

St Paul's Parish Meeting

13th October 2019

Prayer for our parish

Father pour out your Spirit on our parish
and grant us a new vision of your glory,
a new experience of your power,
a new faithfulness to your Word
and a new consecration to your service
that your love may grow among us,
and your kingdom come
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Poll - sequence of topics

- You can ask questions at any time
 - Want to keep meeting to time, about an hour or so
 - Want to do the topics you want to hear about
1. Update from Fr Peter on parish and Diocese matters
 2. Parish financial position
 3. Community Rooms and Pre-school update
 4. St Paul's Primary School update
 5. Churches Together in Poynton
 6. SVP
 7. Building works
 8. Church seating including pews and kneelers
 9. People and activities
 10. Parish organisation
 11. Sacramental and pastoral
 12. Friendship and bereavement group
 13. Other topics?

Diocese and parish matters

Special updates from

- Our parish
- St Alban's parish
- Diocese

Our Mission Together funds:

- Caritas projects
- Retired priests support
- Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team
- Training priests
- Diocese catechetical mission
- Parish projects, St Paul's has a fund (so far) of £9,166 – thanks to you

Parish financial position

Taken from the end of year returns (April 2019)

- **Total receipts 2018-19**
£50,783.19

(mostly from offertory collections and other regular donations from parishioners £42,043.70)

- **Total payments 2018-19**
£42,209.01

(mostly non-discretionary running costs of visiting priests, parish office team wages, property expenses)

Summary

In the black (good)

But not that much

- For April 2018-19 income receipts are about the same as 2017-18, and we spent less in payments than in 2017-18)
- Diocese needed to top up parish account last week; maybe cash flow.

Community Rooms and Pre-school

Last December

- Arson
- Smoke damage throughout
- Central area burnt out
- Considerable damage to building and contents

Christmas:

- Considerable support, work and expense
- Lots of thanks to parents, children, wider Poynton community including PHS & Methodist Church, Waitrose, generous donations, parishioners, pre-school team, the fire fighters, Diocese and builders who get building open and start of term
- school ready at start of term with one redecorated room, kitchen and temporary toilets; helped by primary school with toilets

Community Rooms and Pre-school

- Today



- Over Easter: Remaining considerable effort, work and expense
- Now: Community Rooms and school back to full operation
- Summer break was first holiday break with the Pre-school team as so much work needed.
- Improved the building and garden.

Pre-school

- Staff
- Board/committee

Statistics

- Number of children attendees 16 (increasing after Christmas)
- Numbers change each year, registered for 32 children maximum.
- Now time to advertise preschool: Poynton Post, leaflet new estates ...

Future

- Very popular pre-school
- Perhaps that needs more space and an building extension, to expand to younger children services (1-2 year age).
- Cannot offer full day care, but could consider offering longer hours.

Churches Together in Poynton (CTiP)

- Support the various initiatives of the six Christian churches in Poynton.
- “page 2” in the Poynton Post
- the Easter Cross in St George’s
- Special events such as the performance of Gospel Street.
- Would welcome more support in representing St Paul’s.

SVP

- Quietly financial supporting local families in great hardship.
- For example helping some families afford the bus costs to All Hallows school.
- Worthy of your support; via parish office.
- Source of confidential support and advice

Last year: Buildings

- Created an initial list of jobs and tasks to be done; and adding to all the time
- Replaced floor tiling on front steps
- Replaced and levelled church side path
- Church and presbytery gutters cleared, and checked flat roofs
- Replaced all nave lights with energy low cost LED bulbs
- Keysafes installed for church keys
- Various minor “odd jobs”
- Made contacts with some trusted local tradesmen

This year: Buildings - internal

- Install new strip of coving in the nave
- Repair damage from leaks and damp in the Piety Stall, Upper Room and the Disabled toilet.

Plan scope of internal redecorating, probably in 2022-23, to include:

- Fixing PA interference: need full rewiring the altar audio. Will do partial rewiring beforehand.
- Do the pews and kneelers earlier?

