



Community & Action

St Agnes Longsight

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 6th May 2009

Present: Oswald, Beryl, Phil, Nancy, Denzil, Leah, Doreen, Stephen.

Peace Week: March 7-14

went well – more visitors than in previous years and appreciated by St Agnes congregation as well as a time to sit in church and relax

St Agnes School Year 6 Art Exhibition

ongoing – likely to be in June now. Stephen to speak to Year 6 teacher about arrangements.

2009 Annual Whit Walks

PCC have agreed that a presentation be made to the whole congregation about the walks with videos, photos etc. This Sunday 10th May.

Issues to Update

Rainfall Tax – the petition was taken to Downing Street and a response has been published. This will be put up on church Noticeboard.

European Elections – the BNP are fielding Nick Griffin as their candidate for the North West and unless people turn out to vote it is likely that they could win one seat purely through voter-apathy. We must highlight the importance of exercising our vote on Thursday 4th June. We will put the Bishop's letter about the issue out to people and also details of the campaign websites: www.stopnickgriffin.co.uk and www.hopenothate.org.uk/manchester

Society of Pius X – are planning to buy St George's Church in Abbey Hey. Although the Society have dissociated themselves from the holocaust denying Bishop Williamson, there is still some feeling against their purchase of the building.

Manchester Neighbours' Day

Funding is available for a neighbourly event on Tuesday 26th May 2009 – Manchester Neighbours' Day. In conjunction with the Community Hall Committee, Evergreens and HRACA we will apply for a grant for £200 for tea, cake etc to host a tea party/garden party for local residents. This will be a useful way to showcase what we do in church, the hall, Evergreens and the local residents association.

Congregational Involvement etc

Following our discussion at the last meeting on ways to involve the congregation in discussing parish and church issues and finding out opinions on what we do in church it was decided that there were four possibilities:

1. A Saturday morning coffee morning with conversation
2. Sunday morning coffee time after the Parish Eucharist (possibly shortening sermon/omitting a hymn to give time)
3. After the sermon at the Parish Eucharist, an extended discussion time
4. Replacing the Liturgy of the Word at the Parish Eucharist with a more informal discussion/conversation/presentation

Whatever we do it needs to be clear that we are doing this for a reason – to get people involved in what is planned in church, what opportunities there are, what people want etc. This is not a discussion in a formal sense but an opportunity to communicate to people what is happening. The Sunday options might work best in August when we will be moving the pews again in to a circular position. Stephen to prepare an example of the four options above to the next meeting when we will also draw up an agenda of items to have in our congregational discussion.

Next meeting: Wednesday 20th May 2009 – to discuss the Manchester Neighbours' Day
Wednesday 3rd June 2009 – usual meeting