

Minutes of Parish Pastoral Meeting (Thursday 8th March 2018)

Meeting began with the Opening Prayer and apologies were received from Gemma Mc Cormick and Kate Cloherty. No matters arose from the previous meeting. In the absence of Gemma Mc Cormick (secretary) Fr Joe took the minutes.

Financial/Property Update

We have £35,000 in the Bank. We have spent in the last year £7,380.00 to deal with the rising damp in the dining room, the hall entrance, the backdoor entrance, the kitchen and the utility room at the rear of the house. Because of the age of the building there was no damp course underneath the house.

£14,500 to put two new boilers in the house with new radiators and piping.

£3,672 to replace the boiler in the hall which broke down and could not be repaired.

£1,944.99 to change over to LED lights and install emergency exit lights and two lights outside of the exits of the hall.

£12,389.60 to install new LED lighting in the Church, 6 security cameras/lighting around church & house and front door/back door entry system with camera.

Still awaiting report on fire assessment on church/house/hall and work to be carried out from that. There is dampness upstairs from house roof to be repaired. There are problems with the windows in house/church and front door to church and roof in church/house and church heating system needs to be replaced.

We brought in from offertory collection £28,401.94 but we are levied by the Diocese £11,070. The Building fund brought in £5,285.64 but levied £6,180. We got back £5,361.61 from Gift-Aid and £1,250 from small plate (non-Gift-Aid donators). Our insurance for parish £3,251.00, Council Tax/Rates £2,748.63, Fr Joe's annual wages £4,473.72 and Gas £6,623.66. We are just breaking even.

Liturgy Update

There are six new Altar servers, three from primary 7, two from primary 6 and one from primary 5. All completed a 5-week training programme. In the near future it is hoped to train them further to carry the processional cross and use

the thurible. After the First Communion of Primary 4 (9th June) another training programme will be arranged.

A.O.C.B

Several questions were raised by the same parishioner.

1. Is the planning application to replace the slates with tiles part of the works proposed by Mr Boyle (Diocesan Property Manager) and will it reduce the potential costs.

Reply from Fr Joe. Yes, tiles are much cheaper than slate and all parish work over £5,000 has to be approved by Trustees of the Diocese with John Boyle presenting 3 quotes. Mr Boyle only makes proposals with PPs and Trustees make final decision.

2. I think the suggestion of a Q&A section in bulletin would help tremendously. When might this commence?

Reply from Fr Joe. Informally it already has but formally after the summer holidays.

3. Fr Joe has suggested that we need not have a meeting concerning the Synodal consultation with Parishes. However, I would be interested if this matter is discussed by the committee and if any proposals are made.

Reply from Fr Joe. Bishop John set a process which we will follow like all the other parishes in the Diocese and use the time to pray as requested prior to the First Open meeting. We will await the Open Meetings (3) where the Bishop's vision and initiative are proposed and then our discussions and our responses can be take place. The committee cannot make proposals nor is a meeting helpful when we do not know at this moment precisely what we have to discuss or give opinions about.

4. When might the proposed annual statement be available. Will it include details of the works listed in the new report prepared by Mr Boyle and will it include details of the priorities the committee identified?

Reply from Fr Joe. These have been covered in the Finance and Property statement discussed earlier. We await from the Auditors the annual accounts. .

Date of next meeting: 7th June 2018.