This year: Buildings - external

- Repoint and repair brickwork on church – probably causing internal damp.
- Other building repairs on the church and presbytery.
E.g. missing flashing may be allowing water ingress.
- Major works (see following slides)
 - Consider options for the ToyBox
 - Consider approach to ground floor toilet in the presbytery.

Major work - Key points

- Major works need the involvement and authorisation of the Diocese
- There is a Diocese “property” team that manage planning permission and quotes.
- There is a property board that assesses proposals and expenditure budgets.

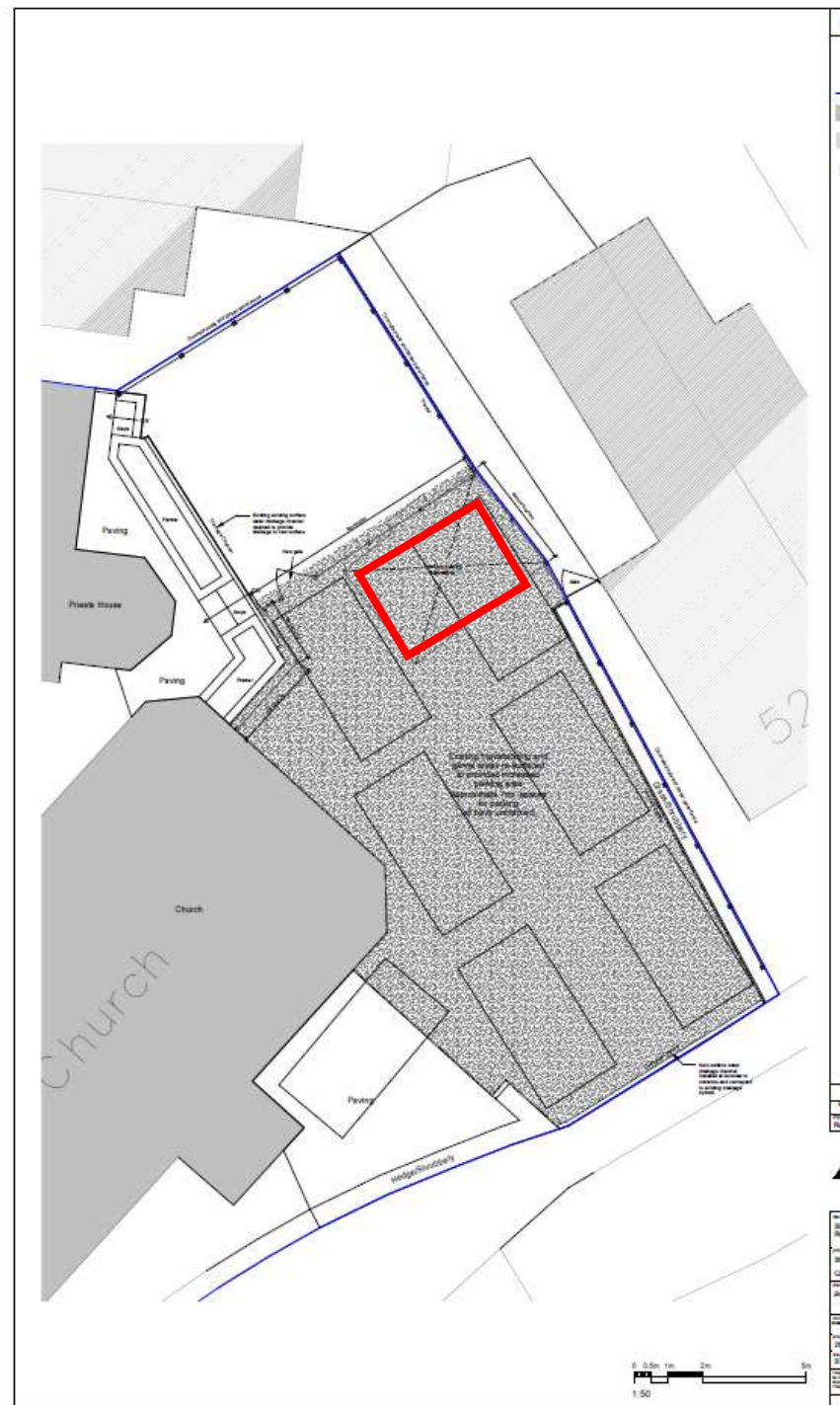
Example major costs are

- Demolishing the Toybox
- Installing a ground floor WC in the presbytery
- Refurbishing the pews and kneelers.

