



the Company of Servers

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

2nd May 2015

1. Chaplain General's Welcome

Fr. Andrew Nunn welcomed the companions to St. Saviour's Pimlico for the 6th Annual General Meeting of the Company of Servers. Bishop Stephen was thanked for his support as our Bishop Visitor, for preaching and presiding at the Mass and for all his support to the Catholic societies. Fr. Matthew, the incumbent of St. Saviour's was thanked for the use of the church and its facilities.

Fr. David Stephenson, the second chairman of COS, was presented with Honorary Life Membership and thanked for his services and his leadership of COS.

The porch cards are Free as are cards stating the Blessed Sacrament is reserved. They are produced by Gospel Imprint and can be downloaded from the SCP or Affirming Catholic websites. These sites also contain information and downloadable leaflets about Baptism, Marriage and other sacraments.

Fr. Andrew outlined the perspective of SCP, the links COS has with SCP, which is now 21 years old. SCP's ethos is inclusive

2. Apologies for absence

London Chapter: 14

Southwark Chapter: 12

Norwich Chapter: 7

Chelmsford Chapter: 5

St. Albans: 1

2.1 ATTENDANCE

Southwark Chapter: 8

London Chapter: 15

Norwich Chapter: 3

Chelmsford Chapter:	3
Blackburn and Liverpool Chapter:	1
St. Alban's Chapter:	4

3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Southwark Cathedral

These were attached to the Agenda. The minutes were proposed by Sally Tooth (London) and seconded by Ben (London) and unanimously accepted.

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising

5. Chairman's report

Attached to these minutes. The Chairman thanked the London Chapter for the use of the church. Cathy James welcomed the companions from other chapters on behalf of the London Chapter. The Annual Festival celebrates the risen Christ after the darkness and drama of Lent and Holy Week. Serving at the altar during this time is unusual due to the variety of services and the priests and servers as 'actors' lovingly acting Christian discipleship in their calling to be servants of Christ. The action of washing feet, for example, and prayerful humble service are at the forefront of Christian mission during that time.

There has been growth in St. Alban's Chapter. A Chapter may be formed in the Lincoln diocese.

A Chaplains and Chairs day will be planned in the next few months.

It was reported there were three women bishops to date.

The Central Committee were thanked for their work and it was reported that Robert Coupeland had resigned to start ordination training. He follows David Warner and David Stephenson as members of the COS Central Committee to be called to the priesthood.

All Companions should pray for the service we give in worship and in our Christian witness through our ministry as servers.

The Company of Servers now needs to encourage younger people to be on the committee and ensure that good practice is continued through training, and sharing ministry at the altar.

6. Treasurer General's report

Attached to these minutes. Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Stephen Chamberlain (London) and seconded by Ian (London). The accounts were accepted unaminously.

The Treasurer reported on the receipts from subscriptions and the current status of chapter payments.

There was a stock of both medals and ribbons.

There is a need now to reprint the handbook but this is impossible at the moment unless we have a benefactor.

The loan for handbooks has had £600 paid this year and £1300 remains

York chapter sent £92.50 for subscriptions to Central Committee in April.

Donation and Gift Aid are working well.

Thanks were given to Southwark Cathedral for ensuring that Festival costs were kept as low as possible.

It was proposed by John Kitchener that Clare Stephenson continue to independently examine the accounts and seconded by Sion Hughes-Carew (London). Accepted unanimously.

7. Membership Officer's report

Attached to these minutes and accepted unanimously.

8. Central Committee Elections

The three terms of office had come to an end for the Treasurer, Secretary, Communications Officer and Festival Officer. One committee member to be appointed due to one resignation.

John Kitchener Treasurer re-elected for a further three year term

Mark Charlton Communications Officer re-elected for a further three year term

Willy Varlow Festival Officer re-elected for a further three year term

Belinda Hornby appointed to the Central Committee for a three year term

9. Festival 2016

Suggestions for the 2016 festival were made for Lancashire, Norwich or Exeter which will be taken to Central Committee.

10. Any other business

Andrew Butcher St. Alban's reminded members of the St. Alban's day festival on 20th June 2016 and as a city/abbey event it is well worth supporting by COS members.

11. Prayer and closing comments

Bishop Stephen closed the meeting with the Grace.