

## ST ANDREW'S PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, 9 SEPTEMBER 2014

**In attendance:** Fr John Hine (Chairman) Deacon Jolyon Vickers  
 Nuala Smith Dr James Sharp  
 Andrew Butler Sylwia Dorosz  
 Elena Peck Peter Lonergan  
 Roger Styles

**Apologies:** Janet Brierley

The second meeting of the St Andrew's Church Parish Advisory Council took place on 9th September 2014.

Serial	Agenda Item	Action	Comment
1.	<p><b>Minutes of last meeting &amp; matters arising:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The minutes of the meeting of 10 Mar 14 were accepted as an accurate record.</li> <li>All actions had been completed, except the results of an assessment of the merit of a "100 Club". It was agreed that this should be discounted for the time being for the Development Fund, but might be considered in the future in support of parish funds.</li> <li>Some additional points were noted for discussion under AOB.</li> </ul>		
2.	<p><b>Fr John's Introduction:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In his latest newsletter, Fr John posed the question of how the Parish, with all the pressures of our current society, might help families, particularly those with children, to become more active members of our community. He invited comments from parishioners and the Council.</li> </ul>		
3.	<p><b>Advisory Council's reflection on this:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deacon Jolyon suggested that the Parish Register was out of date and was the core to any attempt to improve engagement across the breadth of the rural Parish. An update to the register was agreed as being vital and Fr John invited Janet Brierley, Jolyon and Roger, and any others interested, to examine how this should be done.</li> <li>Rachel and Martin Heinrichsmier (in a note to Fr John) suggested that a number of "church aunties, uncles of grandparents" could support families and children. But it was recognised that there were safeguarding issues to deal with in this area.</li> <li>Fr John said that he had previously held monthly meetings with family groups, where a range of topics was considered.</li> <li>The Council suggested that a small group should be set up to consider these ideas. Dr Sharp suggested that Lorraine would be interested and Elena also volunteered.</li> <li>Peter Lonergan suggested that this subject might be a</li> </ul>	<p><b>Fr John</b> <b>Janet</b> <b>Jolyon</b> <b>Roger</b></p> <p><b>James</b> <b>Elena</b></p> <p><b>Fr John</b></p>	<p>An action sub-group should be set up for this task.</p>

	topic for one of Fr John's homilies.		
4.	<p><b>Parish Finances:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sylwia Dorosz presented a summary of the parish main accounts. Despite beginning the year in a poor position and having to pay off a number of large debts (principally utilities), the parish was now in reasonable health, currently running a small surplus. This augured well for the remainder of the year, and there was the prospect of Gift Aid recoveries, too.</li> <li>There was a little anxiety over discrepancies (usually positive) between weekly collections and the amount banked. This was improving but needed greater vigilance.</li> </ul>		Statements attached.
5.	<p><b>Parish Centre:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roger Styles summarised the Development Fund:</li> <li>Since 1 Jan 14, the Development Fund had received all income from hall but also has taken on all running costs;</li> <li>Lesley McCarthy has been engaged as Parish Centre Manager and she has already increased bookings and had a very positive engagement with users;</li> <li>Historic utility bills in dispute and sewage pump servicing have been paid at a cost of £3.8K, along with central heating annual maintenance at £415;</li> <li>Acoustic curtains have been acquired in an attempt to insulate church services from concurrent activities in the hall, thus increasing the availability of the hall;</li> <li>In addition to monthly standing orders of £523 and hall income of £2.2K for the first 6 months, grants have been received this year, totalling £7.5K, including one from an anonymous parishioner;</li> <li>The parish's loan liability now stands at £119K.</li> <li>It was noted that an updated parish register should provide a good vehicle to attract donations in support of the Development Fund.</li> <li>Similarly, Fr John reported that following the letter circulated earlier in the year about our parish centre, a local solicitor had made a generous offer concerning legal advice for arrangements for legacies in wills.</li> </ul>		Statement attached.
6.	<p><b>Social Events:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Elena and Peter announced a parish Christmas lunch at the London Beach Hotel on Sunday 7 Dec 14. There would be reduced prices for children and a hamper draw arranged by Kay Ockenden.</li> </ul>	Elena Peter	
7.	<p><b>The Repository:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nuala Smith reported progress in the establishment of a repository in the church.</li> <li>There was discussion on the siting of the stall and the provision of a display case. Nuala agreed to follow up the display case plans and consider all siting options.</li> </ul>	Nuala	

8.	<b>Church Music:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Andrew Butler was applauded for the excellent standard of music in the church.</li> </ul>		
9.	<b>Any Other Business:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fr John suggested that the <b>notice board</b> outside the church should be improved. This was vigorously supported.</li> <li>He reported that <b>car parking</b> during the week was hampering the use of the hall. Action on this was also encouraged and Elena agreed to support Fr John in his efforts to improve the situation, including the use of signage.</li> <li>Similarly, action was needed to <b>decorate the church doors and sort out the grounds/garden</b>. Fr John wished to call for volunteers.</li> <li>Fr John said that the record of the Parish Council's meeting should be widely available across the Parish.</li> </ul>	<b>Fr John</b>  <b>Elena</b> <b>Fr John</b>  <b>Fr John</b>  <b>Fr John</b>	
10.	<b>Date of next meeting:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Fri 9 Jan 15 at 7.30pm.</b></li> </ul>	<b>All</b>	

**Fr John Hine**  
**Parish Priest**

11<sup>th</sup> Sep 14