Note that minor refurbishments can be authorised by the parish priest, e.g. replacing the internal coving.

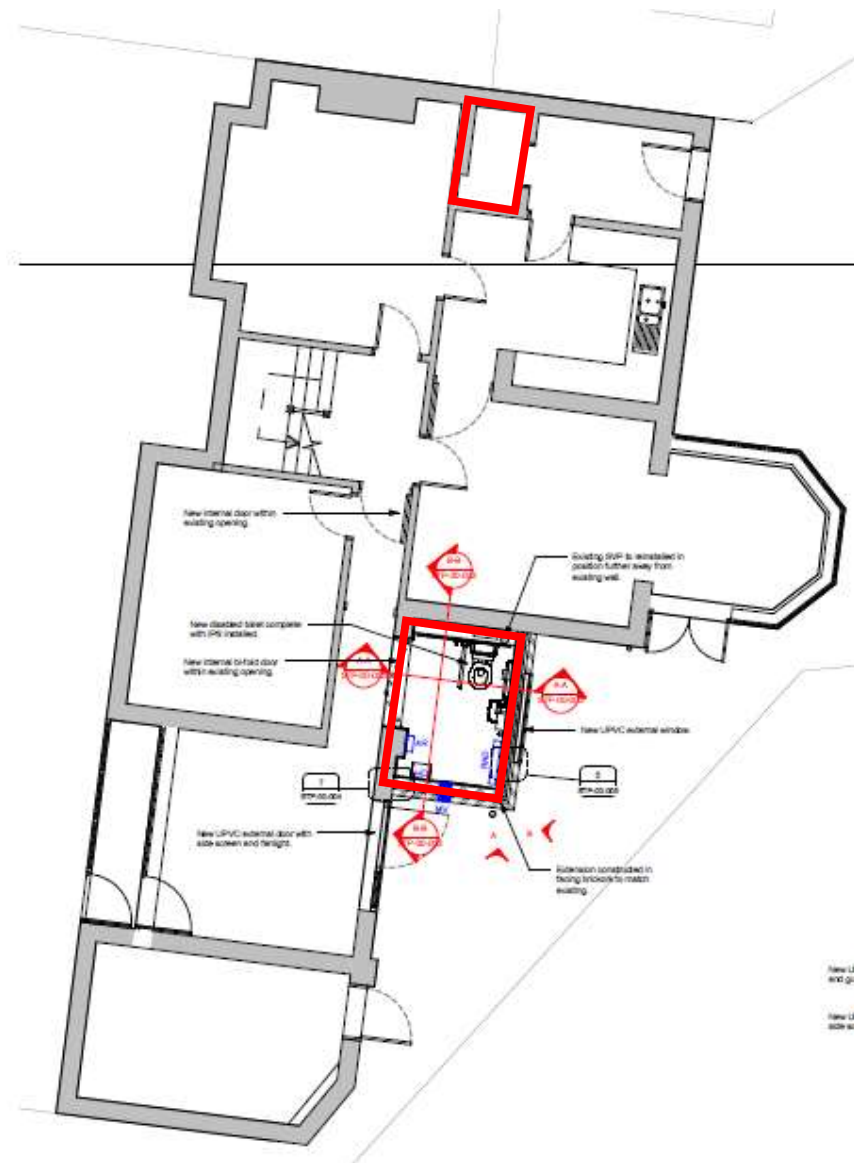
The Toybox

- Not useable (no water, no sewage, only electricity)
- Currently holding place for items to be disposed of
- Requires very occasional maintenance expenditure
- Asked Diocese Property Dept about demolishing: Diocese handled planning, planning permission and estimates. Would provide two extra parking spaces.
- Initial cost estimates were too high for demolition, so considering alternative options.



