

## PARISH OF ST ANTHONY AND ST MARK – PARISH FABRIC COMMITTEE

### MEETING 4 MARCH 2025 – ST ANTHONY’S

#### MINUTES

Present: Robert Brown, Frank Conway, Anne Marie Fallon, Ann Ferry, Deacon Christopher Igwe, Marjorie McAuley, Brian McKenna, Fr Stephen Reilly, Iain Smith, Karen Smith, Jimmy Welsh.

Apologies: Stevie Kilcoyne

Updates, key discussions and action points (in bold):

#### 1. St Marks’ church heating:

- It was agreed that the works in St Mark’s over the past year or so have greatly improved the heating situation: insulation in the roof cavity; destratification fans; carpet under benches; and secondary glazing. Many thanks are due to all involved.
- The carpet has also improved the acoustics.
- It was noted that the main air source heating fans can still be a little loud and disruptive to hearing the readings etc. **SR will programme a gap in the timer of the heaters on the side walls during the readings.**
- It was noted that the church seems warmer on a Sunday morning rather than Saturday evening, probably because the building has been pre-heated on the Saturday evening. **SR will adjust the timer accordingly.** It was also noted that prioritising a ‘first impression’ warmth on entering the church would provide a psychological impression of overall heat.
- There was some helpful discussion around the impression by those in direct line of the air flow that the heaters aren’t emitting heat, but that this is because air source heaters don’t heat the air in a conventional way e.g. by using an element, but they slowly heat air over several hours.
- There was also useful discussion of proper ventilation, and acknowledgement that the new secondary glazing panels are split, and on hinges, thus allowing flexibility in ventilation. (editor addition: the destratification fans are also designed to aid air flow, and therefore ventilation). The possibility of some colourful transfers to adorn the new glazing panels was raised for future consideration.

**2. Disabled access to St Marks’ church.** We will seek an **update from SK** about this project. JW suggested the ramp at St Anthony’s as a good model in the use of limited space.

**3. Kneeler underside repair St Mark’s church.** IS updated the committee that he and SK were investigating this, and that SK was due to order material from a contact of his. **SK to update.**

#### 4. Fire safety:

- IS has compiled an excellent and concise extract from the latest fire report of St Mark’s, with required actions. **He and SR will meet to discuss** these points, and

they will present the plan to the next meeting, where they'll seek volunteers to take on certain key tasks in its implementation.

- **IS** hasn't been able to find the corresponding fire report for St Anthony's, but will **compile an action report** as he's done for St Mark's. **SR will investigate.** (editor update: SR he has found an e-version of the 2022 St Anthony's report and will send to IS)

- He noted that it would also be helpful to have a sketch floor plan of the churches where items such as fire extinguishers could be noted (editor update: SR has found the floor plan for St Anthony's completed at the last fire safety inspection and will pass on to IS).

## 5. St Anthony's updates

a) Updates from previous meeting:

- SR had approached St Anthony's Primary to take a over a patch of the garden in front of the parish house but the moment wasn't right. He will **remind the school** now that spring is here. Burnside Primary's care of their patch in Highburgh Drive could provide some encouragement.

- Gate to house courtyard has been re-attached with new fixings to wall.

- Door moulding damage has been repaired by Gerry Dunn, but the issue of MDF panels remains an ongoing concern. **SR will investigate.**

- Damage to paper & paintwork in the hall has been repaired and the hall repainted in a fetching colour with sage green trim.

- Water ingress at front door of church requiring new threshold bar: this is an ongoing problem. **MM will ask Gerry Dunn to investigate and repair if possible, perhaps requiring a new bar or mastic sealant.**

- Add hall fridge to paid cleaners' schedule. **SR will action asap.**

- Hook for door has been fixed by Gerry Dunn.

b) new issues:

- slates dislodged by the big storm in January. **SK to action a repair.**

- holes at entrance to the car park. A more permanent solution i.e. resurfacing is required. **SK to action a repair.**

- bench from front door of St Anthony's house - which was generously donated by parishioners - has gone missing. It was moved to the courtyard for safe keeping but has disappeared from there. **RB and AMF will ask Fr Johny for info as a first resort.**

## 6. St Mark's updates

- the lighting bollards are often found toppled over. **SR will contact Brian Haughey.**