

Saint Francis of Assisi Parish Advisory Committee

MINUTES

Monday 28th October 2024 6.30 pm

PRESENT Canon Lordan, Lorraine Pizzey, Carol Williams, Barrie Williams, Don Downing, Geraldine Downing, Helen Zammit-Willson, Anna Holmes, Peter Burke, Kathy Home, Anna Frank-Keyes, John Fernee, Fr. Frank Gerrard, Oonagh Thompson

1. Canon opened the meeting with a prayer
2. **APOLOGIES** Christopher Graffius, Eileen Evans.
3. **ITEMS FOR ANY OTHER BUSINESS (see below)**
4. **MATTERS ARISING FROM MEETING HELD TUESDAY 18th JUNE 2024**
 - Thanks given to Dave Bebbington for organising the disabled parking and painting of church doors
 - Receiving Holy Communion by both kinds, it was decided this would be looked at further in the New Year
 - Evangelisation, Father Paul, Christopher has contacted Father Paul we wait to hear.
 - Corrections to names on Minutes Irene Spengler, Peter Burke, Helen Zammit-Willson

MINUTES PASSED

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Property

Canon Lordan provided an update.

It was suggested that Dave Bebbington be asked about current members of the property group and whether an appeal for more parishioners to assist in this area should be made in the bulletin. **ACTION PETER BURKE**

Finance

Those attending were provided with Levy Statement, Clergy Finance report and account information which currently stands at:

Parish account - £41,703.27

Diocesan Investment Deposit Scheme - £140,000.00

Petty Cash - £11.35

Total Financial Balance - £181,714.62

Priest allowances paid up to date and Canon encouraged to claim for mileage and other expenses.

Kathy asked a question regarding minus figures shown on the levy statement for Clergy Welfare – what these figures represent was not known and an action to find out was taken **ACTION ANNA HOLMES**

6. AOB

- It was suggested that we should invite our local MP, Andrew Ranger, to a meeting to discuss the Assisted Dying Bill. There was lengthy discussion on what the purpose of the meeting would be. Geraldine suggested that any meeting needed to be along the lines of how TCC run meetings, but that the best thing to try to influence the outcome of parliamentary debate on this matter was through prayer – especially using the rosary.

However, it was agreed that TCC should be approached to see if this was an area that they would be seeking to take action on.

ACTION PETER BURKE

- It was decided that an Advent Carol service should be held on Friday 6th December 2024 **ACTION GERALDINE DOWNING**
- It was agreed that a new signage board should be erected outside of church in cobalt blue with white writing at a cost of £210.00 including VAT **ACTION DON & GERALDINE DOWNING**
- It was agreed that Geraldine and Kay will decorate the church for Christmas as per previous years. No Christmas Tree will be present but there is to be the addition of a Christmas wreath on the wall to the side of the altar. **ACTION GERALDINE DOWNING**
- It was agreed by all who attended that the Readers' Formation sessions organised by the Diocese were extremely helpful. Helen suggested that there should be a meeting of parish readers so that there could be a discussion to ensure that there was a consistent way that readers undertook this ministry in our parish, and that potentially there should be regular meetings to deal with any issues and ensure that new readers were also welcomed and could ask any questions they had. This was agreed and a selection of dates will be forwarded to readers.

ACTION HELEN ZAMMIT-WILLSON/ANNA HOLMES

- Canon suggested removal of Covid stickers from carpet, and it was also suggested that the Synod banner be taken down and the tables at rear of Church be put back to their pre Covid positions. This was agreed.
ACTION DON & GERALDINE DOWNING FOR TABLES AND SYNOD BANNER, PLUS OTHERS IN RESPECT OF STICKERS
- Geraldine suggested a Christmas Gift Tree for local children, and it was agreed that the suggestion will be put in parish Bulletin asking for someone to organise
ACTION ANNA HOLMES
- The Mary's Meals share a school initiative was discussed, where the parish could raise money to support a feeding pupils in a particular school. Geraldine suggested she provide a presentation to the whole parish and will organise a date
ACTION GERALDINE DOWNING
- Canon advised that Karen Kilcoyne had agreed to be the parish safeguarding representative
- Parish Health and Safety representative was discussed. It was thought John Dyne had some input either as representative or as advisor, but agreed that someone would discuss with him to clarify his role.
ACTION ANNA FRANK-KEYS
- CTS Books Canon asked that someone volunteer to look after the stand in foyer. It was suggested this be put in the Bulletin.
ACTION CANON/ANNA HOLMES
- It was agreed that someone should investigate whether it was possible to buy new parish mass books with the new translation of the reading and how much they would cost.
ACTION HELEN ZAMMIT-WILLSON
- It was decided by Helen and Lorraine that if Christopher was chairing future meetings Helen would take the Minutes and if Helen chairing Lorraine would.

7. Date of next meeting Tuesday 11th February 2025 6.30 pm

8. Canon closed the meeting with a prayer at 8.35 pm