

# PARISH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

Chair: William Scott, Vice Chair: Vacant, Secretary: Marc Besford ([marcbesford91@gmail.com](mailto:marcbesford91@gmail.com))

W. Devine, S. Galloway, P. Hewitt, C. Kelly, M. Maddren, J. Murray, C. Swainston, S. Weatherhall, P. Wynn,  
Rev. J. Butters, Rev. Deacon, D. McKie, V. Corcoran, C. Welch, A. Caswell & A. Ewing

Parish Council Meeting  
Annual General Meeting  
4<sup>th</sup> December 2014  
7:00pm  
The Medway

## Minutes

- I. Present: M. Besford, P. Hewitt, C. Kelly, M. Maddren, J. Murray, C. Swainston, S. Weatherhall, P. Wynn, Rev. J. Butters, W. Scott, V. Corcoran, C. Welch, A. Caswell, M. Scott & M. Toth
- II. Apologies: A. Ewing, Rev. Deacon. D. McKie, B. Devine & S. Galloway
- III. M. Besford was elected Secretary.
- IV. W. Scott was elected Chair.
- V. Vice Chair is vacant until the next meeting.
- VI. P. Hewitt told the council that the new hymn books are on their way and should be in the parish shortly.
- VII. C. Swainston told the council that the annual Mass for those who have died this last year was well attended. With 44 families and 36 Christmas cards been distributed to the families.
- VIII. Reports were read with two amendments to the number of Eucharistic ministers and Altar servers which rose. The Chair thanked those who produced reports both physically and verbally.
- IX. V. Corcoran outlined the finance report and thanked the parishioners for their continued generosity. The Chair thanked the hard work of V. Corcoran and the finance committee.
- X. C. Kelly outlined work of the Youth both for the Youth Mass in which the Youth picked a date and time of the Mass and led on every aspect with Introduction, Offertory, Hymns, Bidding Prayers along with producing 85 boxes for the seafarers, the Chaplain to the seafarers was impressed by the dedication of the youth.
- XI. The Chair appointed M. Besford to organise the National Youth Conference called Flame 2.
- XII. M. Besford outlined the social media aspect with the introduction of MailChimp which provides a monthly news letter to parishioners. A link can be found on the website to subscribe. Social media has been a big hit since the introduction and it's a new way of keeping people informed about local and universal news.
- XIII. Fr Butters announced that a group will be attending Hartlepool's Call to Prayer evening on Forward together in Hope, a link to the latest news is: [www.hope.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.hope.rcdhn.org.uk)
- XIV. M. Besford announced the Confirmation pilgrimage was a success and the highlight was Mass with Pope Francis in St Peter's Basilica. An article was written and published in the Catholic Universe and Northern Cross.
- XV. M. Besford told the council the success of the Youth Conference in our Diocese and said that he will be coordinating the new award for the youth called The John Paul II award which was launched at the conference and begin to start in September 2015.
- XVI. C. Welch outlined for the council the duties of the Council of Laity and also the main points of Forward together in Hope.
- XVII. Fr Butters announced that Bishop Seamus Cunningham will be on visitation on the weekend of the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> January.
- XVIII. The next meeting will be 29<sup>th</sup> January 2015, 7pm at The Medway