

**St. John Fisher Church Parish Council**  
Minutes of meeting held on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> November 2009  
at 1930 in the Upper Room

**Present**

Edna Arulanantham, Maura Brady, Jessica Gooch, Barbara Jukes, Karen Lury, Hilary O'Byrne, Kay O'Connor, Ann Anderson, John Brennan, Rob Browne, Brian Morahan (Chair), Chris Thoumine, Fr. Kevin Jordan

**Opening Prayer and Welcome**

Fr. Kevin opened the meeting with a prayer.

**Apologies for Absence**

Michael Glynn

**Minutes Secretary**

A vote of thanks was offered to Mary Evans who has stepped down as the minutes' secretary. Fr Kevin agreed to take the minutes in the absence of a replacement.

**Approval of Minutes 21<sup>st</sup> September 2009**

The minutes of the above meeting were approved and signed.

**Matters Arising**

None that would not be dealt with in the reports.

**Premises Report**

Meetings with Chris Fanning (CF) and pre-school on-going but things moving forward and will be a parish asset. The bar toilets will be refurbished. CF will provide the spec. Security of side gate and fencing an issue – children should not be visible from road so a wooden gate with a viewing panel indicated. Current gate also hard to use. Sheds a hazard and concrete base broken. CF recommended a diocesan-approved demolition firm and local contractors (*J&B*) who are used to working around church properties. Spec for outside cannot be given until sheds gone. School seems to have £20,000 available and will tarmac the area and lay a soft play surface.

Main sticking point is lease agreement still not definite and one is needed for grant to be given. Rob will speak to CF and Stephen Peter to finalise this. Will cost £2000 – parish to pay half. Previous ones done with outside private organisations. Pre-school is not such – rubber stamp from WRCDT may be enough as we have a fairly formal agreement with the pre-school. *RB*

Brighter lighting needed for passage by bar, path to house and car park. Infrared activated security lights? *JB and KO'C*

The health and safety instruction from WRCDT was discussed. Some parishes scared into signing up immediately. CF not convinced by it. Five year agreement – year one get money's worth but not after that – will only do so much for flat fee and then start charging. E.g. – every piece electrical equipment needs an annual PAT test. Can someone in parish do that? Also may get away with existing fire regulations. *KJ to ask around*

**Finance**

As attached plus observation that parish bench mark is meaningless. E.g. we have huge collection but one of the lower pounds-per-person rate because of so many children.

**Catechist's Report**

As attached.

**Parish Priest's Report**

As attached. In future will also publish numbers of sick visited.

### **Annual Parish Meeting**

Looking at previous year's agenda content is light. JB to see predecessor's reports to bring parish up-to-date over whole year. BM little to report so will go through contents suggestion box. Will reiterate happy to support new initiatives and so MB will report on coffee mornings. FC report will not include full list of accounts – too much information. PPC Members to attend bazaar and encourage people to go to APM.

### **Parish Council – 3 Year Election Process**

2 members standing down. The election process was explained as per the constitution.

### **Any Other Business**

Questionnaires could be trimmed down a little further. *BM*

A lot of suggestions were received about music regarding too many sheets, not using the hymn books enough, a lack of traditional hymns and uncertainty as to what the people were allowed to sing. These will be dealt with at the APM.

### **Dates of Next Meeting**

22 February

17 May

20 September

15 November

29 November

The meeting closed at 2100 with a prayer led by Fr. Kevin.