



Worship Committee

St Agnes Longsight

Meeting held on Tuesday 27th May 2008

The meeting opened with prayer.

Apologies: there were no apologies.

Present: Fr Stephen, Jennifer Newton, Dorothy Vernon, Leah Lutley, Brutus Green and Joyce Green.

Business: Brutus Green was welcomed to the meeting

Alternative Worship: The committee are due to visit Chorlton Café Church on 18th June.

Worship Songs: Fr Stephen informed the group that a music copy for the new worship songs had been ordered, also the Lectionary in memory of May Camm.

Repair of the Microphone: Fr Stephen reported that George Vernon was working through the list of repairs including the repair of the microphone and thanked George for his work on behalf of the church.

Servers: Fr. Stephen has discussed their duties with the servers and also other aspects of their role in church.

New Sidespersons: Booklets for sidespersons and readers are now available. It was agreed that the booklet for Eucharistic ministers should also be made available too.

Pentecost: this was a nice service and two responses from the balloons have been received, both from Worsley Golf Course.

Corpus Christi: This was a lovely service with an excellent sermon by Matt Thompson Area Dean. The service was followed by super refreshments in the community hall. It was nice to welcome so many visitors from other churches in the Deanery and also from Wilmslow Parish Church. It was disappointing that so few of St Agnes members attended the service. Fr Stephen thanked Dorothy Vernon for playing at the service.

Baptism: On Sunday 25th May, the first big Baptism was held for a while. It was very noisy at the beginning of the service but not as disruptive as it usually is on these occasions. The fact that visitors were “given permission” to take children into the community hall if they became restless during the service helped. Brutus said he felt the atmosphere was different at St Agnes during this service. It was suggested that this be monitored in future.

Sponsored Hymn sing: Karen Flowers is available to lead the hymn sing and Dorothy Vernon is available to play. It was agreed that Karen and Dorothy be asked in advance of the date being set in future. Jennifer requested that Gift Aid envelopes be made available in the pews and also in the choir pews for those people wishing to gift aid their donations. This was agreed.

Dorothy Vernon suggested inviting George Galway to come and play at the Hymn Sing if he was available. This was also agreed and Dorothy agreed to follow this up.

Bishop's Pilgrimage: The Mission and Action Group are continuing with the preparations for this event.

Review of Alternative Worship: This was first discussed in May 2007. The PCC suggested the first Saturday in the month. “Prodigal Project” one of the books suggested by Lara was very up-lifting. Unfortunately we had no response from either Simon Gatenby or Chris Howitz whom we had hoped would have been able to advise us. Fr Stephen informed us that about the time we made our initial request, Simon's father had died and understandably he lost touch with many things at that time.

This evening at evening prayer Muriel had asked when the alternative worship would be starting as she knew several young people she could invite. Both Beryl and Muriel were very positive about this venture. Suggestions for the format of the service included singing 2 or 3 hymns in a row, scripture, prayer and reflection, music to listen to and suitable poems or other readings to be incorporated.

Fr Stephen informed us that he is now involved with a Diocesan event on the first Saturday in the month. Jennifer suggested the last Saturday in the month instead and this was agreed in order to keep it simple and have a regular pattern. Initially it was decided to have one service per quarter and to try different things and to review this next summer 2009. It was agreed that the first service should be part of a “Back to Church Weekend” and be held on Saturday 27th September at 6pm. Teenagers and young adults with a family connection with the church to be encouraged to attend.

Brutus suggested that when singing a group of hymns together they should be linked possibly by a theme and follow on musically without a break forming a medley.

This would be easier with the piano than with CD'S. It was agreed this was a good idea. Brutus also suggested use of a two CD player with fader and have a DJ. Fr Stephen said he would look into the cost. It was queried whether any musicians would be available from other churches eg; guitarist. The use of Taize Chants was also suggested and that these should be taught prior to the service.

Suggestions received for a title for the service were Oasis, Peace (Peace and Praise), Sacred Space and Still Waters. Jennifer suggested asking Colin Best for some suggestions for the name for the service. This was agreed. Fr, Stephen asked us all to think about a name and also to ask PCC for suggestions. Alternative Worship will be the main item on the agenda of the next meeting.

The meeting closed with prayer at 9-30pm.

Date and Time of Next Meeting: Tuesday 24th June at 8pm in the Rectory