

*Parish of Saul & Ballee*

## **Minutes from Pastoral Council Meeting**

Date of meeting: Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2015

Time: 7.00pm

Location: Saul Parochial House

**Attendees:** Fr. Paul Alexander, Vivienne McCormick, Peter Mullan, Geraldine McVeigh, Gemma Sloan, Rachel Hamill, Mary Burns, Fionnuala Murray, Anne Marie Hanvey.

**Chair:** Vivienne McCormick / **Vice Chair:** Peter Mullan / **Secretary:** Rachel Hamill

**Apologies:** There were no apologies.

**1. Opening Prayer** led by Anne Marie Hanvey.

**2. Adoption of Minutes from Previous Meeting** – 8<sup>th</sup> April 2015

The minutes from the above meeting were circulated to all members via email prior to tonight's meeting. All were in agreement with the minutes and a proposal was made by Geraldine McVeigh and seconded by Gemma Sloan to adopt the minutes as presented. The minutes were adopted and signed off by the Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson and the Secretary. A copy will be held on file in the Parochial Office and a copy will be published on the Parish website. The Parish notice boards will also be updated.

- **Action:** Rachel Hamill to email minutes to Parish secretary so they can be published on the Parish website. Vivienne McCormick and Geraldine McVeigh to up date the noticeboards.

**3. Matters Arising** –

- **Parish census / volunteer forms:** A letter of acknowledgement has been sent out to the new volunteers. Details of the new cleaners will be given to Caroline Hanvey and Amanda Curran in the Parish Office who are responsible for drawing up the rotas. The contact details for the new fundraising volunteer will also be given to Caroline Hanvey so she can contact her about future fundraising events in the Parish. Fr. Paul is to organise training for the existing Extra-Ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist and also invite any new volunteers to this Ministry to come along. This will likely take place in Tobar Mhuire, Crossgar.

- **Action:** Vivienne to advise Caroline and Amanda in the Parish Office of the new volunteer contact details.

- **Action:** Fr. Paul to organise the relevant training for the Extra Ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist.

- **Donation boxes:** Vivienne and Geraldine have put up the picture frames for candle and flower donations in St Patrick's Church, Saul. Picture frames for candle and flower donations were also erected in St. Joseph's Church, Ballycruttle and St. Tassach's Church, Carlin.

- **Action:** No further action required.

- **Parish Newsletter:** Following discussions it was agreed to postpone publication of the next issue to the end of June. This will allow an article to be included on Saul Sunday. Peter Mullan was asked if he would write an article on Saul Sunday for the Newsletter. Peter kindly said that he would consider writing an article but that he can not commit to anything at the present moment. Other articles that had been proposed for the next newsletter are on the Safeguarding Committee and John Paul II Awards. Fionnuala Murray had previously submitted an article on the Safe Guarding committee to Vivienne McCormick to be included in the Newsletter.

- **Action:** Anne Marie to email article on the John Paul II awards to Vivienne.

- **Saul Mountain Committee:** Peter updated the Pastoral Council on the works the Mountain Committee and volunteers were carrying out to prepare for the forthcoming "Saul Sunday" on the 8<sup>th</sup> June. The Banners and posters will be put up shortly along with notices in the local Parish bulletins.

- **Action:** Peter to arrange for the relevant publicity ie banners, posters etc to be erected.

- **Notice boards:** The noticeboards are now up and running.

- **Action:** No further action required.

- **Painting of Ballycruttle Church:** Fr Paul advised the Parish Pastoral Council members at tonight's meeting that as this item involves Parish Finances it is not within the remit of the Pastoral Council so it should be removed from our agenda. This is an item that can be taken up by the Parish Finance Committee.

- **Action:** No further action required by the Pastoral Council.

- **Pastoral Council Retreat:** Went ahead on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2015 in Tobar Mhuire, Crossgar and was a very successful day. It was a joint retreat with the Parish Pastoral Council from LoughShore, all agreed it was useful to meet another Pastoral Council to share ideas and gain inspiration from each other. Jim Deeds led the day and as always was very professional and thought inspiring in his presentations. Vivienne advised all

present that she had sent e-mails to Jim and Fr Alan McGuckian thanking them for their input to the day and also to the staff of Tobar Mhuire who were so good to us.

- **Action:** No further action required.

- **Morning Prayer of the Church** – Vivienne advised that she had received copies from Downpatrick Parish of booklets they use for this purpose. Following discussions it was agreed that Fr. Paul would source out our own booklets but in the meantime we could ask Amanda in the Parish Office to photocopy and print off 20 booklets from the Downpatrick copies for our Parishioners to use. Vivienne is to speak with Amanda and also contact Pat Dillon who first approached Vivienne with the idea. A notice will be placed in the Parish bulletin when the prayer group is ready to begin.

- **Action:** Vivienne to contact Amanda and Pat Dillon to update them.

- **Leaving supper / sign of appreciation for Fr Treanor:** Some Parishioners had approached members on the Parish Pastoral Council about the Parish organizing a farewell cup of tea for Fr Treanor to thank him for covering for Fr Paul while he was off recovering from surgery. This had been discussed in the Pastoral Council meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> April and all agreed it was a nice gesture for the Parish to show their appreciation. Vivienne, as Chair of the Pastoral Council, approached the subject of a presentation with Fr Treanor who was very humbled at the idea but due to his kind nature requested that the Parish do not organize anything for him. Due to this further discussions were had by the Parish Pastoral Council and in the end a farewell cup of tea did not proceed.

- **Action:** No further action required.

**7. Date of next Meeting:** It was agreed that due to the summer season approaching the next meeting to discuss Parish Matters would be held in August / September 2015.

The meeting concluded after the closing prayer.