

Parish Annual General Meeting  
St Thomas of Canterbury, Woodford Green  
Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

**1) Welcome**

Fr. Quentin welcomed around 50 members of our Parish to the AGM. **The meeting commenced with an opening prayer.**

**2) Minutes of last AGM**

The Minutes from 2017's AGM are available on the Parish website. Minutes approved.

**3) Chairman's Annual Report**

The Parish Council has several areas to focus on for the coming year. Amongst these are the replacement of 4 Guiding/Scouting huts with 1 large hut. This new hut could be used as a youth club and also for storage.

2 current members of the Parish Council - Sue Musiu and Guy Williamson - have resigned.

Paul Turpin's Annual Report is available to view on the Parish Website and is also on display in the church porch.

There were no questions from the floor regarding the Chairman's Annual Report.

**4) Parish Finance Presentation - Report from the Finance Committee**

This report is available to view on the Parish website and also on display in the church porch.

Paul Turpin presented the key financial details:

- There was a surplus, rather than a deficit, in the accounts overall this year.
- Total income to the Parish was relatively unchanged.
- Administration costs have reduced this year, due to the resignation of a member of the Parish Office staff.
- The open-air mass and the summer fete were expensive events to hold but were a huge community-building exercise.

The following points will be areas of focus for the coming year:

- Encouraging Parishioners to switch their donations to standing order, rather than making donations via the collection baskets during mass.
- There will be a number of expensive repairs for the coming year, including repairing the church roof and replacing the grass-crete surface in the church car park.

### **Questions from the floor:**

Q - Could we appeal to Parishioners for donations to help pay for expensive repairs?

A - Jim Hoban (Finance Committee) - Yes, appeals will be made in the future.

Q - Are there any grants available for repairing the church roof?

A - Jim Hoban - The Finance Committee will explore all options available when considering costs.

### **5) IT matters - Mike Eggleton**

- Since the last AGM the new Parish website has gone live, enabling Parishioners to view the newsletter online.
- Facebook and Twitter profiles have been created.
- Website has had 11,804 visitors.
- 272 newsletters are sent out by email.
- 189 Facebook followers.
- 28 Twitter followers.
- The 2 masses that were streamed online have had 132 views.
- The IT committee want to use technology to support our Parish. Please let them know if you have any ideas.

### **6) Elections - Fr. Quentin**

Nominations: Paul Dobson and Paul Kinman.

Both were elected, by acclaim, to the Parish Council.

### **7) General questions from the floor**

Q - Why can't details of the sick and recently deceased of our Parish be listed on the Parish newsletter?

A - This is due to the recent GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation).

Q - Why has the replacement of the Guiding/Scouting huts become such a big issue?

A - The Parish Council would like to find someone who *designs or builds* huts so that we can create something large enough to be used for storage and for the youth of our Parish.

Q - The organ loft door needs fixing. The lock has broken.

A - Fabric Committee will look at this.

Q - In Touch, our Parish magazine, needs a new Advertising Manager. Kathy Wilson will remain in place as Editor until December 2018. From January 2019 a new Editor will be needed.

A - Parish Council to discuss the future of In Touch.

Fr. Quentin made a general point that we need to appoint a Youth Leader.

#### **8) Vote of thanks**

Fr. Quentin thanked Sue Musiu and Guy Williamson for their hard work on the Parish Council.

Thanks also go to Pat Bell who has organised the church cleaning rota (and cleaned the church) for over 40 years but is now standing down.

**The meeting closed with a prayer.**