

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES MARCH 25TH 2026

Present: Bernadette Toal, Gerry Monnelly, Paul Thornton, Catherine O'Brien, Dymphna Tipper, Anne Harte Barry, Eileen Fitzpatrick.

Apologies: Kieran O Mahony, Lorcan Mc Dermott, Chrissie Fitzpatrick.

Opening Prayer was led by Gerry.

Matters arising from the AGM.

Paul will update the Constitution and make the changes that were agreed on at our last AGM.

Review of the Constitution. While this is not a big job, it is important to have clarity in regard to governance. The Review of the Constitution will be carried out before the next AGM.

In our next committee meeting we will discuss how best to do this.

Members of the committee are asked to have read the constitution beforehand.

Overall, it was felt the AGM went very well. Those present were engaged in the process. It was felt that it is important to continue to encourage the community's participation in the life of the community.

It helped to have had a facilitator. And while Mary Kearney offered her services free of charge it was agreed to get a Thank You Card, have the members of the community sign it, and give it to her as a token of appreciation. (Bernadette to do this.)

Anne Harte-Barry and Eileen Fitzpatrick formally welcomed into the committee.

Election of a new Chairperson: After some discussion it was decided to postpone appointing someone until our next meeting. Lorcan, who was absent, will be asked to consider taking on the role, with Bernadette remaining in a supportive role to him.

Bernadette to draw up some pointers regarding the Role of the Chairperson.

Finance: The financial Statement was looked at.

Gerry said that offering a cheque rather than cash to the visiting priests has simplified the process greatly.

The donation to the Good Shepherd Sisters in Thailand will now be sent just twice annually. Paul Thornton has volunteered to send the donation via his revolut. Anne Harte Barry offered the use of her revolut account also. Next donation due in April 2026.

Payment of Taxes: A question arose in relation to whether or not we should be paying tax. Gerry will contact our accountant, Peter Birthistle. He will send him an email and outline our concerns. Peter has already agreed to do an audit on our finances, free of charge. Gerry will also offer to pay him for any extra services.

Finance Committee: At the AGM meeting it had been suggested that a finance committee be formed to look at how we are managing our finances. We are usually running at a deficit each year.

Due to lack of time this issue was postponed until the next committee meeting.

Donating to specific charities: Our present method could be reviewed with the whole community in the near future. In the meantime, it was agreed to leave things as they stand at the moment. Our Trócaire Lenten Collection will take place on the 2nd Sunday after Easter, combining the collection with a donation from OITC funds, a total of up to a1000 euros will be given to Trócaire.

Holy Week Ceremonies:

Palm Sunday: It was noted that the ritual of blessing the palms will be outdoors. However, this brief ritual will not be covered online.

Holy Thursday at 7pm: Kieran available.

Good Friday at 7pm.: Paul to lead the Good Friday service.

Holy Saturday at 7pm: Kieran available.

Paul looking after the Paschal Candle. Catherine to look after the small candles.

Festivities afterwards on Holy Saturday: Bernadette to check if Kieran is bringing the Panatone. Gerry to get 8 bottles of non-alcoholic prosecco.

Eileen to liaise with Bro Christopher or Bro Larry re the use of glasses from their dining room.

Next Meeting: 29th April.

Anne will lead the prayer.