**Minutes of St Felix Pastoral Advisory Council Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 15th October 2014**

**Present:** Fr. J. Barnes , W. Ablard, T. Whitley, F. Badcock, E. Utting, Sr. Mavis, Sr. Bridget, A. Poole, B. Lamberton, A. Lamberton, T. Doran, S.Cox, J. Cox, S. O'Mahoney, C. Richardson, M. Macdonald, B. Macdonald, D. Thomas, M. Thomas, K. Waring, M. Butler, D. McGeachie, P.McIntee, T. Brazier,

**1. Opening Prayer and Welcome**

Wilf welcomed everyone and Fr. John opened the meeting with a prayer.

**2. Apologies for Absence**

D. Richardson, J. O'Mahoney, J. Birchall, D. Birchall, S. McCallum

**3. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Minutes agreed

**4. Matters Arising**

No matters arising

**5. Treasurer's Report**

As of 13th October £24,604.60 in bank but with uncashed cheques and second collections owing the actual amount available in the bank account is £21,117.89.

**6. St Cecilia's**

No progress

**7. Group Reports**

Fabric Alan Lamberton reported that there are still problems with the organ. An engineer has visited and the manufacturer is going to bring a circuit board to try and find the faults. A contract has been agreed for paving the memorial garden but no date as yet for commencement of work. The Stations of the Cross have all been cleaned and lights above each Station now need to be fixed. A long ladder has been purchased by the parish to access the Stations. It was suggested previously that a new sign would be bought for the front garden of the church but we may now just renovate the existing one. Dennis McGeachie said that he could possibly help with sign writing for the board, Fr. John said he would let him know. Brian Macdonald raised again the problem with the glass doors sticking. David Richardson is liaising with the supplier but they are being very slow at coming out to see the problem for themselves.

Liturgy Fiona Badcock - meeting planned for November. Mass for the Sick will be held on Tuesday 28th October at 3.00pm. Mike Bucknall will arrange transport and an insert will be in the newsletter this week.

Social Jenny Birchall (read out by Barbara Lamberton in Jenny's absence) - In July we held a "Tastes of the Commonwealth" evening and in August a summer lunch, both in aid of parish funds. We also provided cheese and wine for Fr. David's retirement. September we held a coffee morning and raised £485 for Macmillan Cancer Support. We hope to repeat this again next year. We had been asked several times by different people to repeat the Supper and Race night, which we did last Saturday and although we were low in numbers we raised an amazing £182 for parish funds. The Wednesday Lunch Club continues to be well supported and to date has raised £1000 - half for the parish and half for two charities, to be chosen next month by supporters of the lunches. We will be continuing them next year. We will providing afternoon tea after Mass for the Sick on Tuesday 28th October. On Friday 7th November we are holding a hunger lunch in aid of the Royal British Legion. Christmas is fast approaching and we will be having the usual grand raffle which will be drawn at the party night on Saturday 6th December and we will shortly be handing out books of raffle tickets. The price remains at £1 a book and the first prize will be £100 plus many more. We are holding our planning meeting for 2015 next month and welcome suggestions for events for us to consider. We have some in the pipeline already.

CWL Teresa Doran - In July we met in Di's garden for scones and strawberries, our theme being 'Suffragettes Votes for Women'. Many members made the effort to dress accordingly. In September Olive Stowe gave us a talk on the benefits of exercise during ageing and eight of our members who attended her exercise class gave us a demonstration. In October several members went to the Felixstowe Museum. Our future programme includes a concert by a local string orchestra and a junior choir to be held in the church on 1st Sunday in Advent. Tickets will be £4 with everyone welcome.

CAFOD no report

KSC Tom Brazier - A lunch took place for members in August and a quiz last week which raised £400 to be split with £200 to KSC and £200 to the Catechians.

Association of Family of Jesus and Mary Elizabeth Utting - we held a very successful Strawberry Tea on 12th July and raised £488 for the FJM missions We were able to send £400 to Syria and £200 to Pakistan. Luckily in both cases a sister was going out to the area so we were assured that the money reached the sisters working there. Our September meeting was a demonstration of handbell ringing. It was well attended and members were able to take part in the demonstration. Our October meeting will reflect the work of the sisters mainly in South America. Planning is well in hand for the Coffee Morning on 15th November in St Felix Hall and our November meeting will be a preparation for Advent.

**8. P.P.'s**  **Notes**

In the brief time Fr. John has been in the parish he has been busy visiting sick communicants, meeting people, sorting house and carrying out some decorating. Journey of Faith Course will commence on 20th October. The course fits in well with the new evangelisation and the importance of evangelising ourselves and hopefully will renew enthusiasm for catholic teaching. Fr. John said that he would like to get around to systematic visiting. He is hoping to put the parish role, currently on card, onto the computer and to sort people into roads to make visiting more efficient.

**9. AOB**

Alison Conti emailed about the Memorial Garden and the need to replant the flower bed and complete the changes to the fountain. Alan Lamberton said that the plan was to reduce the size of the borders to make gardening more manageable. Slabs would be replaced with resin stone. Fr. John however councilled against too much hard area and suggested that a rose garden be planted where the tree has been taken out. He is very happy to plant this and look after it. Fr. will speak to Dave Richardson about modifying plans with the contractors to incorporate a rose garden and possibly reducing the planned paved area so that it doesn't lose the character of a garden.

Alan Lamberton asked members whether they felt it was time to change the chairs in the hall to more comfortable ones. The idea would be to replace 90 chairs at a cost of between £1500-£2000. The current chairs are 30 years old and are considered by some to be uncomfortable. Wilf suggested that those in favour raise their hands and with 12 in favour Alan was asked to report back with options and costings.

Brian Macdonald raised the idea of introducing a rota for families and friends to be Welcomers. It was agreed that this would be a good idea. Brian said that he will initially target a few families/friends and then put a notice in the newsletter inviting families and friends to be welcomers.

Paul McIntee asked about the website. After some discussion Monica said she would speak to Pauline Mayes to see if her son Daniel, who is employed in web design, would be interested in keeping it up to date. Paul also asked if we have a problem with the age of the people in the parish. Fr. John answered that we should not be unpositive, he said he had been to many more older parishes and felt there were a number of young families in our parish. Catherine Richardson said that when we are asking for help with activities in the parish such as welcomers, we should include the Kerelan families.

Dennis McGeachie who runs a marshal arts club in the parish hall on Thursday nights would like more Christians to attend. Monica invited him to come to Saturday morning catechism at the convent and speak to the children about it.

Wilf asked about the Tabernacle which will be placed on the altar. Fr. John said he is currently working on a design and will produce drawings for the next meeting.

**10. Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 20th January at 7.30 pm (please note change of day from Wednesday to Tuesday)

Fr. John thanked everyone for coming and Wilf for presiding and ended the meeting with a prayer.