

St Augustine's Parish Council meeting minutes

Location:	Hartigan Centre
Date:	27 th Oct 2021
Time:	6:30pm
Attendees:	Fr Peter, Peter Cleary, Genevieve Colbert, Sarah Johnston, Michael Van Wanrooy, Michael Green, Lourdes O'Keefe, Bryan Coleborne, Bob Nash, Annabelle O'Connell
Apologies:	Zuzy Webster

Agenda items

- Opening Prayer
 - Peter C
- Matters arising from the previous Minutes:
 - Parish Safeguarding Policy formation session
 - The date for Maria Hicks to present the Safeguarding Policy Workshop was discussed. The Saturday of the Parish Assembly was proposed, as those who will be attending should also be attending the Assembly.
 - Possibly Feb 2022,
ACTION Sarah to check with Maria if this date is suitable.
- Overhead Projector issue
 - Seems to have resolved itself. No one touch it.
- The re-trial of the EFT terminal for collections during Mass
 - Irene Carr informed Annabelle that the Archdiocese may have some terminals available for parishes to lease, and that these may be available towards the end of November.
 - Fr Peter advised that the Parish Finance Committee were discussing the introduction of a payment system at the meeting on the previous night, so it would be good to clarify which system they were discussing and what it involves.
ACTION Annabelle to follow this up.
- Date for Parish Assembly
 - Had been set for October 30th, which is not possible.
 - Eileen Glass has moved to Brisbane, so is not available to run the session as a follow-on from the Parish Pastoral Council formation day. Unfortunately.
 - 26th Feb or 5th March 2022 are proposed dates.

- Lack of applicants for Cleaner position
 - Has been resolved. Hallelujah.
- Confirmation of previous minutes:
 - Lourdes O'Keefe.
- Property sale updates:
 - Wee Jasper church and Dutton St unit:
 - Both properties will be advertised beginning this week, for 3 weeks.
 - 27th November 2021 is the auction day for both properties.
 - A request was made that the Dutton St unit be advertised as an over 55 property.
 - **ACTION** Bob to email Paul O'Mara with that request.
 - 106 Meehan St:
 - \$60K deposit for the property has been discussed with Helen Delahunty.
 - The contract for the sale will come through this week.
 - The property will be rented for 12 months.
 - The use of the buildings the parish now has will be discussed at the Parish Assembly.
 - The matter of the \$30K donation to the WJ community was discussed. There is strong feeling amongst PPC members regarding the appropriate course of action.
 - It was pointed out that Helen Delahunty has confirmed that the matter is a choice for the parish to make.
 - It was suggested that we invite members of the WJ community to the next meeting to hear their thoughts on this.
- Murrumbateman Listening Session
 - Peter Cleary reported on the session that occurred on 8th August.
 - Notes from each speaker were taken by Paul Trezise, and amongst the comments made on the day was one that questioned the need for a listening session at all. As Peter articulated, it was very positive for those not of the Murrumbateman community to hear how important it is for a Mass to be resumed, and demonstrated clearly the depth of feeling amongst the community.
 - It was a very successful meeting, and Fr Peter has endorsed the recommendation for a church to be built at Murrumbateman and fully supports the resumption of Mass there, however a suitable venue and time are yet to be decided.
- Christmas Masses
 - Christmas Eve Mass will be outdoors as per last year.
 - Christmas Day Masses will be at Gunning 8.30am, and Yass, in the church at 10.30am.
- Masses in our Parish
 - Gunning parish needs to be included in the scheduling.
 - Fr Peter encourages the Murrumbateman community to begin discussion of a new building with the Archdiocese.

- The comment was made that a permanent Sunday Mass in Yass may help build up the numbers in Yass.
 - Fr Peter's commitment to the Vietnamese community is on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month, so he will say Mass in Murrumbateman on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. This may be the Vigil Mass.
 - The Mass timetable needs to be addressed at the Parish Assembly.
- Ecumenical news
 - All denominations want to help with the Vinnies Christmas hampers either by delivering them or donating to them.
 - People who receive a hamper usually collect them from the store; donations for the hampers would be very gratefully received. Michael Van W is the contact for donations.
 - SRE: the Parish finance committee has committed \$4K to the Yass High School program and \$5K to the CSYMA program at Mt Carmel for 2022.
 - Christmas Carols - each Church community is giving \$400-500 to fund the carols.
 - There have been flyers being distributed around Yass offering help to those in need due to COVID restrictions and effects. Every Christian community is invited to help distribute the flyers. A notice from Phil Rademaker to be put in the bulletin.

(Fr Peter left the meeting due to another appointment)

- Discussion of Matters from reports submitted
 - Cathy Cleary has made a sample collection bag that can go on a long stick to prevent excessive contact. God bless that woman.
 - CSYMA program clarification - the Youth Minister will work one day at Mt Carmel and one day for St Augustine's. A prepared ad from the Archdiocese will go in the bulletin for some weeks.
 - Maintenance report
 - the opinion was expressed that the parish needs to be run as a business, due to the financial pressures we experience.
 - To address the financial pressure, the suggestion was made to have a planned giving drive, to inform parishioners where their money is being spent.
 - The suggestion was made to ask the finance committee to facilitate a planned giving drive once we are back to COVID 'normal'.
 - The question was raised as to whether or not we are eligible for COVID assistance due to loss of income from not being able to rent the Lovat Chapel or H Centre.
 - **ACTION** Sarah to investigate this possibility.
 - Further discussion regarding the Maintenance report resulted in revisiting the need to find Bob a younger person to assist with some duties.
 - **ACTION** Bob is to bring the planned projects he has compiled to the next meeting.
 - **ACTION** Sarah to ask Paul O'Mara to come to the next meeting.

- Social Justice report
 - o The Kitchen Table Conversations regarding the ACBC statement ‘The Cry of the Earth, The Cry of the Poor’ resulted in all attending them agreeing that our parish should embrace the Laudato Si goals.
 - o We would like to reduce our carbon footprint and make any necessary changes so that our parish is completely sustainable and reflects that we are true stewards of God’s creation.
 - o **ACTION** Sarah to organise our participation in Catholic Earthcare Australia’s “Earthcare Parish Program” and follow up with Fr Peter.
 - o Michael VW has been delivering some bulletins to Pam Bell, who in turn is distributing them amongst the local Indigenous community.
- AOB
 - Bryan to review our connection with the local Indigenous community.
 - Annabelle will not be involved with Music Ministry from 2022. The Chair thanked Annabelle for her work over the last 10+ years.

• **Next Meeting: Scheduled for Wednesday 1st December 7.30pm.**

Discussion points/Action items	Owner(s)	Deadline	Status
Ecumenism - review our current connection to the Indigenous community	Bryan		
Education	Genevieve		
Liturgy	Peter C		
Maintenance -email Paul O’Mara to request that the Dutton St unit is in an over 55s area -bring the compilation of planned projects to the next meeting	Bob		
Mt Carmel School	Michael Green		
Social	Lourdes		
Social Justice -see if Maria Hicks would be able to run the Safeguarding Policy formation training in	Sarah		

Feb 2022 before Parish Assembly - check if we might be eligible for any COVID financial assistance - ask Paul O'Mara to come to the next meeting			
Welfare	Michael Van Wanrooy		
Youth ACTION -follow up EFT terminal/system for contactless collections in Mass	Annabelle		