

Minutes of the Christ Church Council Meeting 8th September 2009

Present:

Sylvia Ayers, David Bishop, Judith Bishop, Lewis Boyd, Margaret Burrows, Antony Claridge, Mark Elliott, Chris Gladstone, Margaret Heath, Jane Nicholson, Robert Siderfin [chair], Angela Soboslay, Clive Tilling.

1 Apologies:

Brenda Ellison, Yvonne Morris, Janet Mahto, Andrew Sillett, Margaret Silver, Martin Palmer

2 Approval of Minutes

Minutes of June's and September's meeting were approved.

3 Matters Arising...

The Planning Group will meet next week

Storage – this has been left to Angela, Chris and Lewis. Centralisation of archives from private houses has progressed. Andrew Sillett volunteered to become church archivist in response to a suggestion from the Chair. This would require Trustees' ratification.

5 Regular Reports

5a Local Ministry Group

Antony confirmed the inclusion of the Christ Church link in the profile for St Stephen's new incumbent. Christ Church was well represented at the RSCM festival service at St Stephen's. The next joint service will be Christ the King at Christ Church, when St Stephen's and St Mary's will be closed. Simon Holland has announced that he was so impressed with our Advent Carol Service last year that St Swithun's will be closed this year to encourage parishioners to attend Christ Church. Antony takes services at both the other LMG churches once a month during the interregnum.

5b Churches Together In Bath

There has been no meeting since July; the next one is 17th September at the Friends' Meeting House. The usual annual gathering at Parade Gardens was not held this year. The Central Zone's finances are in good shape. The Road Peace service will be held at Christ Church on 15th November. The Lent Lunches raised £700 for Dorothy House. The Travelling Light will arrive at Christ Church on 1st November.

5c Deanery synod

Covered below as a separate item.

6 Deanery Synod

The Deanery Dialogue questions were distributed and debated. Christ Church's "Successes" were seen to be:

- Music
- Cedar Tree
- LMG leadership
- The wide span of ages in the congregation
- Our welcome

Areas we felt we were less good at were:

- Prayer Groups and study groups
- In a general sense there were not enough mid-week activities
- A lack of outside preachers and speakers
- Need to attract young people

We were willing to engage with others on any of the first list and happy to receive help on the second.

Lewis will complete the form and return it to the Deanery.

7 Selection of Discussion Topics for this year

A discussion on "recruitment" was suggested. This is closely linked to the publicity work that Sarah and Matthew are championing. They will be asked to present at the 21 October meeting. The Fun Day will be discussed at the subsequent meeting.

8 AOB

The production and distribution of meeting minutes received criticism, and members not on email were disadvantaged by receiving theirs late if at all. A buddy system was introduced to convey paper copies to others where necessary pending improvements in the secretarial area.

djb 12/09/09