

Minutes of the Christ Church Council Meeting 19 May,2015

Present: Morny Davison, Rowena Hall, Angela Soboslay, Janet Mahto, Alex Soboslay, David Rawlings (Chair), Ian Hay Davison, Malcolm Wall, Judith Anderson, Mark Elliott, Brenda Wall (Secretary).

Apologies received from: Andrew Sillett, Sarah Kerr, Judith Bishop, Matthew Jones.

The meeting opened with prayer and a welcome from the Chair, for all new members of Council.

1 Ratification of Council Officers: Morny Davison proposed the ratification of new members and officers. Seconded by Janet Mahto. Approved unanimously.

2 The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted and signed.

Matters arising: Janet Mahto made a request for training for Chalice Assistants and Simon Tatton Brown to be asked by Angela Soboslay.

Council now has responsibility for the paying of wages. Council needs clarification of figures.

Angela Berners-Wilson to be asked to come to next Council meeting, to discuss links with University and students and the possibility of a function to introduce students to Christ Church. (BW)

Brenda Wall asked which council members will be coming to Pilgrim group and asked council members to support it.

Judith Anderson requested that names of Council members be put on the weekly notices sheet. Brenda's number to be the contact.

3 Trustees meeting report: Sarah Jones is organising an "Away Day" with Caroline Bruce, from the School of Formation, to formulate ideas about the future of Christ Church, with as much input as possible from all members of the congregation. This will take place on July 11 at St. Michael's Church, Bath.

Sarah also asking for nominations for members of the congregation to be the "eyes and ears" of opinion. Council endorsed the involvement of the two church wardens and Brenda nominated Rowena, seconded Janet. Rebekah and Greg Cunningham also suggested. Morny to speak to them.

4 Pastoral care: Simon Tatton-Brown has offered to help with pastoral care and he will liaise with Kerri Chivers.

It was agreed that list of names of the departed must be included in Intercessions every week along with names on the short term prayer list.

Whether or not the names on the long term prayer list should always be included, will be discussed at the next meeting. (Agenda Item)

5 Diocesan contribution: There was a free ranging discussion about how much should be paid. Christ Church paid a third of what was asked, last year. A letter from Matthew Jones was read out, proposing that this year we pay more, perhaps the cost of a priest in charge: £15,250.

Morny proposed and Janet seconded that we pay £10,000 now and then more if we can later. This was accepted unanimously.

6 Charities of the month/Request for June: In April we gave to "Brake" and in May to "Freewheelers". Sylvia Ayers has asked for the ""Wheels Appeal"(MU) to be the charity of the month in June. This was proposed by Brenda and second by Rowena. Accepted.

Ian Hay Davison asked if the Churches Housing Trust can be added to the list of charities. Ian will give us more information about this in July. (Agenda)

It was strongly felt that charities we support as a church should reflect our particular concerns as a congregation and therefore the next charities will be:

August: Brain Tumour support September: Children's Hospice SW October: Bath Stroke Support Group.

Rowena suggested that we should link our giving with prayer support and that perhaps our giving needs to be more focused, fewer projects, but closer ties with a few, for a longer period of time. Ideas and requests for projects for the next year, will be discussed at the next meeting. (Agenda)

7 Review of roles and responsibilities: Mal suggested that we begin to look at roles within CC and members of the congregation who have expressed a willingness to pay a bigger part in the running of the church. Mark agreed that we need to look closely at the validity of all roles. Judith Anderson suggested that this could be usefully included in the away day. It was concluded that this needs to be discussed more fully at the next meeting. (Agenda) Sharon suggested that all members of the congregation with a specific role should have a photograph at the back of the church.

8 PROGRESS: Plans for the future will be discussed and shaped at the "away day". The "profile" will be completed by the end of July.

The post will be advertised in September, interviews November. We hope and pray that our new Priest in Charge will be in post by December

9 Buildings Progress:

Hazel Boyd is going to meet with the less able-bodied members of the congregation to discuss their needs at Christ Church, inside and outside of the buildings.

A planning application has been submitted to BANES for work on the outside of the building. Trustees will deal with the finances, but council will have to raise more money. £30,000 could be freed up to start work inside the building.

Alex reported that the Archdeacon has been in touch about the re-ordering of the East end. Trustees will ask for an extension of time for consideration. Should we make plans or wait for the appointment of the new Priest in charge ? (Agenda)

10 Bells: Ian reported that our bell ringers have received a letter of thanks from Kensington Palace, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, after ringing a quarter peal to celebrate the birth of Princess Charlotte. The ringers are planning a full peal, perhaps on September 6 after Evensong. There will be visiting ringers on 27 June from Bristol, 15 July from Kent and 22 August from Devon. They will be ringing with closed shutters. There have been no complaints from our neighbours. Ian asked that the latch on the ringers door be fixed. The door is locked on Saturday for practise at 09:30. Any ringer who is locked out then has to call Ian on his mobile. Ian's name needs to be added to the "Who's Who list" of the church. Ian made a special request for members of the council to come up to the ringing chamber and also to request peels for special occasions.

AOB: Mal reported that he had met with a member of the fire service in church. Any issues will be dealt with by the Trustees.

Janet announced that she is holding her annual "Open Garden" for Genesis on September 5.

Alex is going to discuss a new church computer printer with Judith Bishop, when she is available, to discuss costs. Alex circulated council members home details and asked members to initial these if content for them to be made public.

Dates of future meetings: 7 July, 15 September, 27 October, 24 November.