

Sacred Heart, Tisbury and All Saint's, Wardour
PARISH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
MINUTES

19.15 25th June 2010 Hinton Hall, Tisbury

Present: Fr Thomas, Nick Weeks (Chairman), Martin Snell (treasurer) members of the Parish Pastoral Council - Patricia Coopman, Toni Eccles, Sarah Howard, Felicity MacSwiney Mike Montgomery, Krystyna Morgan, Mark Shuldham, - Christine Allen, director Progressio, and 17 parishioners

Apologies: Elaine, Lady Rawlinson, Johnnie & Sue Berkeley-Matthews

1. Welcome, Introductions

The chairman opened the meeting, explained the format and asked Fr Thomas to lead a prayer.

2. Reports

i. The chairman reported that over the past year the PPC had considered its role in the light of the diocesan documents "Called to be a People of Hope" and "Pastoral Councils Implementation Guide". The PPC had concluded that its current constitution needed replacement; he highlighted the salient features of the proposed new constitution including the fact that it should be reviewed annually. He proposed that the parish adopt the new constitution which had been circulated the previous Sunday after all Masses. **The meeting unanimously adopted the new constitution.** [*copy to be attached*]

There would be a lunch on August Bank Holiday Monday to thank all those who work for the parish in a multitude of ways.

The PPC had also considered a Vision Statement for the Parish. The draft Vision Statement was introduced by Mike Montgomery and suggestions for action as a result were invited by Mark Shuldham. Suggestions were:-

Better Mass sheets including Mass sheets for children

Improved Community links – how parishioners know of those who are ill and would like visiting or help e.g. with shopping

Review the format and contents of the newsletter to improve communication

Communication within the parish took place at the school gates or waiting for the school bus and at coffee after 9 a.m. Mass in Tisbury.

As the parish covered 18 C of E parishes there were opportunities for evangelisation.

Official link person to co-ordinate visiting of the sick

How does the parish hear of the need to take Communion to the Sick?

There needs to be a link with Care and Nursing Homes within the parish as currently they do not inform the parish about Catholic residents.

The chairman said that feedback and further suggestions would also be welcome after the meeting.

ii. Martin Snell reported on the financial state of the parish, copies of the accounts having been distributed after all Masses the previous Sunday. [*copy to be attached*] He pointed out that although the bank balance, on which little interest was earned, looked healthy it would soon disappear if any major work had to be undertaken on the church. He thanked Felicity MacSwiney for her help every Monday morning.

Ann Windsor asked that consideration be given to having the windows of the Parish Rooms professionally cleaned.

Fr Thomas thanked Martin for his work as treasurer.

iii. Ann Windsor reported on the Youth Activities in the parish. In February she and Josie Bell had attended the first CYMFed (Catholic Youth Ministry Federation) congress which was uplifting. It was great loss that Josie Bell, who was so good with young people, had moved away. The parish youth Group Eclipse met monthly, except in August and January, and had undertaken several activities. Unfortunately because of transport difficulties they had not done very much with young Catholics in Salisbury. However a small number had been on a Salisbury deanery trip to France last summer and there would be return visit by young French Catholics this summer. The Youth SVP met weekly in term time and had visited Albany House to play games with the residents, had been called on by the Tisbury Link scheme to walk dogs for owners who were unable to and had filled 26 shoe boxes at Christmas to send to Bulgaria.

iv. Mike Montgomery reported on the activities of the Tisbury Catholic Social Group over the past year. The Group had organised 6 events in the last 12 months. It was always willing to organise or help with any events that were planned. He gave an example of all the practical details that had to be attended to for the First Communion breakfast at Wardour. Josie Bell's moving away was a great loss to the group as she had been the treasurer. He thanked the group for always being so willing to volunteer to do whatever needed to be done.

3. Christine Allen, director of Progressio, gave a fascinating talk on the work of Progressio explaining how it worked in promoting development in Africa, Asia and Latin America and how the money the parish had raised for 'Land to Mouth' was helping organisations in Malawi to promote sustainable, organic farming practices.

She answered questions.

The Chairman thanked her for coming. He then closed the formal part of the meeting and invited all to have refreshments.