**MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Held on Tuesday 28 March 2017 at St Joseph’s Church at 7pm**

1. **Prayer and formation:**
2. **Welcome & Introductions:** Fr Danny McAvoy, Peter Hancock (Chair), Liz Fisher, Catherine Collery, Steve Scott, David Kettle, Ian McDougall,
3. **Apologies for Absence:** Bernadette Fisher, Shaun Howard, Tony Gunning
4. **Absent:**  David Howes
5. **Minutes of last meeting held 28 February 2017**

Approved.

1. **Matters Arising and Updates on Issues from 28 February 2017 Meeting**

SMC Site - Peter spoke to diocesan surveyor who advised another 6 week delay, the correspondence between Bracknell Council and our architect all good. If approval is given then this will underpin an evaluation and possibility to negotiate with housing association to sell covenant. If we are not successful with Bracknell Forest Homes, we may sell to Latter Day Saints church, this was discussed.

**Quotations for steps and front door** - Architect’s invoice has been paid for the work regarding the design of the stairs and front door. Quotations received for one flight and three flights of steps. It was suggested that we can borrow the money from the Dioceses which can be paid back from the SMC site sale proceeds. Concern voiced as to whether the steps are the best way to spend all the funds from the site. It was agreed to obtain two more quotes from Architect. Meeting with Architect and Fr Danny this week regarding the evangelisation design of the porch and moving sensitively through this process, ie, refurbishing the church to include images of St Margaret Clitherow and smarten the image of St Joseph, or possibly to obtain two new images for the “A” frame area. Change all the signage to “Parish of St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow Church”. Wariness voiced that we may not achieve as much of the work needed on the infrastructure as we hope from the SMC site sale, ie, repair of the flat roofs need to be taken into consideration first. Fr Danny said we should be confident that the land will be sold for housing, if not we borrow the money from the Diocese to pay for the restructuring. This was discussed. Fr Danny said that the Diocese will support our projects and will advise of any concerns.

**Fire Exists** – All Sacristans to ensure all fire doors are opened before all Masses and locked after all Masses.

**Meeting with GCD re: car park bollards** – Visit two weeks ago with manufacturer, CAMEbpt, but they couldn’t replicate the problems, ie, bollard dropping half way and lights changing incorrectly. They said that the electrical box was impacted by the building opposite, which we disputed as there are other car parks closer that are not impacted. “Opening arms” system was discussed which would still be managed by the mechanics that we presently have. The manufacturer did not know what the problem was. It was agreed that the GCD Engineer would enlarge the underground sensor loops at the in and out bollards, which will be monitored for a suitable day. Fr Danny was very annoyed with the GCD MD after a previous meeting where he had to be chased up several times to organise the repair. The bollard situation was discussed at length. If they still don’t work then the bollards will have to be removed. It was agreed that “sleeping police ramps” be installed around the car park to keep the speed down.

**Lenten Project -** It hasn’t really kicked off properly due to 2 weeks of CAFOD Family Fast Day and East Africa DEC, hopefully Lenten Project will improve before the end of Lent. The CAFOD speakers did an excellent job speaking at all our Masses. Have received a cheque for £500 from Catenians for Medaille Trust.

**Quinquennial Report – No action but should stay on the Agenda**

This was explained to the new members of the Finance Committee. All urgent issues have

been completed.

**7 Any Other Business** Social Justice & Nightshelter - Nightshelter finished last Sunday. Raised lots of questions regarding homelessness in Bracknell. A proposal is that we act out relationship with other communities in Bracknell, suggestion to buy a piece of land and build studio flats as “shelter” and Churches Together/Pilgrim Hearts to manage the “shelter”. Concern regarding the running costs, number of people needed to manage the shelter, etc. Also, most of the homeless persons are content to be homeless because there are no barriers and rules. Also, big problems regarding mental illness within the homeless community. This was discussed. When nightshelter started there was a verbal agreement of £1,000 towards funding of a Manager, question asked what has happened to this. The Chairman has not yet received any communication for this fund. Fr Danny received a substantial donation which will be sent as this fund.

GDC Documentation - full disclosure needed on correspondence between GCD and John Cole, GCD sent four quotations and a letter diarising some of the documents. We still do not have the guarantee of the installation or their inspection after the bollard had been hit. Fr Danny asked John Cole to hand all paperwork, copies of emails sent to his home back to the parish office, Fr Danny to meet with John Cole regarding the documents. JC said that he copied Mary McNab into every email sent and that the documents are in the parish office, Fr Danny advised this was not the case as he had the GCD file and it did not contain any documents between GCD, John Cole or the Church.

1. **Date of next meeting: Tuesday 25 April 2017, 7.00pm**

**9 Closing Prayer – Fr D thanked everyone for their time.**