**Minutes of St Felix PAC Annual General Meeting Held on Tuesday 19th February 2019**

**Present:** Fr. J Barnes, P.Dance, D. Richardson, (Treasurer) , T. Doran, E. Utting, K. Pinto, B. Pinto, K. Waring, B. Lamberton, A. Lamberton, M. Ashley, H. Dossor, A. Dance, P. Hills, J. Hills, Sr. Margaret Mary, B. McDonald, M. McDonald, A. Poole, Sr. Mavis, Sr. Susan, W. Ablard, S. McCallum, T. Pittaccio, S. Badcock, J. Birchall, D. Birchall.

**Opening Prayer and Welcome**

Phil welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. Fr. John opened the meeting with a prayer.

**Appointment of Chairman and Secretary**

Stephen Badcock had been recommended to Fr. John as a worthy candidate to undertake the role of PAC Chairman. Stephen had agreed and was duly appointed for the next two years. The role of secretary remained vacant and suitable candidates would be sought over the coming months. In the absence of a secretary Anne Dance agreed to take the minutes for the AGM.

**Minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting**

The minutes were approved. Approval proposed by Dave Richardson and seconded by Alan Lamberton.

**Matters arising from the minutes**

There were no matters arising.

**Treasurer's Report**

David Richardson read out the financial headlines for 2018 and 2019. Weekly donations had reduced slightly but careful management of expenditure had enabled us to achieve a fund surplus at the end of 2018. The heating bills will be reduced as we join the Diocesan energy scheme. The disabled access to the church had been installed and was in use. No major projects are planned for next year.

**Parish Priest's Review of the Year**

Fr. John gave an update on parish activities between May 2018 and February 2019.

A Corpus Christi all night vigil was held in June. The event could have attracted more support and Fr. John is considering changing the format to include a break in the middle of the night so that the event might be better attended. 10 children received their First Holy Communion on 1st July and a similar number are expected this year. A parish outing to Beccles took place on 8th July with around 10 people attending. It was a great day out and hopefully more people will join a similar outing if held later this year. In August a successful BBQ and Teddy Bears’ Picnic were held followed by a Ride and Stride event in September which was well supported in sponsorship and helpers but a few more walkers would have been welcomed. In October A Day with Mary had been organised by Phil Hills and was well attended and enjoyed by all. The Bishop visited the church in November to bless the new stained glass windows and parishioners and guests were treated to an excellent lunch arranged by Jenny and Team Felix. The annual Christmas Lunch for senior citizens was once again a success thanks to Monica and her team.

The sacristies were redecorated last summer by volunteers from Hollesley Bay for the cost of the materials. We were very grateful for their help and for the parishioners who provided lunch for them.

Fr. John underwent a serious heart operation in December but thankfully is now well on the way to a full recovery and whilst he still needs to take it easy the parish were very pleased to see him back. Fr. John expressed his thanks to Fr. Michael and Fr. Kevin for saying Mass in his absence and to Sr. Susan for ministering to the sick.

**Reports from Parish Groups**

Team Felix continue to offer a great service to the parish with monthly lunches and catering for events in the parish year. Highlights included the Strawberry and Christmas afternoon teas, the quiz night and the race night. £1567 was raised for parish funds, £170 for Aid to the Church in Need, £215 for Help for Heroes and £215 for St. Elizabeth Hospice.

CAFOD is part of the Caritas Internationalis family which reaches 165 countries worldwide. In 2018 there were two successful family fast days which raised a total of £1323.43. We also participated in the CAFOD world gifts catalogue which raised a total of £709,800 across England and Wales. Weekly donations continue and are directed towards Peru and general CAFOD projects. In Peru assistance was given to families tackling the problems of climate change. This year the Lent family fast will be on 15th March and the Lenten lunches will continue with the support of members of the parish.

The Association of Jesus and Mary continue to hold meetings in the afternoon and the evenings. This year saw a continuation of the bicentenary celebrations and a successful day of reflection held in April. May saw a programme of devotion to Our Lady and included a visit to Walsingham. In June a successful coffee morning raised £250. The Association took part in the Christmas Tree Festival at the Salvation Army Hall and was an opportunity to highlight the presence of the Sisters in our community.

The CWL enjoyed a programme of events including speakers from Felixstowe Coastal Patrol, a visit from Hattie Bennett and a talk on bees. It closed in October 2018 since the need for formal officers of the branch could not be met.

Helping Hands is growing in both the number of people volunteering and those being helped. Most requests are for lifts and visits and more helpers would always be welcome.

The Martial Arts group had enjoyed a good year with two of the oldest members securing black belts and two new families joining the team.

Safeguarding responsibilities continue to be discharged with all volunteers requiring a DBS clearance successfully cleared.

**Parish Events**

A Race Night is planned for 9th March and a further Café Course was proposed.

A series of Lenten evenings on the theme of Looking at Jesus with Mary have been planned together with Sunday afternoon Stations of the Cross. The Chrism Mass will be held at the Cathedral as usual and a bus will be provided. It is hoped that more parishioners will attend this year. Easter Sunday will be enhanced by the children acting out the Easter Story as a part of the Mass.

**Any Other Business**

Fr John thanked Stephen for taking over as chairman and Phil and Anne Dance for their past services as chair and secretary. Stephen Badcock reminded Fr. John to continue to take it easy as he resumed his duties in the parish.

The meeting was reminded of the existence of the St. Edmund’s Fund which provided grants to people in urgent need. Requests for help should be directed via Fr. John who would help with the application process.

It was felt that more people should be attending parish events and meetings throughout the year and it was agreed that the best way to improve numbers was by personal invitation.

Churches Together continue to hold their meetings and services. The Sisters opened the Convent and invited all to vespers and an opportunity to talk among themselves. A Pilgrimage through Felixstowe visiting 13 churches was well attended and provided an opportunity to witness to the Christian faith.

Barbara Lamberton passed on the thanks from the Suffolk Refugee Service for the continuing support from the parish. A huge contribution was made at Christmas with ongoing donations throughout the year. Thanks were offered to Barbara for her work in managing the donations and the links with SRS.

**Meeting Summary**

Stephen thanked everyone for coming along to the meeting.

**Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 14th May 7.30 p.m.

Fr. John ended the meeting with a prayer.