

Notes from Parish Council

Sunday 15 May, 2016.

1. Contracts for the new church doors have now been finalised and we await news of funding from ACT Heritage to assist with the cost. Sandy White has given work in kind which will reduce the cost to the parish.
2. The engineer's report on the church walls has been received. While there is some evidence of movement resulting in cracking this needs to be monitored. Another assessment will be made later in the year to assess the amount of movement. Sandy White has been very active in this area and Parish Council thanked him for his work.
3. The report on parish council was well received and has been downloaded from the web site a number of times.
4. Naresh Gunaskere produced an excellent report on parish finances. While the parish is tracking to budget at present the parish needs to be aware that additional funds will be needed in the future to maintain a second priest. Kelvin's salary is presently paid by Defence under the arrangement we have for his pastoral training. Once he has left in a couple of years time we will need to consider funding of another priest very seriously.
5. The suggestion of the parish email list made at the AGM has progressed. Christopher Deane presented a report on software that will allow people to opt in to such a list. Parish Council discussed the need to maintain the email list for appropriate parish communication only and to limit any emails to a minimum. Work continues.
6. Parish Council discussed the continuing need to make sure that women are adequately represented in the sanctuary team. It was noted that on some Sundays only men were in the sanctuary.
7. No further information was available about the development of the site by the Diocese. While work continues between the Diocese and the ACT Government there is no specific matters to report on this site at present. As matters progress this will be reported to the parish. The establishment of a joint Diocese and Parish Working Group will occur at the appropriate time.
8. A letter was received from the Christmas Bowl acknowledging our contribution of \$4,430 in 2015. This was a significant outreach beyond the parish.
9. The service of prayer for Christian unity was very successful with wonderful music and with about 200 people present from many Christian denominations. There were many Christian leaders present who took a part in the service. The success of this service is helping to establish this type of outreach as a continuing ministry in the local area.
10. Arrangements are in place to cover the Rector's long service leave. The Rector will be on leave from 13 June to 29 August, 2016. The Venerable John Gibson will

be the locum and supported by The Rev'd Kelvin Harris. We are grateful for the ministry of our honorary clergy as well and some other clergy have agreed to cover services. It is also likely that Canon John Campbell will be back on duty shortly following a period of illness.

11. St David's reported that Anglicare is proposing to erect a sail in the garden behind the church. This will increase shade and the usefulness of the garden. Other garden work is also being carried out. Duncan Anderson expressed his grateful thanks for the way that parish clergy had covered St David's services during Canon John's illness. St David's is also planning its next social function – a film night.

12. The Rector reported that the Parish of Manuka Arts Foundation is continuing to fund music in the parish. A small amount remains in the Heritage Fund.

Brian Douglas
Presiding Member of Parish Council
17 May, 2016.