

**Christ Church Council Meeting Held on Tuesday 30th August 2016**  
**Venue: The Mews at Christ Church – Time: 19:30**  
**ACTION MINUTES**

**Chairperson:** Rev Lore Chumbley

**Secretary:** Sharon Rawlings

**Present:**

Virginia Knight  
Judith Anderson  
Brenda Wall  
Janet Mahto  
Alex Soboslay  
Ian Hay-Davison  
Matthew Jones  
Mark Elliott  
Sarah Kerr  
Jane Nicholson  
Judith Bishop  
Malcolm Wall

Apologies: Georgina Bowman, Penny Edwards Rowena Hall.

Rev Lore led an opening prayer.

**1. Minutes of the Last Minutes – 12<sup>th</sup> July**

The minutes was discussed and agreed. Proposed by Judith Bishop and seconded by Janet Mahto. The vote was unanimous.

**2. Matters Arising**

Malcolm has spoken to Father Jeremy and a set of wooden candle sticks made of Christ Church Oak was suggested.

**Action:** Malcolm Wall

**Bell Tower** - Ian mentioned St Andrew's School visiting the Bell Tower in the lead up to Christmas. Lore to set a date with Ian.

**Action:** Ian Hay-Davison and Lore Chumbley

**3. Worship**

4<sup>th</sup> Sep New Beginnings Service - Sarah Sheppard will be preaching.

There used to be a Wed morning Mothers' Union Communion at Christ Church. It was suggested to hold communion service on a Thursday mornings. To be advertised in the Local Ministry Group (LMG).

Mark Elliot indicated that St Stephens advertises Christ Church services as a matter of course and felt it would be appropriate for Christ Church to do the same. This should be advertised in the Link also.

Judith Bishop asked about Friday morning prayer. This was discussed Lore Chumbley suggested to try Morning Prayer service in Advent.

## **Evensong**

This was raised by Mark Elliott and explained to the council that after the summer holidays he could not guarantee having a choir at the start of the new term and due to clashes of other events during the year especially around the beginning of the month he decided to move Evensong to 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month starting from 18<sup>th</sup> September. The council agreed.

## **4. Mission**

### **Outreach**

Christ Church Choir is to sing Evensong at Bath Spa University 9<sup>th</sup>. This will be advertised at the Fresher's Fair.

### **Open Church**

Christ Church had been open throughout summer and 43 people had come along, some passing by and others genuinely interested in what the church was doing.

### **Open Day**

**Open Day on 10<sup>th</sup> September** – People are invited to visit the bell tower and have a go at ringing the bells. Ian said he would be happy to put on a presentation for St Andrew's School. Jenny a teacher from St Andrew's School has been invited to the open day. This will be advertised in the Bath Chronicle.

### **Outreach - Chaplaincy**

Jane Nicholson mentioned she does chaplaincy work at the RUH on Wednesdays and the team visits the ward each morning 5 days a week. Churches in Bath volunteer to do songs of praise on a Sunday evening and wondered if this would be something that Christ Church would be willing to doing? Mark Elliott said in principle it would be a good thing to explore. This was agreed. Lore Chumbley asked Jane to investigate and report back.

**Action:** Jane Nicholson

Judith Bishop mentioned at the last meeting that Mark Elliott said he would be happy to offer the occasional Evensong at Dorothy House. Mark will be happy to do this at Christmas if Dorothy House agrees.

**Action:** Mark Elliott and Lore Chumbley to liaise

## 5. **Church Fellowship**

Judith Bishop offered a Year Planner of coming events. The planner will be displayed in the Lower Mews.

**Action:** Judith Bishop

- 16<sup>th</sup> October – Harvest Lunch at Christ Church inviting student from Bath Spa University - **Judith proposed a Bring and Share.**
- 1<sup>st</sup> November – Mothers' Union (WU) are organising an Italian Evening – **Clive and Janet will be the organisers.**
- 20<sup>th</sup> November - Christ the King – **Bubbly and Cake (to be confirmed).**
- 4<sup>th</sup> December Advent Carol Service – **Normally crisp and wine. Finger Food was suggested (to be decided).**

Alex mentioned that St Mary's has been talking to Christ Church about having a shared Advent Lunch no date has been agreed or whether it will be held at St Mary's or Christ church. Lore Chumbley asked if this was something that Christ Church had normally done in the past both Mark Elliott and Alex Soboslay said it had been done before.

- 18<sup>th</sup> December – Carol Service – Mulled Wine provided by Malcolm and Brenda Wall and Mince Pies. Normally bought in (to be decided if congregation might like to contribute).

## **2017**

- 26<sup>th</sup> March - Mothering Sunday – Simnel Cake, Judith Bishop was happy to make one as she had done in the past or would anyone else like to make the cake. Sarah Kerr said she would provide the Simnel Cake.

**Action:** Sarah Kerr

- 1<sup>st</sup>- March-4<sup>th</sup> April - Lent Lunches - Angela Soboslay normally oversees this event. Judith Bishop to speak to Angela to confirm.

**Action:** Judith Bishop and Angela Soboslay

- Easter Sunday – Easter Biscuits and Bubbly
- Judith Bishop spoke to Clive about having a theme dinner in the spring next year "Best of British" would seem appropriate with a roast dinner. The cost will be approx. £10.

- Wine Tasting – Judith Bishop asked Malcolm Wall if he could ask Alex Wall to provide some dates in January or February (help with nibbles to be confirmed)

**Action:** Malcolm Wall

### **Newcomers' Lunch**

Lore Chumbley suggested providing a new comer's lunch as and when new people arrive at church.

Brenda Wall suggested about having a Sunday lunch for the elderly once a month and to have it on the same day as evensong. It was discussed.

