

Summary of the Parish Advisory Committee's Annual General Meeting.

Tuesday 2nd May 2023.

After welcoming everyone Fr John opened the meeting with a prayer.

We reviewed the items discussed at the last PAC meeting in November

The Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer gave details of the Parish's current financial situation and a breakdown of the figures was shown as a power point presentation together with details of the first four months of donations by the Dona System.

There was an update on recent Parish Projects which included:

- 1) LED lighting and heating upgrades in the church hall which have now been completed,
- 2) A new PA system has been installed in the church, with facilities for the Music Box to be controlled from the St Joseph's Chapel,
- 3) The Dona System, a contactless collection plate, has been installed in the church porch and is being used by increasing numbers of parishioners. We agreed that this it is important that parishioners have the opportunity to use this giving system if they wish. It also keeps us in line with the majority of parishes in our Diocese who have been using Dona for some time.
- 4) Repairs to the Church Fence in the memorial garden are well underway, and although there is still work to do it should be completed in the next few weeks.

There was a power point presentation of the results of a recent Parish Structural Survey, and we discussed some of the items raised.

We also reflected on a presentation that had been given by the diocese in November reminding us of our duty of stewardship, as parishioners, to maintain our church (now Grade 2 Listed) and its associated buildings.

Steps are being taken to address the various repairs and refurbishments that are needed and 'Repair Projects' are being drawn up.

This will be kept under review and the parish will be updated as plans progress.

Fr John spoke to us about the specific repairs that are required to the windows in the church, and the costings.

A power point presentation demonstrated photographs of the windows in question and we considered the best way to proceed.

It was agreed that Fr John should, on behalf the Parish, engage Devlin and Plummer, who are experts in this field, in order to make the necessary arrangements to start the repairs / conservation work.

We had a slide presentation of photographs of the windows that need to be repaired and also slides demonstrating the benefits to the lighting of the church by having new clear glass installed.

We all agreed that this is essential maintenance and needs to be done.

Various ways of financing these repairs were discussed, including parishioner sponsorship with an inscribed quarry in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving.

Updates were given on: Future plans of the Social Committee, the mother and toddler group and hire of the church hall.

Fr John informed the meeting that Bishop Alan had asked him to acquire a statue of St Felix and that this has been funded by an anonymous donation.

Fr John has commissioned a carved statue of St Felix which is being made in Austria. It will be approximately 3ft in height. We are looking forward to seeing it!

We reflected on the security of the church and the need to be vigilant.

This will be kept under review.

In AOB – We reflected on the crucifix in the church hall, and after some debate felt that its current position is ideal as it is appreciated by all who use the hall.

After thanking all those in attendance, Fr John closed the meeting with a prayer. S.B