

Minutes of the Christ Church Council Meeting 12th Jan 2009

Present:

Sylvia Ayers, David Bishop, Lewis Boyd, Margaret Burrows, Mark Elliott, Jane Fletcher, Janet Mahto, David Marles [chair], Yvonne Morris, Martin Palmer, Alice Pont, Robert Siderin, Angela Soberslay, Clive Tilling,.

Apologies:

Sarah Hiscock, Judith Bishop, Antony Claridge Chris Gladstone, Margaret Silver.

3 Approval of Minutes

Re item 3 Apologies, Jane Fletcher's apologies should have been noted.

Re item 6 it was noted under CTB that Lewis Boyd is the representative just for Christ Church. John James chairs CTB and his replacement is yet to be found.

With these changes the minutes were unanimously approved.

4 Matters Arising...

Prayer Groups - Lewis Boyd has set up a lent group – details to go on the notice sheet.

The Barn Dance – this is still scheduled for either 7th or 21st Feb; most likely the latter. Martin will drive this forward. Ali Dudley-Norse is keen to provide entertainment. It is suggested that all bring food to share, keeping the ticket price (yet to be specified depending on the cost of the venue) to a minimum. This could possibly be held at Bath High Jnr School.

Open Christmas - Council wanted to know the amount raised in December. The sum will be reported in the notice sheet and Magazine.

5 Churches Together In Bath

Sylvia Ayers had no formal report as CTB had not met since the last Council meeting.

Margaret Heath voiced a general concern that the Abbey was not providing the expected level of support in the Central Zone as the city's parish church. Council believed that it could be helpful for her to send a personal letter to the Abbey to encourage their more active participation at meetings. The CTB AGM will be held on 4th Feb at Christ Church under Angela Berners-Wilson's chairmanship.

6 Local Ministry Group

Nothing was noted or discussed in Antony Claridge's absence

7 Deanery Synod

There has been no recent meeting. Positive feedback to Lewis Boyd's recent magazine article was noted.

8 USPG

A letter from Adrian Pegg was read. Christ Church is involved in an African hospital funding project. Funds have traditionally been raised through two book fairs which no longer take place and a replacement source of funds should be found. Whilst the charitable trusts commission does not allow for donations to be given from one charity to another, Christ Church Trustees would argue that there is a history of Christ Church making small donations and this is an integral part of our normal work. A sum of £100 will be donated this year, and a special collection was suggested for next year. David Marles will respond to Adrian.

9 Re-ordering of back of church

Notwithstanding the success of the lighting project and improvements to toilets when Cedar Tree started, there has been a widespread but generally unstructured interest in what might be done to improve the west end of the building since the 2004 Away-Day. This was defined last May as an agenda item for discussion. Whilst funds do not permit any significant works in the near future, David Bishop argued that a clear master plan and budget was needed against which fund raising schemes could be put in place and redecoration and minor refurbishment / repair works properly scheduled. Mark Elliott stressed that we first had to establish our requirements of the building before contemplating any structural changes.

Bob Siderfin volunteered to coordinate a working party to consider the issues on behalf of the Council, to provide suggestions that could later be put to the Trustees. Mark Elliott, Martin Palmer, David Bishop and Alice Pont were nominated.

10 AOB

Publicity - Matthew and Sarah Jones have volunteered to take on Christ Church's publicity. A new website address will be added. Mark Elliott will provide a short article for the magazine on how to post information on the website.

11 Next Meeting

The council will meet again on 18th March 2009