

MOUNT CARMEL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

15 February 2022 – 7.00pm

PRESENT: Fr A Rohan, L Hanley (LH), J Hardcastle (JH), A Crompton (AC)

IN ATTENDANCE: Fr J Mahoney

APOLOGIES: M & M Yates (isolating), M Bullivant (isolating), J Craig and N Foster (Jury service). Apologies accepted

- 1) **Opening Prayer-** - the meeting opened with a prayer from Fr Rohan.
- 2) **Minutes of Previous Meeting** –approved and signed.
- 3) **Matters Arising** – JH proposed that to have an Item(s) for Next Meeting on the Agenda. This was agreed.
Fr Jason requested that his name be added to the mailing list of the Parish Council. This was also agreed.

4) **Regular Updates**

Hadzor – Nothing to report.

Alvechurch - Fr Rohan addressed the questions posed by parishioners of Alvechurch.

1. Solar panels to Church and new Parish Hall roofs. Being a registered historical church, this will have to go through the Diocese, with the nursery block the church needs to investigate if there are any grants available that they could apply to for funds. This is something that the Council cannot answer perhaps Alvechurch could approach Maggie Barret who might be able to direct Alvechurch parishioners as to who they could contact on this issue.
2. Mount Carmel received a donation from a parishioner. Before this money is spent, Fr Rohan will talk to the Bishop first, in the event of the closure of St Mary's.
3. With regard to The Synod 2021-23 Fr Rohan indicated that there is a link on the Parish website.
4. Fr Rohan informed the meeting with regard to the Laudato Si Group saying that he has put this group in touch with St Augustine's, and since the Catholic schools are part of the Church that is the best way to go regarding climate change and the environment. Fr Rohan further mentioned that Laudato Si is about dialogue and listening.
5. In response to the Redditch Carmelite Spirituality Group's question as to when the new Parish Hall will be ready for use, Fr Rohan said he cannot give any time or date of its completion at this time.
6. Fr Rohan and the Council recognised that it would be good to have information about the Parish Council on the website. Since the technical person, left there is no one able to upload information. We will advertise in the Parish Newsletter and hope that someone will come forward to help with this issue, or perhaps Alvechurch parishioners might know someone who would do it.
7. A Council member suggested that the Laudato Si and Carmelite Groups might consider having a representative each to join the Parish Council.

Feckenham – Fr Rohan advised that they have some heating problem.

Seniors Club – Once work on the new Parish Hall is completed, this Club would be able to resume.

Messy Church – AC informed the meeting that Messy Church have dates for meetings for the year, and she would like to host one in the summer in the Parish gardens. Fr Rohan checked the diary and suggested provisionally the 17 July as the marquee will still be up. AC will check with her team.

5) Upcoming Fundraising Events 2022

Members agreed that the Summer Fete should be a low-key fundraiser e.g afternoon tea/BBQ, bookstall and tombola along with a Raffle. This is due to a number of the usual stall holders are not able to operate their usual stalls. LH said she would set up a meeting to organise this event. AC suggested that monies raised could be targeted for a special project.

Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel is on Saturday 16 July 2022. Also agreed by the meeting that after the 5.00pm Mass there will be a social.

As to the Autumn Fete we will have to wait and see how the Summer Fete will work out.

6) Updates on Events

Christmas Masses 2021. All the Masses went smoothly with a spiritual atmosphere welcoming the birth of Our Lord.

7) Any Other Business

Fr Mahoney told the meeting that Confirmation this year is on 20 June 2022. He had a meeting with St Bede's and there are approximately 100 confirmandi. Catechumens will be welcomed into the Church during Pentecost

JH suggested that the renovation of the Nursery be an agenda item. This was agreed.

JH to contact Carol to put something in the Newsletter for volunteers to do the collections, greeters at Masses, Offertories, Counters, Washing of linens and a website technician.

Due to illness, the meeting of the new Parish Hall Committee was cancelled. The new Parish Hall Committee had sent questionnaires to relevant groups of the Parish eg SVP, Keralan Community, Catholic Fellowship, Baptism Courses etc. AC said that she did not receive a questionnaire for Children's Liturgy. Fr Rohan and LH assured her that relevant equipment would be available for the groups.

Fr Rohan informed members that the Diocese Levy on the Parish is £28,000.00.

8) Date of Next Meeting – 24 May 2022 – 7.00pm

9) Closing Prayer - The meeting concluded at 8.45pm.