

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of St Thomas of Canterbury at The Becket Centre

Monday 6th June 2016

Present:

Jeremy Davey (Chairman)	Fr Quentin (President)
Jonathan Constable	Maureen Duke
Mike Eggleton	Paul Kinman
Mary Leonard	Alan Mair
David McLaughlin	Kit Tranmer
Paul Turpin	

In attendance: Brian Martin (Finance Committee).

Apologies:

Linda Taylor	Matthew Ives
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- 1. The meeting commenced with prayers.**
- 2. The agenda was approved.**
- 3. The minutes of the meeting on 9th May 2016 were approved.**
- 4. Brian Martin explained the contents of the financial report which had been circulated prior to the meeting.**
 - a. After considerable discussion it was agreed the report should be added to the parish website, displayed at the back of the church and mentioned in the newsletter.**
 - b. It was further agreed that presentation of the report to the parish AGM should concentrate on headline figures with further explanation provided as required.**
 - c. Discussions took place regarding maximisation of the return on Parish funds. It was suggested that we might temporarily use part of the surplus funds to help others, to be returned in line with our need for such funds. It was felt that a sensible balanced approach was required and the finance committee should put forward proposals on this matter.**

- d. John Constable if in future we would be investing in buildings or in other areas such as youth and pilgrims.
- e. Brian Martin left the meeting.
- f. Alan Mair also left the meeting.

5. Matters arising from minutes:

- a. Elections to the parish council - Fr Quentin informed the meeting that 14 forms proposing parishioners for election had been received. He also reminded the council that two ex-officio members also exist being Michael Sullivan our Deanery link and William Yeung – steward of the Gospel (Diocesan link).
- b. Discussion took place surrounding the desirability or otherwise of such a large parish council. It was felt that absentees and natural attrition would render this workable.
- c. Discussion then followed as to the desirability of electing each individual separately of electing them all as a block. The possibility of a secret ballot with the votes counted during the AGM was considered. No firm decision was arrived at.

6. The need for chairs at the back of the church during the 10.00 a.m. mass on Sundays. Currently these are brought in from the Becket Centre. The question of whether a second set of chairs was desirable was raised. After some discussion it was decided to defer this matter to the next meeting.

7. IT – Mike Eggleton and Paul Kinman updated the council on progress so far. They recommended that meters be kept in-house for the time being. Eventually support will need to be outsourced. They volunteered to produce a strategy document for further consideration.

8. The question of “PAT” testing was raised. It was felt that we needed to decide first what should be tested.

9. Parish 5 year plan – a paper had been circulated prior the meeting and members of the council were asked to consider its contents and in particular feed back their response the alternatives offered on the second page.

10.AOB

- a. **Cathy Wilson has indicated that she intends to retire as editor having completed the temporary role she had agreed to undertake. After some discussion it was agreed that her replacement should be a matter for the existing editorial team.**
- b. **More volunteers are needed for people to act as sacristans. Also the matter of rotas was discussed. These should be referred to Mike Murphy.**
- c. **Parish newsletter - Mike Eggleton will prepare a proposal regarding this idea.**
- d. **Contacts list – Mike Eggleton has been collating a list and will share this with the parish council.**
- e. **Jeremy Davey confirmed that he intends to step down from the parish council following the AGM but proposes to attend the first meeting of the new council to assist with the transition/**

PARISH AGM - this is to take place on Sunday 3rd July at 12.30 p.m. in the Becket Centre.

Next meeting: Monday 4th July 2016 at 8.00 p.m. in the Becket Centre.

The meeting closed with prayers.

Next PC Meeting

1. Chairs
2. Youth worker
3. Action Team – to ensure items are dealt with rather than carried forward
4. Parish Constitution
5. AOB – if not immediately resolvable add to next agenda
6. Quarterly newsletter – Dates in next 3 months; Parish Council; Steward of Gospel; Deanery Council; Becket Centre and church groups; Volunteers needed; Pope's message?
7. IT Committee
8. Items from AGM – Youth focus, more hlp fro Brownies & Guides, Readers Training, TELCO accountability?