**Action:** Lore Chumbley, Brenda Wall and Judith Bishop

### **Bells**

The Standing Committee will consider the bell ringers requests for ringing.

Michael Barron has come back with further tests on the bells and it looks as though the framework is resonating from the tower and may be rubber pads should have been mounted.

### **Handbells**

We have a set of 39 hand bells, Ian got in touch with Whitechapel Foundry and to replace them would cost £14,000. Ian suggested the bells should be insured for that amount. One bell is cracked and will need to be recast, 4 require new handles or new clappers. This would cost around a £1,000. Ian asked if Christ Church would be interested in starting a hand bell ringing group. Mark said we need to find out who would want to use them before we spend money on repairing them. Judith Anderson suggested speaking to Ali Nourse to see if her school would be interested.

### **Building Sub-Committee Report**

Council noted a report from Robin Kerr the Project Manager.

### **Toilets**

Refurbishment of the Choir Vestry toilet and the Choir Entrance Lobby by Acredale is about to start (awaiting a date) it is estimated this will take 2 weeks. Afterwards work will start on the refurbishment of the toilets in the south west corner (Main Entrance), estimated time of completion a further 6 weeks, during which one of the two WC cubicles will be made fully accessible under the **Equality Act 2010**. At all times at least one of the WCs will be available for use in the church. We are still awaiting the faculty from the Diocese Authorities.

James Tams Ltd will be extending heating into the choir vestry toilet and installing an additional gas boiler in the kitchen and splitting the main heating system along the line of the gallery pillars, so that the all rear radiators would work off the new boiler, so that it provides hot water in the kitchen and from there heating and hot water will be extended into the renovated toilets in the south west corner. We do not know how much disruption there will be. The kitchen might be out of action.

Jane Nicholson suggested that we could use the choir vestry to make tea/coffee on Sunday mornings while the kitchen is out of action therefore staying in church or perhaps serving coffee in the Mews. Mark Elliott said if the choir vestry is required he could move the choir practice over to the Mews as long as he has advance notice.

### **Entrance Lobby and Porch**

The design of the porch has been finalized and is on course for obtaining full faculty approval. It is the intention to offer the invitation for tender for the entrance and lobby work this week.

- (1) Statements of Significance and Needs prepared by Alex Soboslay were reviewed by council. Mark Elliott proposed they be ratified by council; seconded by Jane Nicholson. The vote was unanimously in favour.
- (2) Council – the plans for the renovation of the entrance and lobby recommend to the Trustees they be adopted. This was proposed by Ian Hay-Davison and seconded by Judith Bishop.

### **Organ**

A report from Nicholson was handed to council. The organ will require £50,000 worth of work to be carried out quite soon. There are 6 priority items and 3 lower ones which vary in cost between few hundred pounds to nearly £12,000.

13 years ago nearly £65,000 was spent repairing the organ. Note most of the work on the list is not the work which was carried out in 2003, but was work to older parts of the instrument which were not attended to at that time.

The electrics on the organ are failing and are now obsolete and not repairable. The work will include moving the organ blower inside the church. It is currently sucking cold air from outside in the winter and blowing it into the church which has a significant effect on the temperature of the church. There are other issues e.g. stoppers and the pistons.

The Trustees have already earmarked £10,000 in this financial year to be spent on the organ. Alex asked would that be enough to identify the most urgent work. Mark Elliott explained that the Dedham piston capture system which is the bit that most important is about £8,000 and this is connected with the transmission system and this is one of the things which Nicholson identified as a priority in that it is already failing e.g. stops that do not work which would cost approximately £16,000-£17,000. (VAT is recoverable). Mark Elliott stated that this can be done first and anything else can wait until we have the money.

## **East End – Re-ordering Project Update**

We will be meeting as a Church on 29<sup>th</sup> October to consider our priorities for the re-ordering of the East End.

### **Temporary License Extension**

This has been requested, but as yet not received.

### **Sound System**

Judith Bishop drew the council's attention the Trustees Minutes dated 16<sup>th</sup> June 2016 in which she was investigating proposals to improve the church sound system. One of three quotes had been received. **Expression Media** quoted £3,000 which included putting 6 speakers in the gallery, 1 speaker above the organ and one on the other side of the organ, new sound deck with 12 channels instead of the current 6 channels. Judith asked them about moving the deck at the back of the church they said it would need to be in the first pew either on the left or right hand side. Any work done which works on the T Loop will have a VAT exemption.

Judith Bishop will write a report as soon as the other 2 quotes arrive and send the report to Sarah Jones.

**Action:** Judith Bishop

## **Financial Report**

Bank Balance @ End of Aug	£23,000
Weekly Collections	£3,081 ) in a 3 month period.
Standing Contribution	£10,750 )

Main expenses are as follows:

Utilities	£1,848 (needs a formal contract with an Electricity/Gas supplier)
Architect	£1,889
MBE - printers	£1,100) in a 3 month period
Chubb/Fire	£481
Organ	£456
Exceptional Cost Bus	£325 (some members of the congregation contributed to the trip to Stogumber)
Parish Share	£7,500 rest to be paid in December
St Mary's	£250 to a project

Alex Soboslay asked if an itemized bill could be produced for Mailbox.  
Lore Chumbley, David Bishop and Malcolm Wall to meet and discuss what kind of reserve balance the church should be running.

**Action:** Rev Lore Chumbley, David Bishop and Malcolm Wall

**13. AOB**

The suggestion for students to be allowed to use the car park was discussed and reluctantly dismissed.

**Action:** Rev Lore Chumbley

**14. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016 at 19:30.

Meeting closed at: 21:55

Closing Prayer

Signature: ..... Date: .....  
Lore Chumbley (Priest in Charge)