

St Margaret Clitherow Parish Meeting

Tuesday, 15th May, 2017.

Present – Fr. Andrew, P. Vetch, C. Guest, R. James, M. James, B. Thompson, P. Thompson, A. Davies, H. Ellwood, C. Barclay, F. Romano, A. Sugden, R. Snape

Apologies – P. Copeland

Minutes from last meeting – passed as correct.

Treasurer's Report – bank balance on 30-04-17 was £4453.77 and cash in hand £63.69. Outstanding bills: Paolo Donizetti for refurbishment of fly-catcher. Fr. Andrew informed the meeting that a new financial system is to be put in place at the request of the Diocese. All parish accounts will now be on-line and the parish will only have one account. Finance for SMC will be run from the main parish account, though it will have its own location within the account. Lucy will be able to give updates when requested.

It was felt that last summer's collection for the roof had been very successful and it was agreed that a similar collection should be put in place during the summer months this year.

Maintenance –

- The roof is still leaking in two places and requires attention asap. James Harker will be asked to look at the problem.

Other issues not relating to maintenance –

- **Flies:** The problem of dead flies in many areas of the building has been a problem in recent months. AS suggested that birds nesting in the roof could exacerbate the problem. PV suggested that the nests could be investigated when the roof was inspected for repair. AD asked whether a twice yearly fumigation of the building might improve the situation.
- **Flowers:** The issue was raised because of apparent confusion over arrangements for Easter flowers. AD had assumed responsibility for facilitating the floral decorations – for which thanks. It was felt that the person compiling the rota should take on a responsibility for ensuring its smooth operation. Some discussion took place on possible improvements to the current rota pattern. Fr. Andrew added that the Christmas and Easter flowers at St. Stephen's were billed to the parish. He suggested that, in future, SMC should do the same.
- **Health and Safety:** Fr. Andrew said that the church needed a Health and Safety representative to attend a meeting on June 7th as the diocese has requested an audit on Health and Safety. Vicky Fattorini has volunteered for the role and will be assisted by Fiona Romano.

CG gave an account of an accident she had suffered while cleaning the church at Easter. She made two significant points: that an accident book should be available for reporting incidents and that the curvature of the kneelers led to the likelihood of possible accidents. PV felt that some remedial work was necessary to ensure that the ends of the kneelers were uniform as, at present, some do jut out into the access aisles. A joiner will be approached to assess the problem.

- **Fr. Peter's Memorial:** PV has purchased a plaque and GP Donizetti is to be asked to place the plant in the railed off section at the front of the church. Fr. Andrew suggested that the

dedication could take place on Sunday July 16th, two days after the 5th anniversary of Fr. Peter's death. Mass on that day would be offered in his memory.

Recent activities

- **Church House Coffee Morning:** The event raised £487.00 including £100 in donations. PV asked whether more notice could be given of the date to avoid clashes in personal diaries. Dates are arranged through Church House and RJ is usually informed of the date quite late in the year. This year there was a last minute re-arrangement of date because another group had mistakenly published incorrect details for their event.
- **Lenten Lunch:** SMC raised the largest amount for Christian Aid but CG commented that there were too few volunteers to ensure its smooth operation. She announced that she does not wish to continue in the role and asked for a new volunteer. Fr. Andrew asked whether it could be organised differently and suggested that he will raise the matter at a meeting of local clergy.

Future Events:

- **Buckden Singers' Summer Concert on 15th July:** PV asked for volunteers to assist with refreshments at the event. He added that the choir will rehearse in the church on a number of occasions before the concert.

AoB:

- Fr. Andrew informed the meeting that the Festival Service will be on June 18th. He also added that during the week of 19th – 23rd June, Holy Family School have asked to use SMC church each day for day retreats. He said that no payment has been requested but that a donation would be welcomed.
- CB asked whether any alteration could be made to the length of hymns, especially in the weeks the organ is played because she felt that, on occasions, the length of hymns become something to be endured rather than an opportunity for prayerful reflection. A brief explanation of the hymn planning followed and Fr. Andrew suggested that perhaps he could indicate particular verses especially in the recessional hymn.
- BT commented that there is still a problem with acoustics. PV admitted that it was still on his "to do" list.
- PV now has the new signage for the toilets and has also purchased a Keysafe.
- AD asked whether there was a possibility of selling the lawnmower since it is now no longer in use as we have a gardener.

Next Meeting – AGM Tuesday, 11th July 2017, following Mass at 7pm.