

Minutes of the Christ Church Council Meeting 15th September 2010

Present: Sylvia Ayers, Hazel Boyd (minutes), David Bishop (Chair), Judith Bishop, Keri Chivers, Mark Elliott, Margaret Heath, Jane Nicholson, Martin Palmer, Bob Siderfin, Andrew Sillett, Margaret Silver, Angela Soboslay, Brenda Wall

1. Opening prayer. ME led a prayer for guidance.

2. Apologies for absence. Lewis Boyd, Margaret Burrows, Janet Mahto, Malcolm Wall

3. Approval of minutes from meeting on 22nd June. A: AS, S: MH

4. Matters arising.

- It was confirmed that Lewis Boyd agreed to be regular chairman for Council meetings.
- Judith Bishop confirmed that she had contacted Kingswood School and the Paragon about costs/space for the Play Day and is awaiting a reply. No date has yet been proposed.
- It was confirmed that Church Council minutes of the last meeting were available at the back of Church.
- The Trustees' Report is to be a regular report to Council.

5. Regular reports

a. Trustees meeting (21th July 2010) reported by ME:

- The cottage (No. 2) has been empty from August. New tenant expected soon.
- The School/tuition centre unlikely to be occupied after the summer but the Council has invoked a break point in the lease and will vacates by March 2011.
- Building work: The new car park bollards are now in place and work is in progress in the porch; quotes are being sought for the Sacristy cupboards. The Trust is to delegate approval of day to day costs up to £500 to a standing committee. The fire assessment was carried out and the kitchen cleaned.
- Lewis Boyd is now the designated person for Child Protection Issues.
- The financial situation is stable; David Bishop aims to use budgeting from 2011 and now has faculty paperwork to apply for permission for larger work.
- Antony's final "Minister's Remarks" was positive, and he was given a formal vote of thanks.
- The interregnum was also discussed.
- The sad passing of Frank Twissell was noted.

b. Churches Together in Bath: SA had nothing to report (meeting due in October), and MH provided details of the forthcoming Churches Together in Somerset, and currently has the prayer list and and the Travelling Light list.

c. Local Ministry group reported by ME:

- Philip Hawthorn will be licensed at St Stephen's at 7pm on Tuesday 28th September. ME plans to contact Philip when he has settled into his new post.

d. Deanery Synod reported by AS: Nothing to report, next meeting 11th November.

6. Outline of the appointment process for a new Priest in Charge (ME)

- Mid-September 2010: ME will discuss the process with Council and congregation, in particular the Trustees' recommendation that the post include a House for Duty instead of being paid in order for the greatest flexibility, and the

resulting financial implications of losing the income from No2 (approximately £10k per annum). Possible sources for making up the shortfall include congregational giving, as well as increased income from the car park and/or school building.

- October to Christmas 2010: A group comprising 2 Trustees, 2 Council members and a Churchwarden will be convened to gather input from the whole congregation to draw up a "Parish Profile" (a document of the vision for Christ Church to be sent to any priest expressing an interest in the post). The financial situation will also be assessed. MH proposed and AS seconded that any members of Council willing to be chosen for the group could go straight forward to be selected, without further approval from Council.
- February 2011: Aim to advertise post and send out Parish Profile.
- March/April 2011: A panel will interview candidates and an extended group will discuss the candidates afterwards. Candidate will also be shown St Mary's and St Stephen's. ME confirmed that potential interregnum priests would be invited to attend services.

7. Cleaning Rota

A new cleaning rota was proposed and circulated for comment, as put together by LB with input from others. JN offered to co-ordinate the cleaning of the church. ME confirmed that there would be a card and gift presented to Dorothy Twissell at the Harvest Lunch to thank her for her contribution to Christ Church over the years.

8. AOB

- a. **Harvest lunch planning:** JN, JB and BW have planned a hot lunch for 3rd October at 12.30. A short choral evening service will follow at 3pm.
- b. **Christ the King:** Date confirmed as 21st November.
- c. **Talent register:** JB reported that several members of the congregation had come forward to volunteer to carry out various tasks at church, and has offered to coordinate a chart to gather details of other people who can offer their skills.
- d. **Provision of paper towels:** Janet Mahto was thanked for her offer to pay for paper dispensers for the toilets to replace the kitchen roll. Dispensers are to be provided in the kitchen as well.
- e. **Farewell day:** The farewell event at the end of July was discussed. DB thanked ME for putting together a stunning service; people who attended the service and the meal at the racecourse were made to feel very welcome, and it was agreed that the atmosphere was excellent, although the food was disappointing. Antony has sent written thanks to Christ Church.
- f. **Pastoral care:** The important subject of pastoral care during the interregnum was discussed. ME said that the Friend in Need scheme still existed but needed to be more visible. KC has agreed to put together a pastoral plan for Christ Church, and to coordinate pastoral/spiritual/practical support. AS agreed to check the Data Protection implications of making the congregations' contact details available.

9. Date of next meeting: Thursday 11th November 2010