

PRESENT: See Attendance Sheet attached

1. ***OPENING PRAYER***

Fr Conroy opened the meeting with a prayer. Bill McQuilter welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. ***APOLOGIES***

Were received from Pauline Butchart, Sandra Sheridan, Clare Byrne and Alison Murray.

3. ***MINUTES OF LAST MEETING***

The Minutes of the meeting of 17th January were approved by Brian McKenna and seconded by Ian Murray.

4. ***MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES***

- a. ***Parish Census:*** Ian reported on the work of the sub-group and presented a draft of the questionnaire which would be used in the first phase to Mass attendees. A discussion followed regarding the layout, relevance of the questions and the purpose of the form. It was agreed that with one or two modifications the questionnaire would be distributed on Good Friday and during the Easter celebrations. The completed census form should be returned to the Church on Sunday 8th May, which is Census Day. Ian asked for volunteers to help with the distribution of the forms. It was agreed that notices would be put in the Latest and the Bulletin. The second phase would be approached street by street. With the help of local knowledge a pack would be distributed to those thought not to have received a questionnaire. The pack would consist of a letter explaining the need for the questionnaire, the questionnaire and a return addressed envelope. In that way it was hoped to reach as many parishioners as possible.

FrC

Fr Conroy thanked Ian and said he would like to review the reason why the census was necessary and its use as a means of identifying a way forward for the parish. He went on to set out a vision of the parish as community and asked if this was a vision which the parish council could agree on and work towards achieving. He outlined a parish developed in small Christian community groups where people could come together in development of faith and social care within the wider parish community. This would ensure that the parish was central to and played a part in people's lives. A

discussion followed and it was agreed that the council were in support of such a vision and that 3 sub-groups would be set up to work towards this. The groups being:

1. Census – developing and co-ordinating the various phases;
2. Vision – setting out the building blocks for the vision;
3. Strategy – incorporating the work from the recent survey into the practical aspects of the vision.

Members volunteered for appropriate groups. Fr Conroy suggested that it would be appropriate to co-opt parishioners who we felt had a special expertise or aptitude in the area we were working. He asked that he be invited to group meetings.

- b. **Parish Council Elections:** Fr Conroy agreed to supply information for the Latest in preparation for parish council elections later in the year. The article would set out who was a member of the parish council, what the role of the council was, what it was trying to achieve and the commitment required to be a member.

FrC

- c. **Parish page on Facebook:** Fr Kane reported that the sub-group had met and produced a sample page which has been posted on Facebook and attracted 5 friends, but it needed further development. A range of questions followed about the practicalities and difficulties faced in operating a Facebook page. It was agreed that with careful planning and more support it could be easily managed. Laura agreed to become part of this sub-group.

5. ***ANY OTHER BUSINESS***

- a. **Suggestion Box:** Ian asked if it would be useful to highlight the PPC meeting to the parishioners by putting a notice in the Bulletin and providing a suggestion box allowing parishioners to raise concerns or praise. It was agreed that this would be done.

FrC

- b. **Second Collection:** Ian suggested that it might be useful for parishioners if it were highlighted what the second collection was for – in Lent it is Retired Priests, and normally upkeep of the hall. He said that it might also be useful to give a regular update on the amount raised, and how close the parish was to the target.

FrC

As there was no further business to discuss Fr Kane closed the meeting with a prayer.

6. ***DATE OF NEXT MEETING***

The date of the next meeting was agreed as Monday 6th June at 7.30 pm in the Chapel House.