



## **Parish Council MEETING MINUTES**

Tues. 19 March 2019, 7.30 pm  
St Columba's Parish Hall Meeting Room

ITEM	ACTION
<p><b>1. Welcome, opening prayer and reflection</b> Opening prayer by Father Peter.</p>	
<p><b>2. Attendance / Apologies:</b> <u>Present:</u> Fr Peter, Bernard Ryan, Adrian Overs, Carmel Reid, Nicola Connors, Renata Popovic-Tomac, David Hair (representing the Social Justice Group).  <u>Apologies:</u> Dan O'Brien, Vasile Tiano</p>	
<b>3. Business arising from previous meetings</b>	
<p><b><u>Storage at the Hall:</u></b>  The storage for the hall has been completed and is being moved in. This will free up the media room and cleaners' cupboard.</p> <p><b><u>Vacancy in Parish Council:</u></b>  Adrian will speak at Masses in the coming week to appeal for new members.</p> <p><b><u>Pleanary 20/20 Council</u></b>  Two events will be held on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March – 9am at the School and 7.30pm in the Parish Hall.</p> <p><b><u>Back door to Church &amp; Church Sign:</u></b>  <u>Church Door hardware upgrade &amp; door closers:</u>  Door handles have been ordered and Renata has chosen a brass</p>	<p>Fr Peter</p> <p>Adrian</p> <p>Fr. Peter &amp; Nicola,</p> <p>Renata</p>

<p>front door handle to match the others.</p> <p>There will be a 2 week lead time for the handles and locks.</p> <p>Renata will get quote from installer. Possibly 3 weeks for completion.</p> <p><u>Church Sign:</u></p> <p>Church sign has been repaired but there is now a problem with the pixels. Marcia has sent photo of the problem to the installer.</p>	<p>Fr Peter &amp; Marcia</p>
<p><b>4. Social Justice Diary:</b></p>	
<p>As mentioned before, Social justice members nominated three events for the Social Justice Diary:        8<sup>th</sup> Feb - St. Bakhita's Feast Day;        16<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> June - Refugee Week;        7<sup>th</sup> July - NAIDOC.</p> <p>David Hair suggested we add World Environment Day and World Day of the Poor as well.</p> <p>Adrian suggested putting a notice at the back of the church with these special dates and directing people to the Parish website.</p>	
<p><b>5. School report   moved: Carmel, Renata</b></p>	
<p><b>Tabled by Bernard Ryan.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was announced yesterday that Mrs Ann-Maree Young, our school secretary of 23 years, is finishing at St Columba's at the end of this term. Very sad news for our community.</li> <li>• Our playground has been renovated and is open again to the students. It consists of artificial grass, a yarning circle, prayer labyrinth and garden beds. The tennis court fence was also replaced.</li> <li>• Our school walk-a-thon is scheduled for Thursday 4 April.</li> <li>• Dr Dan White is retiring as Executive Director of Sydney Catholic Schools on Thursday 11 April. Mr Tony Farley will be the new Executive Director.</li> </ul> <hr/> <p>Recruitment is underway for Mrs Young's replacement.</p> <p>A successful "Table Talk" discussing refugees, was run last week by Sydney Alliance and Fay Hair, Sydney Catholic Schools and Jesuit Refugee Centre.        As a result of the talk School Staff will be visiting the Refugee Centre in the near future to prepare lunch for the refugees.</p>	
<p><b>6. St Vincent de Paul report</b></p>	

<p>No report tabled.</p> <p>As Mark Breen will be moving to Port Macquarie in the near future, Fr Peter suggested contacting Vinnies to ask for another representative to attend our meetings.</p>	
<p><b>7. Parish sub-committee updates:</b></p>	
<p><b>i. <u>Social Committee:</u></b> Nothing new to report.</p> <p>Adrian suggested we think of new ways to involve the Parish in social activities.</p> <p>Renata suggested we fill in a new calendar to record social events etc.</p> <p><b>ii. <u>Social Justice / Reaching out to others:</u></b> David Hair represented the Social Justice Committee.</p> <p>On 5 Feb, St. Bakhita's Feast Day, members helped at the Cathedral.</p> <p>It was suggested that 'ethical tea/coffee' etc be purchased for the Parish kitchen. Marcia is liaising with Gail Herbert.</p> <p>Approx 2,000 people attended The Sydney Alliance Housing Assembly at the Town Hall on 14 March. There were 18 attendees from St Columba's. The Assembly went very well and people will be following up with politicians after the election.</p> <p>The Jesuit Refugee Service 'Wishlist' for grocery items has been established. There has been a favourable response from the Parish and School to this month's food item which is basmati rice. The food item will be updated monthly.</p> <p>Jesuit Refugee Centre is very happy that a double pram has been donated and contacts have been made with cleaning company for refugees seeking work.</p> <p>A Palm Sunday rally "marching for refugees" will be held on 14 April. On 7 April a placard/poster workshop will be held at St Columba's.</p> <p>There will be a fundraising stall for Eden School and for Andrew Chang Memorial. Goods will be available at the back of church.</p> <p><b>iii. <u>Liturgy:</u></b> Meeting next Tues 26 March.</p> <p><b>iv. <u>Communications:</u></b> Up to date. Pixels on Church sign to be repaired.</p>	

<b>8. Other Business</b>	
<p>Marcia will be resigning in the near future as she needs to pursue full time work.</p> <p>Mrs Cate Tibbertsma, formerly Family Educator at St Michael's Stanmore, is interested in the role. Fr Peter and Bernard will interview her.</p> <p>There was discussion about the portion of garden on the RHS of the Church entry. Weeds have been cleared from this part of the garden and it was suggested that ground cover or low growing plants would be good for the sight.</p>	
Meeting closed 8:15pm.	
<p><b>Next meeting:</b>  <b>Tues 30th April 2019, 7.30 pm</b>  <b>St Columba's Parish Hall meeting room.</b></p>	