

**Parish Council Meeting Minutes
Monday 11th September 2023**

1. Present:	Fr. Sean Carroll, Fr. Jose Netto, James Boyle (Seminarian) , Colin Frost (Finance and SVP), Robert Nunn (CAFOD), Ron Burchell (Parishioners Rep), Zoe Elliott (Altar Servers), Jenny Mascarenhas (Mothers prayer group), Daniella Bourke (Senior and Children’s Choir), Siobhan Denny (Youth), Harriet Plumb (Jubilee trust) Eileen Bonnar (Eucharistic Ministers and Readers), Elizabeth Cox (Alter Servers), Yvonne Hillier (Safeguarding), Nicola McGeady (Guides),
2. Apologies received from:	Noreen Flynn (Minutes), Catherine Wloch (Chair), Richard Wloch (Folk Group)
3. Welcome and prayer. James opened the meeting with a prayer.	
4. The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed off.	
5. Previous Actions <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Yvonne will check if different rules apply if events take place on a regular basis. Continues 2) Fr. Sean will speak to an IT person about alternatives. Two parishioners with IT skills identified and meetings scheduled. Continues 3) Fr. Sean will speak to the School Principal regarding representative on Parish Council. Continues 4) Fr Sean to speak to Kate Kelly the PTA representative at the school. Continues 5) Fr Sean to apply for a voucher scheme for the food bank for MSH. Continues 	
6. Planning <p>The volunteer booklet has been finalised and 500 copies have been printed. On Sunday 10th September the first copies were distributed to parishioners at the morning masses. The 3 weekends of Sept 17, 24 and Oct 1st will be dedicated for appeals for stewardship.</p> <p>The next meeting will to be on Wednesday 4th October at 7:30 in the presbytery with Fr Sean. Others welcome to join. The meeting will be to discuss how to organise collating and forwarding the responses to the relevant co-ordinators. Daniela Bourke has emailed parish council members with the updated version of the volunteer co-ordinator list.</p>	
7. Update from Parish organisations <p>Christmas Fayre The date has now been fixed for Dec 2nd, Susan Jeffery with Colin Frost will organise. The SVP will hold a meeting in October to discuss arrangements. Volunteers are needed to help with the fayre. Suggestions requested for charities which may benefits from any surplus proceeds and Fr Sean may request funds if they were needed for a parish project.</p> <p>Altar Servers 5 new servers have registered interest. The new training programme will commence on 25th September. Notices will be published in the parish and school newsletters. Liz Wloch to carry out an inventory of the cassocks and cotters as more are needed for taller servers. More finance is required for social events. St Stephen’s Day service this year is to be pushed to 11am. Altar servers may be required to read.</p>	

Finance committee

The parish is in a healthy financial position. A joint meeting with the Parish council will be held on 9th October. Time also needs to be allocated in this meeting to discussing **Christmas**.

SVP

The SVP is very active and members continue to visit parishioners at home and in care homes. A poster for the SVP has been printed and is ready to be put up in the church and business cards for the parish group have been printed.

Youth

The trip to Lourdes was very successful.

A summer camp was attended by three members at Alton Castle. They would like to attend next summer.

The holiday club was attended by over 20 children.

World Youth Day - Siobhan attended in Lisbon. Is exploring the idea of taking a group to South Korea in 2027 and investigating funding options.

Recruiting for Lourdes for next year.

Exploring ideas of how they can work with the Deanery.

Parish groups are requested to consider attending a youth session to explain what they do. These sessions could be scheduled for September onwards.

Sessions will recommence for new Year 7's at the beginning of September and the rest of the year groups in the next coming weeks.

CAFOD

Justice and Peace Zoom meeting held on 2nd September with five attendees. Beata Rozycka is the new successor to Tony Sheehan (Westminster Diocesan CAFOD position). Harvest fast day Friday 6th October. CAFOD talk and collections 7th and 8th October.

Children and Adult Choir.

The adult choir will continue to sing at the 11:30 Sunday mass throughout August. The children's choir will have a summer holiday break and return in September with the hope of expanding to cover the 3rd Sunday in each month as well as the first.

Folk Group:

The Folk Group now sings at the 10am Mass on 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. After the summer break they recommenced on Sunday 10th September.

Mother's Prayer Group.

The prayer group continues meet regularly and to offer prayers.

Parishioners' rep

Repair estimates continue to be sourced for the car park.

Jubilee trust

Are in the early stages of planning a night event for November. A Conservative councillor will be speaking at the next lunch. Considering how to advertise to the wider community.

Safeguarding

Applications were all up to date for Lourdes. James Boyle (Seminararian) will need a DBS for school visits.

Parish Website

Richard W liaised with Fr Antonio and a draft version of our new website has been produced. Suggestions and a discussion required on how MSH would like to populate it.

8. AOB

Fr Sean - we need to resolve the issue of the DONA card reader only working intermittently.

Fr Sean - will attend a talk about 'Communion and Liberation' given by a group called 'The Religious Sense'. He would like to explore the idea of forming a similar group here at MSH.

Fr Sean - From September all general surgeries are available for school application form signings.

9. Next Meetings.

The next meeting will be 9th Octobe 2023 - joint meeting with Finance Committee & Christmas section to be included.

Nov 13th

Dec 11th

10. The meeting closed with a prayer.