Ground floor toilet for presbytery

- Presbytery is increasingly used for parish meetings, social occasions, Little Church, etc
- The WC is upstairs, which is not convenient and not very safe.
- Need to investigate the options for a suitable toilet downstairs.
- Two options: external extension, or using space in the internal building.
- An extension is too expensive, so planning and costing up installation in the rear part of the utility room.
- Need to think whether to proceed at all, or whether some other approach would be a good compromise



Church Seating – needs and options

- Kneelers need reupholstering
- Wear on pews has worn through varnish and stain (last treated mid 90s?)
- Better choir and musicians seating layout and amplification
- More space around front – rather congested at funerals



Refurbish or replace?

Refurbish pews and kneelers

- have two estimates
- Cheapest is local suppliers
- Cost to strip and lacquer coat all the pews with kneeler reupholstery is around **£18,500**

Replace with equivalent chairs

- have two estimates
- Cheapest is a local supplier
- Wood or metal?
- Kneelers or not?
- Estimate for same number of wooden seats suitable for kneeling is **at least £22,500.**
- Simpler metal seats non-kneeling estimated at **about £5,500.**

Last year – People and activities

- A big thanks to everybody who has contributed their support and effort this year – too many to name individually.
- Need to celebrate that over 50 activities are run by our parishioners

This year - People and activities

- Parishioners: Appeal: Christmas carol singalong
Expect more requests of support for existing activities
- Popular event last year
- Setting up this year
- On Sat Dec 7th at 4:00pm
- Have format/script and PowerPoint
- Tentative musicians and choir support
- Need extra support especially on refreshments, tickets and raffle

Current - Parish teams under pressure

The following teams and activities need more support.

Contact the Parish Office.

- Building maintenance team
- Christian Aid coordinator
- Church cleaners
- Churches Together in Poynton
- Confirmation leaders
- Finance: counters and banking team
- Eucharistic Ministers especially for visiting
- Parish Office team
- Piety Stall
- Sacristans
- Welcomers especially family teams

Last year – parish organisation

Parish Office team

- Make everything work
- Set up parish personal details database.
- Changed baptism process and forms to be compliant with Diocese requirements.

This year – parish organisation

- Parish database needs update to include everybody on rotas and any previously known contacts.
- Further changes to forms and processes to comply with Diocesan advice on GDPR, safeguarding and health & safety.
- Need to ask via St Paul's primary school newsletter for more support of parish activities.

Last year – Sacramental and Pastoral

- Eucharistic Ministers taking communion to around 12 people a week
- Friendship and Bereavement Group very popular
Little Church well supported with up 12 children attending
New missals working well
- 14 Baptisms (Jan–Sep 19)
- 7 funerals (in St Pauls)
- 11 parishioners completed First Holy Communion
- 8 parishioners completed Confirmation programme
- No marriages this year.
- Confessions held in Advent and Lent
- Advertising activities at St Alban's, especially when not being done at St Paul's

Sacramental and Pastoral

- Changed catechism training programme (selected by the Diocese)
- Travelling crib will be arranged for Christmas this year
- First Sacraments and Confirmation programme will be held in St Paul's parish in 2020
 - needs extra support.
- Confirmation programme:
 - Meeting Jan
 - Programme starts Feb/Mar
- First sacraments:
 - Children's sessions, Masses of Enrolment and Special Masses will be on Saturday evenings.
 - Celebration of First Reconciliation will be on Sat 29th February 2020
 - Celebration of First Holy Communion will be on Saturday 16th May 2020.

Any questions?

Finishing prayer

As Jesus taught us, we commit ourselves
To welcome strangers into our midst,
To care for the poor
To love our neighbours as ourselves
And to establish justice in our community
In the name of God
And in the power of the Holy Spirit
We pledge ourselves to work for peace;
Peace in our homes
Peace in our communities
Peace in the world
Amen