

Minutes of the Christ Church Council Meeting 10th May 2010

Present: David Bishop, Margaret Burrows, Antony Claridge, Mark Elliott [chair], Margaret Heath, Janet Mahto, Jane Nicholson, Andrew Sillett, Margaret Silver, Angela Soboslay, Brenda Wall

2 Apologies for absence

Sylvia Ayers, Judith Bishop, Lewis Boyd, Kerry Chivers, Martin Palmer

NOTE:

The previous minutes of 16th March were not available. These will be approved next meeting.

3 Minister's Report and Local Ministry Group

- Phillip Hawthorne's appointment has now been announced as a welcome new incumbent at St Stephen's.
- Antony remarked that Holy Week and Easter services had been particularly successful and well-attended this year, and expressed thanks to those responsible.
- The number of new people attending services recently was encouraging, and the need to continue to make all new people feel welcome was vitally important.

4 Deanery Synod

In the absence of the Christ Church Challenge and pending its quarterly successor, it was suggested that notes on Deanery Synod business, as well as CTB and Council Minutes, be made available at the back of church. Margaret Heath agreed to do this for CTB and DS. Any advance notices should be communicated using the pew notice sheet via Judith Bishop.

5 Churches Together in Bath

No reports were available.

6 New Chalice Assistant

Jane Tricket has indicated willingness to become a chalice assistant. Proposed: AS, seconded: MH.

7 Appointment of new Council Secretary and Chair

A proposal was received that chairperson and a deputy, appointed for the year, would be better than the current practice of rotating each meeting. Prop: MH, Sec: AS.

Lewis Boyd was proposed (in his absence) as **Chair of Council**. Prop: MH, Sec: BW

David Bishop was proposed as **Deputy Chair**. Prop JN, Sec: MS

Hazel Boyd has volunteered to become **Council Secretary**, requiring her co-option onto Council. This was accepted. Prop: JM, Sec: JN

Margaret Heath volunteered to be **Deputy Council Secretary**. Prop: BW, Sec: JM

8 Agenda Items for Council Year 2010-11

The role of Council was discussed with respect to the Trustees being active. Fabric and finances are clearly Trustees scope. The activities of the congregation in respect of worship and social outreach are regarded as Council business. They would not have responsibility for finance or fabric maintenance, but would be an important conduit (for both) to and from the Trustees. Council should receive regular reports from Trustees.

Agenda items put forward included:

Future of Cedar Tree (Nicky Gladstone to attend)	2 Jun
Plans for social activities	2 Jun
Development of content for Parish Profile (for Trustees' consideration)	15 Sep
Discuss progress of the Working Group projects	11 Nov
Thoughts on liturgy and redesign of printed service material	17 Jan

10 Dates of this year's meetings

Monday	10 May
Tuesday	22 June
Wednesday	15 September
Thursday	11 November
Monday	17 January
Tuesday	15 March

11 Report from Trustees

Mark reported back from last month's Trustees Meeting:

- The Archdeacon attended the last Trustees meeting and advised about the interregnum process. Their responsibility under the Trust Deed is to appoint a new incumbent, whom the Bishop licences. The Rector of Walcot has right of veto. Production of a "Parish Profile" would require input from many, including Council
- Antony will work out a rota of visiting clergy until the year-end, and Mark will do it thereafter. Angela has offered help throughout the interregnum and Cliff will also be available.
- We have the option of offering Cottage 2 as a house-for-duty, as it will be empty by mid-summer. Whether the incoming incumbent takes that or a housing allowance, we can expect the change to have a major impact on church finances and this will be communicated to the congregation.
- It is likely that BaNES will vacate the school within the next 18 months. This is both risk and opportunity. Property income will be directly affected, but depending on how much of it is re-leased, vs retained for our use, this may not result in a major shortfall.

Mark was thanked formally for his major contribution to church life through Trustees, Council and Service music.

11 AOB

- A previous suggestion had been that all key roles at Christ Church (including the compilers of rosters) should be written up. This work has lost momentum. Lewis will be asked to revisit it.