

Minutes of the Christ Church Council Meeting 18th January 2010

Present: Sylvia Ayers, David Bishop, Lewis Boyd, Margaret Burrows, Antony Claridge, Mark Elliott, Chris Gladstone, Margaret Heath, Janet Mahto, Jane Nicholson, Martin Palmer [chair], Robert Siderfin, Andrew Sillett, Margaret Silver, Clive Tilling, Brenda Wall

2 Apologies for absence

Judith Bishop

3 Approval of minutes of 18th January meeting

The previous minutes were approved (P:MB, S:CT)

4 Matters arising

Nothing raised.

5 Regular reports

a Minister's Report and Local Ministry Group

- Response to the Open Christmas appeal had been generous, aided by collections from Norland College and King Edwards Prep school carol services.
- The proposed confirmation at Christ Church on 5th Feb had been cancelled – it will happen in the Abbey in June.
- Joint Holy Week discussions with St Stephen's and St Mary's are planned.
- St Stephen's have been informed that their interregnum will not be short; no outcome is expected before September.

b Churches Together in Bath

CTB central Branch has not met since our last Council meeting (due 3rd Feb). Margaret Heath reported that from her investigations the CTB Northern Branch appeared to be flourishing. The Salvation Army received the Travelling Light.

c Deanery Synod

CTB has not yet been raised at deanery Synod, which next meets 23rd Feb. The previous meeting had a presentation on "How to Grow Your Church". This can be

made available electronically and LB was asked to report briefly in the Christ Church Challenge.

6 Play Day (MWP)

The planning meeting is arranged for 23rd January. Team members were reviewed. Malcolm Wall and Lewis Boyd have agreed to do the bar. Brenda Wall will assist with costumes. Janet Mahto and Margaret Silver will assist Clive with catering. A volunteer is needed for the necessary liaison with St Stephen's.

A ticket price of £5 was agreed, with reductions for children. Antony agreed to write a piece for the magazine and the Joneses will include information on the day in their publicity plans.

7 Planning Group report submission (RACS)

Bob formally presented the report to Council. Council's thanks to him and the team were noted. A main issue was that the church should look better cared for before raising its profile too much, giving priority to the "A list" jobs.

Issues raised:

Parking was stressed as an issue, particularly as any ambition to extend our parking would be counter to the City Council's policy. But the proliferation of double yellow lines in the area is problematic. Secretary was asked to contact the City Council to explain the problem, but we should anyway make more efforts on car sharing etc.

It was requested that the Planning Group be considered as an ongoing effort rather than a one-off, so that the church can continually update its aspirations.

Council's unanimous recommendation was that the report be submitted to the Trustees, with the added request that a specific response be sent back to Council regarding what work will be started in the short term. Andrew Sillett offered his services from mid-year on legal issues.

8 AOB

- Margaret Heath requested we consider keeping Christ Church open on 11th September for the Somerset churches Ride-and-Stride scheme. Council agreed to support this in principle, which will require volunteers on the day. Margaret Heath and Andrew Sillett will investigate and nominate a coordinator.

10 Date of next meeting

The next meeting is on 16th March.