



# Christ the King

with St. Augustine's

& Our Lady  
of Lourdes



14, Westhill Road, Coundon, Coventry, CV6 2AA

The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Registered Charity No. 234216

## MINUTES OF FINANCE MEETING

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024 @ 6.30pm

### ATTENDEES:

Fr Tom, Fr Benedict, Danny O' Flanagan, Will Carr, Geraldine Reidy

**APOLOGIES:** Con McHugh, Martin McLintock, Julie-Anne Moreton

#### 1 Prayer

The meeting began at 6.30pm with a prayer. Fr Tom explained that David Parnell and Pat Sheehan would no longer be able to attend meetings but would be included in the paperwork for information.

#### 2 Minutes of the last meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

The minutes of the last meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023 were formally agreed.

#### 3 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the Minutes that were not on the agenda.

#### 4 Signing of the Minutes

Fr Tom agreed to sign a set of the minutes for the Parish Records.

#### 5 Building Work Update

The boiler in the church was properly repaired by replacing the circuit boards. The boards may have blown as a result of a power surge. It was thought sensible to see if a surge protector could be fitted to the system and Fr Tom would ask an electrician to advise on this. The parish property also needed to have an up to date asbestos survey and management statement. Danny O'Flanagan would recommend a company and ask for a quotation. The church also needed rewiring and Danny would make some recommendations for contractors along with a lighting consultant, as it may be an opportunity to change the lighting in the church and to make it more flexible.

#### 6 Bank Account Balance and Cash Flow

The bank account was healthy and maintained a level of around £200k. This amount will allow us to continue to help some of the poorer parishes in the area and also to have a balance to meet some of the proposed work required as outlined above.

## **7 Investment Scheme**

The figures for the Investment Scheme were circulated and these showed a balance of approximately £750k giving the parish a overall asset value of approaching one million pounds.

## **8 Parish Forum**

Fr Tom mentioned the Archbishop's Pastoral Letter to be read this weekend. This highlighted the need for parishes to establish Parish Councils / Forums and for them to feed into a Deanery Council encouraging more collaboration. The Deanery is setting a timetable for Parish Councils to be established by September and we would be working towards this. Christ the King would be willing to work collaboratively with other parishes and particularly those parishes within our own Mission or Cluster, namely St Osburg's, St Elizabeth's and Holy Family.

## **9 Fr Dominic's Project**

The parish would like to adopt the St Mary's Project overseen by Fr Dominic Chukka. He will be working with the parish schools and launching an appeal in the parish on the weekend of April 21<sup>st</sup> and April 28<sup>th</sup>. This would explain the work done by the Trust at a school, an orphanage and a medical centre. It would invite families to adopt a child and contribute £10 per month with a Standing Order. It would offer good opportunities, twinning the schools with the school in India and giving very direct links with our charitable giving.

## **10 Building work other parishes**

The parish is supporting St Elizabeth's parish, helping them to build a parish meeting room with kitchen and disabled toilets. The cost of this is approximately £30k. The parish at St Elizabeth's would eventually build a new parish hall, having received grant funding to replace the old hall which has been demolished for safety reasons. The parish is also helping St Osburg's with necessary improvements to the parish hall as well as looking at new uses for the redundant parish centre property.

## **11 Working together with other parishes**

The Coventry and Nuneaton Deanery has been divided into four Missions / Clusters. These are

- 1 Nuneaton (two parishes), Bedworth, Bulkington, Arley, Atherstone
- 2 Corpus Christi, St Anne's, St John Fisher, St Patrick's, Sacred Heart, St Mary's (Coventry East)
- 3 Christ the King, St Augustine's, Holy Family, St Osburg's, St Elizabeth's, (Coventry North)
- 4 St Thomas More's, St John Vianney, Our Lady of the Assumption, St Joseph's, All Souls (Coventry West)

It was hoped that these Missions could work more closely together, looking at ways of helping with youth work, preparation for the Sacraments, Chaplaincy at

schools, relationships with school multi-academies, help with administration and building expertise.

The Diocese was looking to appoint Deanery Administrators to help with some of the compliance requirements in the parishes. Each parish in the Deanery would contribute to the salary of the appointed person.

Fr Tom also spoke about the need to prepare for the future and possibly to appoint some pastoral assistance to continue to carry out some of the work done by some of the Deacons and Sisters. It would be good to continue to promote the Diaconate Ministry and to identify possible candidates, but also to look at new areas of ministry in the church with lay people being trained to take up some of these new roles.

## **12 Parish Loans**

There were parish loans granted to Sacred Heart, Coventry and St John's, Alton. The necessary forms had been completed with the diocese and both parishes were on a repayment plan.

## **13 Parish Report**

A draft copy of the Parish Report was circulated and approved. Will Carr offered to send any corrections to Con and Con's sister Mary would also proof read the report. The report will then be available on the website and could also be sent out to those who receive the newsletter via email. Some hard copies would also be available at the back of the church. Geraldine had worked on a coloured version of the parish logos to be used in the report and in the parish newsletter, letter headings and compliment slips.

After Easter, we would give a brief resumé of the Parish Report at each of the masses. There might also be an opportunity to speak about Gift Aid and the encouragement to increase standing order amounts. Roger Ladbury would be taking over as Gift Aid Organiser from Eileen Moroney and this could be made public after Easter. With due thanks to Eileen as well.

## **14 Parish Centre**

The Centre was running well and Fr Tom was due to have a meeting next week with Matthew to look at necessary work to be done in repainting and repair in accordance with the lease. The lease is due to expire and Fr Tom would have a discussion with Matthew about future plans.

## **15 St Augustine's Sport Centre**

The Sports Centre is being well used and is due for a rent review of 5% next month.

## **AOB**

Fr Tom met with the Local MP to discuss the Car Park entrance and exit and she will be asking a Council official to come and visit to look at the need to widen the entrance

to avoid possible accidents. Also consideration to be given about a "Give Way" sign on the cycle track.

**Date of next meeting to be planned for Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30pm. Please let us know if this is not convenient.**

**The meeting concluded at 8.00pm.**