

**Parish Council Meeting Minutes
Monday 8 July 2024**

1. Present:	Catherine Wloch (Chair), Fr Sean Carroll, Fr Jose Netto, Colin Frost (Finance and SVP), Robert Nunn (CAFOD/Justice and Peace), Eileen Bonnar (Eucharistic Ministers & Readers), Angela Alvarez (Folk Group), Angie Cook (Minutes)
2. Apologies:	Daniela Bourke (Catechetical Co-ordinator/Senior & Children's Choir), Gary Plumb (Scouts and Cubs), Harriet Plumb (Jubilee Trust), Noreen Flynn (Minutes), Holly Cook, (Volunteer Co-ordinator)
3. Welcome & prayer: Fr Jose opened the meeting with a prayer	
<p>4. The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed off</p> <p>5. Matters Arising: Ron sent a message to say thanks for the card and good wishes.</p> <p>6. ORCHYD: Visit update; ORCHYD have not yet sent a response. The next holiday is in two weeks' time and Colin will provide Fr Sean with dates so he can try to visit.</p> <p>7. Website: Holly and the volunteers are working on the website and a meeting scheduled for Wednesday. It should be live in September. The incorporation of a page called 'Welfare' was suggested with links for people who are in debt, financial difficulty, have health matters etc. Also how to contact SVP. Colin is happy to publish the SVP phone number but callers should be made aware they will have to leave a message and receive a call back. Fr Sean agreed this would be a good idea but the website needs to be easy to navigate. Angela suggested that the website should be tested by lay people to obtain feedback about ease of use.</p> <p>8. Christmas Bazaar: Colin advised that money is being fed into the food bank from last Christmas' funds. Susan Jeffrey has run it for the last few years but has other commitments which may make it difficult this year. Usually the first meeting is in May to establish a nucleus of people. Fr Sean will put a notice in the newsletter to ask if anyone would be willing to step in if Susan is definitely not available and will speak to Holly. It will be agreed by the Parish Council where funds raised at the bazaar will be allocated, Fr Sean suggested the Catholic Worker Farm based in Uxbridge which may have to close unless they receive funding. The CWF provides assistance for the large volume of trafficked refugees in the area.</p> <p>9. Lectionary: Fr Sean advised that the lectionary is going to be changed to the English Revised Version for Advent 2024. All the parish books and missals will need to be replaced. Alternatively, text (and hymns) can be displayed on the newly installed screens to negate the need to replace all the books.</p> <p>10. Children's Advent afternoon: Daniela has put an advert in the newsletter for assistance with this. Clarification will be sought about who has been DBS checked.</p> <p>11. Alpha Course: An Alpha Course will be run in January 2025 to provide an opportunity for enhancement of faith for parishioners, offer an opportunity to those with no faith to explore the idea of becoming a Catholic etc. The format includes a shared meal to start the evening, followed by video talks and then small group discussion. Holly will be arranging this and can provide more details.</p>	

12. Ecumenical activities: Fr Sean advised that it was important to establish some fraternity before arranging any activities.

13. Centenary: The Church's centenary is in 2027 and a 100 years of faith life will be marked by the parish. Suggestions include a pilgrimage, songs of praise, a display of all the parish priests over the years and a flower festival to celebrate

14. Updates from the groups

CAFOD: Robert attended the Wet London Justice and Peace network meeting on 15 June on Zoom where parish activities were discussed since their last meeting. He also attended a Justice and Peace contacts meeting at Our Lady of Fatima Church on 2 July where a talk and tour of the church was given. There was discussion about the experience and hopes for the forthcoming general election by the attendees. Robert thanked Fr Sean for putting a notice in the newsletter about the general election.

Catechists: Eileen thanked Holly for arranging the recent retreats for the eucharistic ministers which were very enjoyable and there was positive feedback from all.

Folk: Angela advised that there was a new instrumentalist. This Sunday will be the last with the Folk Group until 2nd week of September. Fr Sean asked if singing could continue in future during summer, just a couple of hymns with no accompaniment.

Finance committee: the next meeting was scheduled for the end of July when there would be discussion about future investments.

SVP: are busy assisting the Food Bank and are very grateful for any donations received. There is a particular need for shampoo, soap, toilet rolls etc.

Volunteer Co-ordinator: Holly is still endeavouring to arrange a meeting with Elm Park Dining Club. She had run some ministry retreat days recently and was planning to run a youth ministry training day in October. There will be a new parishioners brunch in October. Over the summer a kitchen clear up will take place. It would be useful to have the names of groups using the kitchen regularly to get them involved.

Fr Sean: Coming to the end of sacramental preparation. New wifi has been installed in the church which has improved the performance of the contactless card unit. We have had two projectors and screens installed. One of the screens is over the Blessed Sacrament chapel so thought will have to be given about the effect of the candles on the screen. Livestreaming will be via the parish's own YouTube channel going forward. Plan to start advertising RCIA now so the course can begin in early September. Deanery meeting in September at the parish.

AOB: Sound system. Fr Sean advised that it was as good as it is going to get as the acoustics in the church cannot be changed. All the speakers are working and the system itself is good. Fr Sean will look at placing a microphone on both sides of the ambo to pick up sound better if readers move their heads while reading.

Future meetings: The frequency of meetings was discussed. It was agreed that if a member was unable to attend a written report could be provided. To be reviewed at next meeting.

15. Date of next meeting: Monday 9th September. Angela agreed to chair in Catherine's absence.

Then October 14th, November 11th, December 9th 2024.