

# Minutes of Pastoral Council meeting

29<sup>th</sup> April, 2014

**Present:** John Tunney (Chairperson); Fr. Tom Hogan; Fr. Feargus OFM; Andy Tierney; Fr. John Mc Govern; Tikki Daly; Dan O'Connell; Séan Mc Dermott; Sr. Anne Boland; Fr. Ger Fitzgerald; Maurice Griffin; Sr. Betty Curtin.

**Apologies:** Anthony Moore.

Prayer was led by John Tunney.

**Minutes** of previous meeting presented and approved. Proposed by Maurice Griffin and seconded by Fr. Ger Fitzgerald.

**No Correspondence.**

**Parish Team report was given by Sr. Betty Curtin.**

- ✓ Cloughleigh: Easter ceremonies went well, with a very large attendance at the outdoor stations around the Parish area, with Fr. Fitzgerald acting out the part of Jesus Christ.
  - ✓ Cathedral: huge involvement of many lay groups. Many thanks to all, particularly Liturgy Groups and choirs/musicians.
  - ✓ People of the Year awards were a great Parish occasion.
  - ✓ First Communion preparation with 1<sup>st</sup> confessions all in hand in various schools.
  - ✓ Divine Mercy Day was celebrated in the Cathedral.
  - ✓ Canonisation of two popes in Rome. Prayer cards distributed throughout Cluster parishes. Special celebration by Polish community in Shannon
  - ✓ May 3<sup>rd</sup> Old Folks outing to Knock
  - ✓ Expectant Parents blessing in Cathedral on 1<sup>st</sup> May.
  - ✓ Blessing of Babies in Cathedral on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May.
  - ✓ Mass for people with disability and chronic illness on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May in the Cathedral.
  - ✓ St. Joseph's Church; Easter ceremonies were very well attended.
  - ✓ Good Friday in O'Connell Square – large wooden cross – silent vigil.
  - ✓ Friary; Easter ceremonies well attended.
  - ✓ R.C.I.A.: 2 candidates for Baptism. A lot of preparation done by Sr. Betty and Andy Tierney.
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- **Maurice Griffin** outlined a promotion weekend to increase committed members to Eucharistic Adoration. There is a need for 100 new members. Brendan Cleary and John Hurley to speak at all Masses (15) on weekend of 10<sup>th</sup> /11<sup>th</sup> May... cards and biros to be handed out to all Mass goers and collected after Mass by volunteers. Need for many helpers in recruitment drive.

**Child protection:** standard Audit in place.

**Developing lay leadership:** Parish Team response was very much in favour of proposals and the need for Training and formation of laity. Fr. Tom Hogan outlined programme for Youth Ministry undertaken by Fr. Donagh O'Meara and structures to be put in place.

Diocesan organiser appointed: Maureen Kelly.

Weekend organised in Mount St. Joseph, Roscrea on 29/30 & 31<sup>st</sup>. identifying people with leadership potential. It is up to each parish to identify and approach people willing to go forward for training formation. Dan O'Connell asked that a suitably qualified person come and outline concrete proposals in planning of programme. Andy Tierney mentioned great involvement in the USA in this area - need for someone with previous experience in moving the proposal forward. .

Sr. Betty Curtin outlined the vast amount of experience & wisdom already within the parish groups and not to neglect their input in setting up future committees. Proposal for more lay involvement both priest and people need to be comfortable with arrangement. Maureen Kelly to be contacted and report back to Sr. Anne Boland, Parish Council.

#### ❖ **New parish Centre:**

Fr. Tom Hogan informed the meeting that the Finance & Property committee had received the tenders for the new Parish Centre which were circulated by David Mc Loughlin, Quantity Surveyor. The lowest tender of €578,755 from Custy builders was accepted.

He further presented a report from Coleman Engineers as to why there was an increase in the actual cost of the project from the projected cost presented by David Mc Loughlin in February 2012.

#### **The increased cost arose:**

- ❖ Planning conditions requiring surface water retention control on site.
- ❖ New foul sewer.
- ❖ Deeper foundations following site investigation work.
- ❖ Asbestos to be removed from old building.
- ❖ Separation of services water & electricity between Old Burren Cinema, Scout hall and new Parish Centre.
- ❖ Water harvesting to cut running cost for future water charges.

Work has begun on the project. To date the old Maria Assumpta hall is demolished and the foundations laid out for the new building.

✚ **AOB:** Parish Team and Pastoral Council need for more social interaction.

✚ Fr. Ger. to lead prayer at next meeting.

✚ Final prayer led by John Tunney.

✚ **Next meeting 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2014**