

**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 Buchar, Clare Byrne, Marie Therese Cleary, Fr Kane, Brian McKenna, Jim Nicol and Sandra Sheridan.
3. ***MINUTES OF LAST MEETING***  
The Minutes of the meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> September were approved by John Rainey and seconded by John Duffy.
4. ***MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES***
  - a. ***Sub Groups:***
    - i. ***Census Group:*** Ian reported that the returns from the mailing were a little disappointing. The group are currently working on combining the messenger and census list. A meeting has been arranged with the messengers and it may be that people will have to knock doors to get information. An in depth discussion followed about the difficulty of obtaining information, people's reluctance to complete the census sheet and different strategies for encouraging participation. Fr Conroy reported that the parish was developing a bank of e-mail addresses through preparation for Sacrament so gradually will build up an e-mail bank of the parish.
    - ii+ ***Vision and Strategy Group:*** Bill reported that the Strategy and Vision  
iii groups had a very useful meeting exploring the mission and vision statements for the parish, examining the geographical groups, and how they would fit with existing parish structures. The aim of the plan to make the parish the heart of the community will be realised and measured by objectives which are being developed. Communication will be central and other important areas, marketing, web-page, Facebook, fliers. There is a need to encourage more volunteers with appropriate skills eg., marketing. The group agreed that the plan must reflect what came back from the parish survey – youth, families, and other target groups.

Anne Dougan asked that when the group used the term community, did they mean the parish community or wider community. If the wider community then need to put more emphasis on Ecumenical matters and have more interaction with other Christian churches. It was agreed that although ecumenism was not reflected in the parish survey, it was important to develop communication with the wider community and we should encourage this.

Bill explained that both groups were going to meet in the new year to develop the vision in line with strategy. Elizabeth agreed to contact Fr Kane after the new year to arrange a meeting. Fr Conroy suggested that the strategy group also look at vision for families, what the parish should be doing to support them and looking at practical ways of how we reach people.

EMcQ

Bill said he had been asked by Fr Kane to bring up the development and future of the Legionnaire. This was a good tool for working with other churches. The feeling of the meeting was that the Legionnaire was a very expensive resource, but was something that should be looked at.

- b. **Parish Council Elections:** Fr Conroy reported that he has been speaking with Jim and Clare who still wished to be involved in arranging the Parish council elections. Hopefully things will be moving after the new year and they can work on a plan with time-scales.

Fr C

- c. **Parish page on Facebook:** Laura reported that the Parish page is mainly thought for the day and it would be good to encourage more interaction. She felt that more administrators would be useful and allow more posting of messages and events.

- d. **Suggestion Box:** Fr Conroy reported that 3 suggestions had been received. These were discussed and it was agreed that the points would be passed to the Liturgy Group for discussion or action.

## 5. ***ANY OTHER BUSINESS***

- a. **Youth Council:** Mary Beth reported that the Youth Council was up and running with 7 members. She reported that the first Youth Mass was planned for 5.30 pm Mass on a Sunday at the end of January. The aim is to encourage as many young people as possible to participate in Music Group, Readings, and Pass-keeping. The plan is to target as many young people as possible using the census and distributing information through the school and parish. The hall will be open afterwards for a social. Mary Beth suggested this would be a good opportunity to tap into resources which could help the parish.

Mary Beth also reported that 6 members of the Youth Council would be

attending the 2013 World Youth Day in Rio De Janeiro, and in their fundraising for this event will be developing opportunities for young people in the Parish.

A retreat is being planned for the youth club which currently has around 45 to 50 P6 and P7's and 25 S1 and S2's.

b. **Parish Mission:** Fr Conroy reported that the Latest had been distributed to the parish and contained all the information regarding the mission. Everything else was in place and it was only a matter of waiting.

c. **Altar Servers:** Alison commented on the servers at the evening Mass which she found could be a little distracting.

noted

d. **Youth Club:** Fr Conroy reported that the helpers at the Youth Club have offered extra tuition for school subjects to the young people that attend. This has proved very useful and a good deal of thanks goes to the volunteers.

noted

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

The date of the next meeting was agreed as Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30 pm in the Chapel House.