**St Thomas More PTA AGM Minutes of the 10th October 2017**

**Present**: Nick O’Toole (Chair), Gemma Scanlon (Secretary), Cath Williams (Treasurer) Alanna Kynaston, Clare Ballan, Zara Betney, Joanne Butterworth, Kathryn Sanders, Phil McDermott, Louise Williams, Andrew Power, Sam Carroll, Julie Fairbrother, Victoria Ryder, Anna Truman, Karla Clarke, Claire Robertson and Simon Mackridge

**Apologies** – Yolanda Farrell, Fiona Horrocks, Michelle Brice and Laura Pracy.

1. **Meeting opened and new members welcomed**.
2. **Election of Officers**

The election of the Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary were made.

Nick O’Toole was nominated and elected for chair, Andrew Power was nominated and elected for vice chair, Cath Williams was nominated and elected for Treasurer and Gemma Scanlon was nominated and elected for secretary.

1. **Report from Chair**

The children’s events were very popular last year. The following events are coming up. Fancy dress disco, Christmas cards, Christmas parties and story time.

We will have a break after that until the balloon race due to the loss of the movie nights.

Other ideas suggested are:

* School camp for the whole family on the school field.
* Movie mornings on the weekend.
* Valentines disco in the springtime
* Easter story time

The adult socials are struggling at the moment. Race night was cancelled due to poor response, we will try again with this in February 2018. Need to start looking into the ladies night to get that organised. Action N O’Toole

Suggestions for an October fest event, couple comedy night, golf day or Christmas fair. Nick to look into these. Action N O’Toole

Discussed the fireworks and bonfire night for 2018. This will need a lot of work! We are insured for this but would have to provide a lot of paperwork to cover this. We would need a lot of helpers to be marshals. Nick to send out a letter telling people about the bonfire night and fireworks display for 2018 and asking for help. Action N O’Toole

1. **Report from treasurer**

Figures from all previous events were discussed by the treasurer.

Collectively a figure was decided and agreed to donate to the school and the cheque will be organised to be presented at the Christmas Nativities. Action C Williams

1. **Report from Mrs Butterworth**

Mrs Butterworth thanked everyone involved in the PTA for their hard work.

Mrs Butterworth wants to keep parents informed on what the school are spending the money raised from the PTA on. The guided reading programme for Reception to Year 6 has been purchased and lots of resources have been purchased for KS1.

The next project Mrs Butterworth would like to look at is the resource room (this is the room behind the main reception) Mrs Butterworth has visited other schools to generate ideas. She would like a colourful sectioned classroom for the whole school to utilise.

1. **Upcoming events**

Race night - Friday 13th October has been cancelled due to poor response from parents.

Christmas Cards- Julie Fairbrother has kindly organised the Christmas cards again this year. The setup is slightly different, the children will draw their card design at home and fill in the sticker attached with the pack and send back to school.

10th November, Fancy dress disco, letter to go out for this by 30th October. DJ has been booked for this. This will be a 6:15pm start due to after school club.

The first session will run 6:15-7:15pm and the second session will run 7.30-8.30pm. Andy to buy the prizes, crisps and drinks- Action AP

Christmas Parties- 9th December- Church hall has been booked. Andy to purchase, food and selection boxes for this. Need to purchase nut free/ dairy free selection boxes for those children with allergies. Action AP

Storytime for foundation and KS1- 18th December. 5:15pm start. Nick to book Adam Perrot for this and Andy to purchase milk and biscuits. Action AP/ Action N O’Toole

1. A.O.B

We will not be selling the calendars this year, unfortunately we are unable to get the calendars printed for free, and therefore we are going to sell the class photos through the photographer.

Nick suggested that an item in the constitution be amended. The rule that a minimum of 15 members of the PTA are required at an AGM to achieve quorum is thought to be too high and should be lowered to reflect falling numbers in the PTA. All agreed that it should now be 10 and the constitution will be amended by Gemma. Action GS

Suggested that we try and hold coffee mornings after church, maybe after the family masses. Anna to speak to Peter Bint to book the church hall. Action AT. Gemma to send Anna the dates of the sacramental programme Action GS

If we are to go ahead with the coffee mornings this will need to be in the church newsletter 2-3 weeks before hand. Action N O’Toole

Gift aid was mentioned again. Anna to look into this. Action AT

Costco membership needs renewing in November. Andy to renew this but change the names on the membership to include Action AP

1. Andrew Power
2. Mrs Quigg
3. Mrs McBride

Nick to look into organising an additional PTA meeting on a Friday following the regular Tuesday meeting at about 2pm before school pick up, this will be a trial. Nick to add this to the newsletter Action N O’Toole

Nick to look at the list for match funding and send a text reminder about easy fund raising. Action N O’Toole

**Next meeting 14th November at the Lancashire Fold @ 8pm**