

St Bride's RC Church, Whitemoss Avenue, East Kilbride

Meeting Minutes

21 August 2022 at 3.00 pm in St Bride's Church

Open Meeting for Parishioners

(1) Welcome

Fr opened the meeting by welcoming and thanking everyone for attending.

There were approximately 34 attendees.

(2) Tabernacle Stand

As the Tabernacle Stand is damaged, it had previously been agreed that Marek would repair/build a new stand. There will be no charge for this as Marek is doing this in exchange for use of the garage. It was also noted that the new Tabernacle Stand design has still to be approved by the Fabric Committee.

(3) The Use of the Parish Hall by the High School (car park and Church)

The High School use of the Church Hall and Car Park was discussed at length.

Church Hall: It was agreed that the High School would use the Hall under the same terms as any other Hirer unless it was for educational purposes. If for educational purposes, then the hire would be 50% of the normal price. It was also stipulated that the Hall should be left in the clean and tidy order in which they found it.

Church Car Park: It was agreed that the High School could use the Church car park on special occasions, but with prior consent from the Priest.

(4) Proposed Organ Movement

Points for moving the organ to the back of the Church and leaving it on the Altar were put forward.

After much discussion it was agreed that the organ would remain on the altar, and the situation reviewed again in another year (21/08/2023)

(5) The Two Additional Projectors and Screens

It was suggested that two additional projectors and screens be fitted in the Church. While it was agreed that the existing projectors and screens have been a huge success, it was decided that owing to cost, the installation of new projectors and screens should be delayed.

Action: Revisit in another year's time (21/08/2023)

(6) The Divine Mercy Painting

Where to place the Divine Mercy Painting was discussed at length. It was finally decided that it should be framed and put on the wall in the Side Chapel. It was also agreed that a stand should be made to allow it to be placed on the Altar on Divine Mercy Sunday.

(7) The Parish Debt

At the beginning of the discussion, it was noted that due to the pandemic there had been a significant drop in collections and gift aid donations. Indeed, collections in 2020/2021 were significantly lower than in 2010/2011.

The Parish Debt stands at £233,452.82, as can be seen weekly in the Bulletin. Fr Rafal advised that the debt is paid off at the rate of £1,000 per week. 2% interest on the loan has to be paid annually, and Fr Rafal confirmed that £6,655.02 PIF interest had been paid in January 2022. It was noted that the Parish Hall generates a good income and helps to repay the Parish Debt.

(8) Status of Handrail Installation at Steps in the Church

Installation of handrails and tread awareness nosings at the steps in the Church was discussed as a health and safety issue.

Action: The Fabric Committee to look into this.

(9) Status of Parish Fabric Committee

Fr Rafal thanked the Fabric Committee for the work they carry out.

(10) The Use of the Parish Hall

It was noted that use and hire of the Parish Hall has increased in the last two years. Deposits are now being taken on initial booking and deducted from the final cost when the hire has been completed.

Action: Try to generate further business by advertising hall activities.

(11) Parish Facilities/Rooms

It was noted that the Guild Room and Library both have facilities for holding meetings, with tea/coffee making facilities, and toilets close at hand.

(12) The Hall Gutters

Discussion took place regarding previous leaks to the roof elements, and the presence of a bird's nest and congested grille that was blocking the downpipe. It was established that bi-annual maintenance should take place as part of overall Hall maintenance.

(13) The Platthorn Drive and Piazza Walls of the Church

Fr advised that there was dampness in these walls.

Action: The Fabric Committee to look into the issue.

(14) AOB

There was no other business.