liturgy, it was reported that we are now actively seeking to begin using new psalm music shortly. Parishioners will need a little preparation the first time that this is done, and all the music providers at the various masses will need to liaise in order to share information.</p> <p>As the lighting at the back of the church is poor above the organ it was decided to consider installing a strip light to improve the situation.</p> <p>A request was made for the use of a microphone at the back of the church, but it was decided that this was not needed at the present time.</p>	
12.	<p><b>Items raised by Geraldine Downing</b></p> <p><b>Saturday 26 September 11 am to 4 pm</b> Day retreat Poor Clare Convent in Hawarden, including talks, prayers, music and Mass. Fr Francis Maple OFM Cap will celebrate Mass A separate session can be provided for children if required.</p> <p><b>Saturday 7 November</b> Jazz Café, Parish Hall Llay A variety of Jazz music, blues, easy-listening, etc Refreshments available, bring your own alcohol</p> <p><b>Monday, 14 December</b> Parish Panto at Miner's Institute, Llay</p>	Geraldine

	<p><b>Monday 28 December</b> Christmas Carol Service</p> <p><b>Joy of the Gospel – proclaiming our faith</b></p> <p>It was suggested and agreed that we have an outdoor crib on the lawn at St Francis church this Christmas to proclaim to passers-by and drivers that this is Christmas, this is what we believe.</p> <p>It was suggested and agreed that the main entrance is changed from the small side door to the double doors. The side door is heavy and difficult to negotiate for those who are not strong or have pushchairs/prams or mobility aids. A permanent sign can be put on the double doors to advise the “Entrance”.</p> <p>In order to ensure that people feel welcome when they come into the church, it was suggested that during the darker months of the year, that the lights are on in the porch and a couple in the body of the church. This was agreed.</p> <p>Additionally that during the colder periods the heating is on low to enable people to sit and pray comfortably.</p> <p>A discussion took place on the need but Canon felt that it wasn’t necessary as people calling in would be dressed in their coats etc and the church isn’t a particularly cold building.</p>	<p>Dave Bebbington &amp; John Ferneer</p>
<p>13.</p>	<p><b>Joy of the Gospel – proclaiming our faith</b></p> <p>Canon proposed that we stock CDs and films from Lighthouse Catholic Media. These CDs teach the ‘why’ behind ‘what’ the Church teaches. Reaching Parishioner’s exactly ‘where they are at’. There is a wide range of titles and speakers to help us to grow in the knowledge of our faith. Speakers include Scott Hahn, Mother Teresa, Bishop Fulton Sheen, Fr. Richards and many more....and films available to address the lack of knowledge of our faith amongst the young, as they are more likely to use these than to read leaflets. Now that we have the new audio/visual equipment within the parish it is hoped to show some of these films amongst others in the parish.</p> <p>These resources would also be helpful for marriage preparation and confirmation classes.</p>	
<p>11.</p>	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>Oonagh Thompson will prepare the young musicians taking part in the Youth Mass on the feast of Christ the King this year. Carol Wareing will assist with readers.</p> <p>20 September after 11 am Mass – Parish AGM</p> <p>4 October 11 am - Harvest Mass</p> <p>4 October 3 pm – Mass for the sick</p> <p>22 November 11 am – Youth Mass</p> <p>The next meeting will take place on 19 November 2015.</p>	
	<p>The meeting ended with a prayer.</p>	

## Agenda Items – Geraldine Downing

### JOY OF THE GOSPEL – NURTURING OUR PARISH

#### Feast of St Francis – A day retreat as follows

Saturday 26 September

11am to 3pm – the day will finish with Mass at 3pm

Venue: Poor Clare Convent Hawarden

The Sisters will prepare and lead the retreat when we will “Meet St. Francis”. The Church encourages us to get to know the saints, to reflect on their lives and spirituality, to be inspired by them and to invoke their help. Our Parish is dedicated to St Francis and the Poor Clares are part of the Franciscan family. The day will include talks, prayers, adoration, music and Holy Mass. Fr. Francis Maple OFM Cap will be our celebrant for Mass. The sisters will also provide a session for any children that come otherwise we will be all together. Lunch will also be provided.

