

## MINUTES OF PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

26<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2015 @ 7.30pm

The meeting opened with a prayer.

Present were: John Rock, Colin Fisher, David Parnell, Marina Berry, Will Carr, Pat Sheehan, Fr Tom

Apologies: Con McHugh, Paula Dolan

1. The Annual Financial Statement was discussed. The audited accounts had been signed by Fr Tom and David Parnell and sent in to the Diocese. This was a paper copy for records only as we are now on the OPAS System which transfers all the information electronically to the Diocese. Will agreed to produce a summary version of the accounts which will be used for the Annual Parish Report. Members were also shown a copy of the Parish Unit Scheme which showed Units valued at £371k. This would also be included in the summary of accounts.
2. The Gift Aid Appeal had been successful. A Report was received from Elizabeth McLintock. Thirteen new members had signed up with three more pending. Eight new Standing Orders had been set up. Six members had left the Scheme (deceased or moved away). Members wished to thank John and Elizabeth McLintock for their work on the scheme and all those who assist them. A discussion followed about expanding the Standing Orders and Gift Aid Scheme into the schools as many families benefit from Catholic Schools and the wider Catholic community in the Parish. If they are not church goers, they do not have a way of contributing to the Parish on a regular basis. Fr Tom would discuss the matter with the two Headteachers and perhaps write a letter next term inviting parents to join a scheme, even if the contributions are small, they would help us pay the £30k School Levy, paid each year by the Parish.
3. The Management agreement with Mr Frank Keogh was discussed. This expires in June 2016. It was agreed that Fr Tom would begin discussions with Frank after Easter to make future plans for managing the Centre. It was unanimously agreed that we should try to secure Frank's involvement and expertise even if he wishes to cut back his involvement.
4. Sports Centre – Various grants have been secured to a level of £85k for the refurbishment of the Sports Centre. The building work was nearing completion and the Centre would be back to normal the week after Easter. Some landscaping and painting work to the outside would be completed in May. The facilities would be vastly improved and it is hoped to have an Open Day and re-launch of the Centre at the end of May.
5. A Church Open Day was discussed and it was agreed that in the summer we would produce some publicity material to invite local people to visit the Church and that we would have parishioners there to welcome them to give them a tour and explanation of the Church along with refreshments. We would do this over a Friday, Saturday and Sunday and see it as an opportunity to promote the life of the Church with our neighbours. We would trial it at Christ the King first and then St Augustine's.
6. The Parish Report was discussed and seen as a very valuable resource. It was agreed

to produce the full report and directory every five years with a shorter newsletter type report every year. Fr Tom to discuss this with Con McHugh and aim to have a report published by the end of May.

7. We had received a request of support for St Vincent's Parish in Birmingham where Fr Tom used to be Parish Priest. This is a Parish in a very deprived area and we agreed to help them repair damaged windows. The total cost was £4,800 and we agreed to contribute towards this. The Parish would be grateful to receive £3,000 towards these costs and this was agreed. We continue to support the IBBA Girl's School in Sudan with an Annual Grant of £5,000.
8. Buildings Update - There have been roof repairs at St Augustine's Church. A new webcam has also been fitted at St Augustine's. New gates and railings are about to be installed at Christ the King to improve security, particularly overnight when the site is open and vulnerable.

Date of next meeting - proposed Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm in the Presbytery.

Fiona to email all members to ensure this date is convenient for as many as possible.