

# Minutes of the Christ Church Council Meeting 26<sup>th</sup> November 2009

## **Present:**

David Bishop, Judith Bishop, Lewis Boyd [chair], Margaret Burrows, Antony Claridge, Mark Elliott, Margaret Heath, Martin Palmer, Angela Soboslay, Clive Tilling.

## **2 Apologies for absence**

Sylvia Ayers, Robert Siderfin, Andrew Sillett, Janet Mahto

## **3 Approval of minutes of 8<sup>th</sup> September meeting**

The previous minutes were approved (P:Martin Palmer, S:Mark Elliott)

## **4 Matters arising**

- Margaret Burrows reminded us that in addition to the sidespeople's role of making visitors feel comfortable, we had previously foreseen having "Welcomers" stationed outside the church. This idea should be resurrected via Bob Siderfin's planning group.
- The work expected from each of the "official" posts (wardens, verger, sidespeople, etc) should be written up so that everyone is quite clear what the responsibilities are.

## **5 Regular reports**

### **a Local Ministry Group**

Antony was gratified to see such a full church, including some from ST Mary's RC, for the Christ the King celebration (22<sup>nd</sup> Nov), which also marked his own 25 years in the priesthood. The Road Peace service (15<sup>th</sup> Nov) had been very much appreciated and was generally regarded as successful. St Stephen's and St Mary's have specifically asked for our support and continued contact through their interregnum, and Judith Peplar (St Mary's) has since spoken to Mark; we are awaiting their draft of the Parish Profile. St Swithun's expect to be represented at our Advent Carol Service (29<sup>th</sup> Nov)

### **b Churches Together in Bath**

CTB has not met since our last Council meeting. Thanks had been received via CTB contacts (as per Antony's comments) for our hosting of the Road Peace service. Margaret Heath is arranging for the Travelling Light to move on to the Salvation Army

next week. Antony and Margaret Heath expressed concern at the lack of interest in the Central Zone of the CTB, and some discussion is justified whether there is scope for Bath to be divided into four zones. Margaret Heath was asked to find out more about the Northern Zone, in which we are a more natural fit geographically, and the issue should be raised at Deanery Synod.

### **c Deanery Synod**

There is a vacancy on the Pastoral Committee at Deanery Synod (previously filled by Emma Elliott). All were asked for suggestions who be asked to fill it. Antony raised the question of support for St Marks School, which should be raised at the next Trustees Meeting. Lewis noted from the the last meeting that the position of Deanery Synod treasurer is also vacant. The Archbishop's adviser on Evangelism Paul Bays had given an address. The presentation will be obtained for Christ Church and Andrew Sillett will report on it in the magazine.

### **6 Play Day (MWP)**

It was agreed that the successful play day of 2008 should be repeated. Invitations should be extended to the LMG and St Mary's RC although it should remain a Christ Church venture. The Royal High School Junior School Hall is still available at no cost beyond paying the necessary staff (for the kitchen etc), and we should aim for a max of 150 people. A working group was established; members to be:

Jo Palmer (drama),	Lewis (ticket sales),
Yvonne (costumes),	Martin/Chris (stage/lighting),
Clive (food),	Jane (hall decoration)
Antony/Nicky (casting),	Matthew/Sarah (publicity),

Richard and Ann Kemp had looked after the bar before. Judith and David Bishop offered to take this over.

### **7 Defining what Christ Church means to us (ME)**

The drive for better coordinated publicity had defined the need for a Christ Church logo to give a unified feel to all our publications and stationery. A third party designer has been contacted and Mark requested our views of how to convey the sense of Christ Church in a few words. Mark had previously noted:

*Warm, Open, Liberal, Open-minded, Traditional, Musical, Thinking*

Council members added:

*All-age, "Don't hang your brain up at the door", "Make praise the way you want it*

*to be”, “Freedom”, “The peculiar where the people aren’t”, “Faith-seeking”, “Understanding”, “Inclusive”, “Accepting”, “Liberal catholic”, “Caring”, “the Cedar Tree ethos” (ie all finding refuge under it).*

## **8 Distribution of Planning Group report summary (AC)**

Bob’s draft executive summary was distributed to the Council members, with a request that they comment back to him, particularly in terms of priorities. This would be presented formally at the January meeting.

## **9 AOB – as noted to the secretary before the meeting**

- The Deanery has asked us to host the Confirmation on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2010.
- Norland College will hold its Carol Service at Christ Church on 16<sup>th</sup> December.
- King Edward’s Junior School will hold its Carol Service at Christ Church on 4th December.
- Partis College have been invited to the Advent Carol Service.
- The importance was noted of us learning from St Stephen’s interregnum so that our own at the end of 2010 would be as smooth as possible.

## **10 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting is on 11<sup>th</sup> January – topics: Planning Group report.

djb/04/01/10