

# Minutes of the Christ Church Council Meeting

## 19<sup>th</sup> September 2006

**Present:** Sylvia Ayers, Dave Bishop, Judith Bishop, Antony Claridge, Mark Elliott (*Chair*), Nicky Gladstone, Sarah Hiscock, David Marles, Yvonne Morris, Bob Siderfin, Andrew Sillett, Margaret Silver, Angela Soboslay, Clive Tilling, Dorothy Twissell.

**Apologies:** Margaret Burrows, Margaret Heath, Emma Elliott

Minutes of the previous meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2006 were approved and signed. (Prop: Nicky Gladstone, Sec: David Marles)

### **Matters Arising**

- *Chairman*  
Volunteers were called for to chair the Council Meetings, with a required minimum of three. Messrs, Elliott, Marles and Bishop volunteered and no vote was required.
- *Secretary*  
Volunteers were called for to be Council Secretary. David Bishop volunteered and was accepted. (Prop: David Marles, Sec: Antony Claridge)
- *Accessibility of Services*  
Antony Claridge advised that progress had been made in the documentation but additional material had recently been made available that would enhance it further. The presentation was deferred to the next meeting.

### **Remarks from Officiating Minister & LMG update (AC)**

As an act of support to the LMG Jonathan LLOYD has advised that St Stephen's and St Mary's will cancel their services to join the Christ Church congregation on our patronal festival (Christ the King – 26<sup>th</sup> November). The Archdeacon will be preaching.

### **Deanery Synod**

Nothing to report, in the absence of Sarah Jones.

### **Churches together in Bath (SA)**

Sylvia Ayers presented a report from the last meeting (see attached).

### **Christmas Fair**

Nothing to report in the absence of Jane Kirkbride.

### **Harvest (AC)**

Antony Claridge advised that there would be two services for Harvest on 1<sup>st</sup> October; a Family Eucharist at 10am, and a Choral Evensong at 4pm followed by harvest tea. All were encouraged to bring tinned and dry provisions for the morning service to support Julian House, as well as the traditional fruit and vegetables.

### **Social Outreach Programme (NG)**

The project to open the church on Fridays from 11am to 2pm to provide sanctuary and refreshments to the Julian Road community has been named "*The Cedar Tree*". This initiative has received unanimous support and is gaining momentum. The target date for opening is 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2006.

The back of the church has already been cleaned and partially reorganised in preparation, and a list made of the outstanding work that will be tackled by a team of volunteers on 30<sup>th</sup> September. A fridge has been installed, and some new furniture (tables/chairs) will be purchased. It was noted that any changes must be limited to work not requiring a Faculty.

Martin Palmer will provide a suitable logo for an information pamphlet, which will be produced by Nicky Gladstone. Contacts from Julian House etc have provided addresses of hostels and homes to target. The Queensbury Hotel is to be approached for assistance with the catering, taking them up on previous offers of help. Clive Tilling noted that at least one regular member of the Christ Church staff should become certificated through a one-day government course on food hygiene.

Antony Claridge acknowledged Nicky Gladstone's tremendous vision and commitment to the project.

### **Any Other Business**

- 1) Nicky Gladstone was thanked for preparing the agenda for the meeting despite having stood down as secretary.
- 2) Apologies were made for the late rescheduling of the meeting.
- 3) Antony Claridge noted that the Mayor had requested that the annual Civic Service be held in Christ Church in 2007 instead of at the Abbey as in previous years. This will take place on 6<sup>th</sup> May, and at the Mayor's request will take the form of the normal Christ Church morning Eucharist.
- 4) Sylvia Ayers requested that she be kept better informed of upcoming events so that the wall calendar could be kept up to date.
- 5) The Council unanimously wished to record their thanks to Matthew and Sarah Jones for their tremendous effort and commitment to Christ Church during their time in Bath, not least their instigation and leadership of the HR group.
- 6) Judith Bishop advised that she had taken over responsibility for the organisation of concerts from Jane Fletcher, but noted that there was currently no interest in the use of the building. It was agreed that a pricing policy should be prepared, benchmarking from other churches and halls, and a suitable advertising pamphlet prepared and circulated.

### **Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting is 8<sup>th</sup> November. Agenda items to include:

- Report on the opening of The Cedar Tree
- Progress report on Accessibility

## ATTACHMENT 1

### CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BATH REPORT FOR CHURCH COUNCIL

1. Some problems have been experienced with the movement of the Travelling Light. One or two Churches do not seem interested in taking it, and as the ship was actually lost for a time, the rota broke down, and some missed their turn all together. A new Rota will be issued, allowing each member Church to hold the Light for a month. Named representatives will be appointed, who will contact the next Church on the list.
2. Events:
  - A. In Christian Aid Week 2006, the total raised in Bath was £37,250, which is 7% down on last year.
  - B. This year's Alpha Course, will be launched at the Guildhall on 26th September. It will be led from October 3rd by Rev. Paul Cowley, with the question: "*Christianity - Is it Boring, Untrue and Irrelevant* "
  - C. One World Week will run from 22nd to 29th October. The theme for the week is "*Mind the Gap,*" and events have been arranged throughout Bath.
  - D. The Right Honourable Shirley Williams will speak at the Abbey on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November, on "*War, Peace and Christian Attitudes.*" Tickets are £5.00 from Abbey Bookshop, and the Bishop of Clifton will chair the meeting.
  - E. On Thursday November 30th, there will be a World Aids Vigil at 7pm at Holy Trinity, Queen Square.

#### ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

1. St. Mary's & St John's Churchyard.  
Following extensive clearing and renovation, the old Churchyard in Henrietta Road, Bathwick will be re-opened to the public at 2.30pm on *Saturday 23rd September*, in the presence of the Mayor of Bath, Councillor Mrs. Carol Paradise. The Ground has been cleared of undergrowth, and an historic trail has been laid out. A very informative walking guide, with a map and details of sixteen numbered historic graves, is on the Church table. During the afternoon, there will also be an exhibition of associated documents, artefacts and photographs in the upstairs room of the Pulteney Arms in Daniel Street. The Friends of the Churchyard and St. Mary's Parish Council invite everyone to join them on this special day. After the opening, the ground will normally be open daily until dusk.

2 Rev Katie Windle

Finally, your prayers are asked for Rev. Katie Windle, the new Vicar of Widcombe. She is expecting twins at the end of this month, and is now on maternity leave. She has worked with teenagers and youth in Nottingham, and wrote her MA on "New ways of doing/being church with young people". She has also taught at Monkton Combe School, so is no stranger to the City.

Sylvia M Ayers