

**Blessed Robert Grissold
Parish Pastoral Council**

Minutes of the meeting held 20th May 2010

Present: Fr. Arikat, B. Gibbs, J. Gibbs, D. Green, J. Martin, M. Collins, A. Dodd, M. Carroll, I. Clarke, G. Chesshire.

Apologies: C. Mitchell, G. Chesshire apology for late arrival.

1. Prayer and welcome

Father opened the meeting with a reading and a prayer.

2. Minutes of the meeting held 12th March 2010.

Read and approved.

3. Matters Arising.

M. Carroll corrected the sum raised by the coffee evening £1673.42 not £1646.92 as stated in the previous minutes.

4. Faith Formation.

- Attendance at the Easter vigil was considered disappointing.
- Newsletter was greatly appreciated. Thanks extended to I. Clarke
- Confirmation – very successful. Next opportunity for confirmation will be in 2 years time.
- Pope's visit Father handed out prayer cards and showed the poster he had been sent.
So far 39 people have signed up for the mass at Coventry. No decisions can be made until the parish receives its allocation. Arrangements have to be agreed with the government because it is an official visit.
Father suggested 3 retiring collections to fund Parish's contribution to the cost of the visit.
J. Martin suggested 2 second collections instead. Council agreed and Father will announce the collections.
Collections to take place 23rd May and 13th June.
Prayer for papal visit to be said by Father at the end of the bidding prayers.
M. Carroll to book coach.
G. Chesshire will attempt to ascertain how many places will be allocated
- Sacrament of First Holy Communion 13th June.
One candidate making their 1st holy communion with their school will be introduced to the Parish during mass on 20th.
Ellie to be asked to organise breakfast etc. for 13th.

Candidates will read bidding prayers written by them.

5. Liturgy and Sunday Mass.

- Challenge to our community – some anonymous letters have been sent to Father and two parishioners. Council decided to take no further action unless further letters were received.
- Strength of our community – Friendliness and welcome. Many visitors comment on the warmth of their welcome.
- Liturgy – Comment has been made that the bidding prayers may have become too political.
 - J. Martin suggested prayers be edited in advance to eliminate political issues.
 - I. Clarke suggested that the balance should be looked at.
 - Father happy for the reader to adjust prayers if felt too political.
 - Children's liturgy numbers have risen recently.
 - Choir visited St. Catherine's Birmingham to help them celebrate Saint Catherine's day.
 - Father informed us that Stephen Lansbury, a teacher retiring from St. Peter's would be prepared to come to play the organ on some occasions but not as a regular organist.
 - All rotas have been completed.
 - Father asked that Val Pugh's name be added to the anniversary book.
- General maintenance
 - D. Green had managed to contact the gardener and will arrange for him to come again.
 - Father thanked B. Gibbs for replacing fuses/lights etc.
 - D.G. noted that the exterior light sensors needed to be checked.
 - Still experiencing problems from inconsiderate parking by those attending football practises.
- Group for the elderly
 - between 8 to 12 attend.
 - Transport will be needed for the July meeting.
- Youth Group
 - Restarted 9th May.
 - Considering lowering the age to include year 5 and 6.
 - Looking to organise a fundraising event.

6. Finance

- New OPUS system makes generating reports and gift aid administration much easier.
- 1st Jan-10th May Total Parish income £11 711.45p Expenditure £10 612.13p.
- A surplus of £1099.32p this equates to a 9% increase.
- More details will be available at the next meeting.
- M. Fairbrother to be contacted to do presentation on finances in near future.

7. Charities and Social Events.

- HCPT coffee evening had been well supported. Only a small group went to Lourdes this year. Excellent and successful week.
- Fr. Ed's charity continues to receive good support.
- Fundraising
 - J. Gibbs suggested an open gardens event for 27th June 12 till 4. Admission £3. Refreshments will be available to buy at one of the venues.
 - M. Carroll to organise a cake sale after mass on 20th June.
 - BBQ 11th September M. Collins to organise.
 - Quiz night 2nd October I. and E. Clarke to set questions. Catering to be discussed at next meeting.
 - July 18th Men of the parish will cook bacon butties after mass to celebrate feast day of Blessed Robert Grissold.
 - October 10th Harvest mass with Youth Group.
 - Youth Group want to get involved in fundraising. Parish has to raise £600 air fare to send representative to World Youth Day 2011. M. Collins will contact Youth Group to see if they would like to assist in this respect.
 - B. Gibbs suggested a race night. J. Martin to investigate availability of horses and report back at next meeting.
 - One World Week Supper is to be held in our Church on 22nd October guest speaker will be Caroline Spelman.

8. AOB

- The parish room has been rented out every Monday evening from September
- Father will be on holiday from 19th July for 5 weeks.

Date of next meeting 15th July in the Parish room.