Knights of Saint Columba Accrington Council 188

Synopsis of Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday February 18th. 2020

Opening The GK opened the meeting according to the manual for small councils.

**In attendance** – Paul Cain (PC) Brian Heap ( BHe) Bernard Holden (BH) John McManus (JMc) David Richards (DR) Andrew Szlac (AS) and Paul Toman (PT)

**Minutes of last meeting –** held on January 21st., were passed as a true record with the following amendment, Brothers JMc, EM and PT attended Mary Jacksons funeral and PC attended Mary William’s funerals.

Reports

**Action** Jed Gregory Include report on action plan development

In the absence of JG the following pins were made.

*Palm Sunday* (April 5th) A service of prayers to be held on the market Hall Square in Accrington

*Good Friday*. Unfortunately we can’t erect the large steel cross this year as the transport is not available. The small wooden cross will be used once more,.

A poster relating to the two events will be prepared and sent in good time to the various churches and the priests and vicars will be asked to promote both these events. Once more children from Mount Carmel and St, Christopher’s will be asked to read from the leaflets.

It was also suggested and agreed that we again organise the Parish retreat to Fernyhalgh later in the year.

**Treasurer** Brian Heap Include report on action plan development

BHe indicated that the cost of the calendars and gifts cost £ 47.88. He also informed the meeting of the Council’s current financial position and that the donations from March 2019 collected at the end of our meeting totalled £240, without this sum we would not be able to function as a council.

**Deputy GK** Paul Cain Include report on action plan development

PC . Questions relating to the refuge’s membership arose and it was agreed it was not appropriate at the moment. He also reported that the now closed Clitheroe council was in the same position as we are now – unable to find new recruits

He also indicated that Burnley have a club which in the past had supplied many members was now failing to find new members for this source.

**Chancellor**  Paul Toman Include report on action plan development

No report.

**Secretary**  John McManus Include report on action plan development

JMc reported he had not been in touch with Our Lady’s church in Llandudno but would again contact them to find out the whereabouts of Rita Kafel

**Technology Officer** David Richard Include report on action plan development

DR reported that about 10 people a week are visiting our council website

**Grand Knight** Bernard Holden Include report on action plan development

Opened the debate

**Debate**

The discussions related to membership. BH said that if this council could not recruit six or seven new members in the next few the continued existence of Council 188 would be in doubt. We are at a crisis point.

The point was made that most of the 18 – 30 age group get their information from the social media and are often missing from Mass and speakers to promote the KSC at church would fail to contact this age group. The following suggestions were made:-

1. A summary of our meeting will be made and displayed in the local churches
2. Several copies of the minutes will be laid at the back of churches for parishioners to take way
3. Meetings will be advertised in the parish bulletins at the weekend before out meetings indicated visiting gentlemen to attend our meetings,
4. Events organised by the council should often present good publicity and our council name must always be included in all publicity and working document.

**AOB**

Fr. Stamp has indicated a few problems in co-ordinating three speakers for our Parish Retreat in April/May. It was suggested that we could if this is more easily arranged only have one or possible two speakers which should be more easily arranged.

**Date of next meeting Tuesday March 17th 2020 at 7.30 in the Marian Room at St. Anne’s church**

**Closing of meeting**

The meeting closed at 8.30 with prayers for our deceased brothers.