#### Jazz Café – Purely a Social Event

Saturday 7 November

7.30pm for 8pm

Venue: Parish Hall, Llay

Louis Noble - **SO WHAT NOW**

featuring **IRENE MARTIN**

#### *From their website*

This highly entertaining quintet presents jazz standards, classic Latin grooves & blues with their own brand of vibrancy, humour and most importantly with a whole lot of swing!

Entertainment is strictly the name of the game and wherever they perform, the response is the same – a great reaction from both jazz buffs and newcomers to the music. Much of this is due to the varied programme of generally well known tunes but always with a few surprises thrown in.

The considerable talent and wealth of experience of the instrumentalists, combined with the outstanding vocals of [Irene Martin](#) produce performances which are acclaimed by their highly appreciative audiences.

Irene’s style encompasses the feeling of Billie Holiday with the smoothness of Julie London, topped off with the sassiness of Peggy Lee. This superb combination is complemented by the tenor sax of [Louis Noble](#) and outstanding keyboard of [Colin Gibson](#).

[Burt Donns](#)' harmonious bass lines provide the anchor and [Benn Pollards](#)' fluent drumming as well as [Tony Tuckers](#)' smooth trumpet style completes the line-up.

A “Bar Snack” will be included and people will be able to bring their own alcohol if desired.

#### Christmas Panto – A Joyous Social Occasion for All the Family

Monday 14 December

7pm

Venue: Ground floor room at the Miners Welfare in Llay.

Performers: Bitesize Theatre Company

From the Website

#### **HISTORY**

The [BITESIZE THEATRE COMPANY](#) is a professional touring theatre company for schools.

**BITESIZE** was set up in September 1992 by Artistic Director Linda Griffiths to specialize in theatre for young people.

Our aim is to produce high quality, accessible shows for a schools audience and so our annual programme of between ten and twelve productions contains a mixture of shows from New writing to Shakespeare. It includes educational shows based on National Curriculum requirements, adaptations of Classic Stories and entertaining seasonal shows. We also have a comprehensive Workshop Programme available throughout the year, and a blossoming [Youth Theatre](#).

Although usually only performers for schools, they are giving us a special evening performance because our purpose is to **help “Build Community” within our parish.**

Most people like and enjoy a panto, irrespective of their age. It is hoped that parishioners will embrace this event, bring any children in their lives or just come by themselves. But **together** it is hoped we will enjoy it. The performance is only for an hour giving us great enjoyment and fun, raising the spirits and bringing us together.

### **Christmas Carol Service**

Suggested date: Monday 28<sup>th</sup> December

2.30pm

St Francis of Assisi, Llay

For most of the people in our country, Christmas ends when they fall into bed on Christmas night. Sadly many will say “Thank God that’s over for another year”. But we know that Christmas begins on Christmas Day. A traditional carol service is a wonderful way to celebrate the Joy of Christmas, and to help us to enter more deeply into the holiness of the Birth of Christ. The event can be followed up by a small celebration in the hall afterwards.

### **Joy of the Gospel – Sharing Our Faith**

#### **Outdoor Christmas Crib**

To proclaim to all passers by either on foot or in vehicles – this is Christmas. This is what we believe it to be and we are not afraid to tell the world. M&S has it’s sparkle, John Lewis has Monty the Penguin, garden centres have moving polar bears and the like, shopping centres have their Christmas trees and piped music – we have our faith which began with Christmas. So why not share it.

What does our church here in Llay tell the world that passes by, that it is Christmas?

#### **Church being a place of welcome**

To be welcoming to anyone who wishes to come in. Suggest that we use the main door as the entrance as it is

- Immediately noticed by people

- Much lighter and easier to negotiate

- Opens wider for prams/pushchairs and for people with mobility aids

The current side door, is a very heavy oak door which is difficult to manage by those who are not strong and for persons with prams/pushchairs or mobility aids.

During winter months, suggest

- the lights are put on in the porch and one or two in the body of the church.

- The heating is put on low to remove the icy chill and to “tell people” that they are welcome to pray or sit in the church.