

Parish Council Meeting Minutes
Monday 08th April 2024

1. Present:	Catherine Wloch (Chair), Fr. Sean Carroll, Fr. Jose Netto, Siobhan Denny (Youth), Colin Frost (Finance and SVP), Zoe Elliott (Altar Servers), Eileen Bonnar (Eucharistic Ministers and Readers), Holly Cook (Volunteer Co-Ordinator), Angela Alvarez (Folk Group), Nichola McGeady (Brownies and Guides), Robert Nunn (CAFOD/Justice and Peace), Harriet Plumb (Jubilee Trust), James Boyle (Seminararian), Noreen Flynn (Minutes).
2. Apologies received from:	Yvonne Hillier (Safeguarding), Daniela Bourke (Catechetical Co-ordinator/Senior & Children’s Choir), Ron Burchell (Parish Rep) Jenny Mascarenhas (Mothers Prayer Group).
3. Welcome and prayer: Fr. Jose opened the meeting with a prayer.	
4. The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed off.	
<p>5. Matters Arising: All the Easter ceremonies were well attended and, in particular, the Childrens Stations of the Cross and the Blessing of the food. Special thanks to Zoe for the organisation and management of the Alter Servers.</p> <p>Consideration will be given to having Ushers next year in order to alleviate congestion at the back of the church.</p> <p>Preparations for the Volunteer Party are in hand. All Invitations have been sent out and the deadline for replies is 15th April 2024. Holly will set up on the day with assistance from James and Daniela.</p>	
7. Updates from the groups	
<p>Finance committee: Car park refurbishment is complete. A joint meeting with The Parish Council on 10th June 2024 has been confirmed.</p> <p>SVP: The Food Bank continues to be busy – up to 180 families attended last week.</p> <p>Volunteering: the New Website launch is in progress. A small group has been formed to expedite this. Holly is hoping to put some training and refresher sessions for Eucharistic Ministers and Readers in place. She is also exploring the possibility of having Mentors for Confirmation Candidates.</p> <p>Youth: The Environmental Project is continuing. The middle group are doing a Homeless project to support Olympic House. The Redcaps fundraising for Lourdes is continuing with the next event planned for Sunday 28th April 2024.</p> <p>Jubilee Trust: £1,100 was raised at the Ceilidh night in aid of GAZA. A Parish Cultural Event is being planned for the Autumn. It is hoped to have a family Bingo Night in September. The Social Club and the First Friday Lunches are doing well.</p> <p>Eucharistic Ministers/Readers: Nothing to Report.</p> <p>RCIA: The meetings will now take place on a fortnightly basis following the successful programme which finished at Easter.</p>	

Brownies and Rainbows: Rainbows meetings are moving to Wednesdays. Hopefully, this will mean more people can volunteer to help.

CAFOD: The collection on 25th February 2024 was successful. Many thanks to Fr. Sean and Fr. Jose. CAFOD has teamed up with the SVP to launch a year of encounter – using our Catholic voice in the General Election. Robert plans to attend a training session on 25th April 2024 for this.

Alter Servers: Feedback from the Easter Services was very positive. A thank you meal will take place for the Senior Alter Servers. It is hoped to have a Social Event in the Summer. After the first Holy Communion a recruitment drive will be done in the school.

Folk Group: There was a good attendance for the Easter Ceremonies. Music will be provided for the Masses on 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

Fr. Jose: Fr. Jose Extended his congratulations and thank you to Fr. Sean and Fr. Paul for all their efforts with regard to the Easter Ceremonies

Fr. Sean:

There is a proposal to have a course on the Scriptures in September.

The screens for the church are progressing but the installation is proving to be complicated and expensive. It is hoped that they will be in place by the summer.

The Barrier Repair is now done, and a decision will be made with the Finance Committee regarding whether any charge should be made to businesses and non-parishioners who wish to use the carpark.

Maintenance work is ongoing in the house and the heating system in the hall needs adjusting.

The broadband and Phone system have been changed in the house and this will be extended to the church. The Live Streaming System will also be changed as it is currently very expensive.

The Church's Centenary will be in 2027 and planning for this needs to commence in the near future.

8. AOB: Catherine asked if the Parish would consider giving the use of the Hesdin Hall to replace the Elm Park Premises which has recently closed down. Holly will make the appropriate contact and find out what would be required.

A query was raised if the BEC Club could be reopened?

Two people have said they would be interested in playing music in the church.

Two volunteers have come forward to help with taking the minutes at the meetings. They will attend the next meeting.

Volunteers are needed to help with the cleaning of the church brasses.

Nichola has agreed to organise one more Church Parade before the summer.

It is hoped to organise a Youth pilgrimage to Rome towards the end of July 2025.

A group of senior Alter Servers will go to Rome later in the year to meet with Fr. Sebastian.

9. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be 13th May 2024.

The meeting closed with a prayer from James.

Future dates

1. Jun 10 – joint meeting with Finance Committee.
2. Jul 8

