

Minutes of the Christ Church Council Meeting

12th July 2007

Present:

Antony Claridge, Angela Soboslay, Emma Elliott, Sarah Hiscock, Robert Siderfin, Jane Fletcher, Margaret Heath, Judith Bishop, Martin Palmer, David Marles (Chair) David Bishop.

Apologies (Agenda 2):

Margaret Silver, Mark Elliott, Chris Gladstone, David Marles, Yvonne Morris,.

Minutes of the previous meeting (Agenda 3)

The minutes under "Churches Together in Bath should have read "... the sponsored bike ride previously arranged by Julia and Peter Moss.....(Prop: JF, Second MP).

Matters Arising (Agenda 4)

- *Confirmation* – this has now taken place
- *Access to Information* – the talent forms out have been issued and returned.

Remarks from Officiating Minister (Agenda 5)

- Six candidates were confirmed at the Abbey in on 20th June. All received communion on the following Sunday. Discussions after the confirmation reflected how well they'd been taught in Sunday School; and Christ Church's Junior Church teachers were thanked for their part in this.
- Chalice Assistants – the list of volunteers was put to the Bishop's office and a response is expected within the next few days.
- A gratifying response was received to the talent sheets, with most of the congregation replying. It is important that we take people up on their offers and not waste the opportunities. There is still a shortage of volunteers for coffee makers.
- The regular Jamaica Independence service will be held on 12th August at 3pm. The Mayor is invited and a rep from the Jamaican High Commission in London will attend. Better support from our own congregation is to be encouraged as it is a well attended and highly regarded service. An organist is still to be found.
- A joint meeting of the LMG councils is now planned for Sat 22nd Sept at St Steven's, 10 am till 1 pm. The Arch Deacon is keen to join as we are seen to be far ahead of other LMGs. Agenda items will be the possibility of a joint mission statement and an exploration of other ways to work together. The two magazines should be made available at each church. This Christ Church council will meet on 17th September as planned.

Churches together in Bath (Agenda 6)

In Sylvia Ayers' absence there was no written report on CTB business. Margaret Heath reminded us that the "Cut the Carbon" march would be passing through Bath September 16th.

Deanery Synod (Agenda 7)

The Standing Committee has asked Michael Moynagh to do a "Fresh Expressions" workshop on 17th Nov. We are encouraged to get a group to go along. Our own reps

believe Fresh Expressions is Church of England centric, and believe the Hope08 is better suited to Christ Church. We are asked for a mission statement – why not give our LMG joint MS? Information on Fresh Expressions should be made available to the congregation.

Fundraising without the Christmas Fair (Agenda 8)

The previous Council decided (24th April) not to continue with the annual Christmas Fair, and all the material stored on the balcony has since been scrapped. This evening's meeting is to discuss replacing the fair as a social/outreach event. There is no pressing financial target to be hit as rent from the cottages and school raises more than the fair did.

- Clive Tilling volunteered to do a dinner. These are popular and should be done, but previous themed dinners don't pull the whole church team together for the work.
- A staged event received general approval; - a play possibly being of more general appeal than a concert. The discussion led to the idea of a variety evening including a dinner. The church is probably not the right venue for this and the Museum of Bath at Work was suggested.
- Other ideas included a barn dance (possibly using St Stephens hall), a turn-up-and-sing Messiah or a Music Hall evening. We should ask the congregation what they would do for it. The idea would be a "not for profit "(but self-funding?) party where we entertain ourselves.
- A small group is needed to develop the idea. RS and DJB volunteered. AC will research venues, and will put out a feeler to the congregation on the first Sunday we're all back in September.
- It was agreed that a themed dinner and a barn dance would also be planned for.

Local Ministry Group joint Mission Statement (Agenda 9)

The need for a mission statement was questioned, (either for LMG or Christ Church) and AC confirmed that the diocese does not require one. It was started at Christ Church as a checklist against which we can check progress on our growth, and this still works. It is also good as a basis for talking to the other LMG churches. This can reduce damaging competition; for example St Stevens shouldn't do a "Cedar Tree", but they have good toddlers' group which we should not try to replicate. We need to write up the positive outcomes, such Cedar Tree. The Mission Statement should also guide and inform the Church Council actions. Agreement was reached to continue with the existing Mission Statement. This will be discussed at the September meeting

Any Other Business (Agenda 10)

None

Date of next Council Meeting

Monday

17th September 07

djb 06/09/07