

**CHRIST CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12TH JULY 2016**

**VENUE: THE MEWS AT CHRIST CHURCH – TIME: 19:50**

**ACTION MINUTES**

**Chairperson:** Rev Lore Chumbley

**Secretary:** Sharon Rawlings

**Present:**

Georgina Bowman

Virginia Knight

Brenda Wall

**Deanery Synod**

Janet Mahto

Alex Soboslay

**Church Warden**

Mark Elliott

Judith Bishop

Malcolm Wall

**Church Warden**

Apologies: Judith Anderson, Sarah Kerr, Matthew Jones, Jane Nicholson and Rowena Hall

Rev Lore led an opening prayer.

**1. Minutes of the Last Minutes – 17<sup>TH</sup> May**

The minutes was discussed and agreed. Proposed by Georgina Bowman and seconded by Brenda Wall. The vote was unanimous.

**2. Matters Arising**

The twinning of toilets was discussed. Judith Anderson provided information and a photo.

**Action:** Judith Anderson

A discussion took place about the 50<sup>th</sup> Caribbean Celebration. A service will be held on 9<sup>th</sup> Oct. Lore is hoping that the Caribbean Celebrations will get involved in the Christ Church Open Day on 10<sup>th</sup> September. Pauline Swaby may arrange for a Caribbean BBQ, but not sure how definite this will be. Rev Lore to finalise arrangements.

**Action:** Rev Lore Chumbley

### **3. Trustees Minutes**

A written report was produced and handed to Council members. (copy attached).

### **4. Financial Report**

Malcolm Wall read the financial report. Christ Church's financial position is in very good shape.

The Council Financial Position as at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015 - end of first 6 months:

Bank Balance	£19,434 down 10% from January mostly due to bills.
Weekly Collections	£4,678
Standing Orders	£16,765

The main expenses were Salaries, utilities and fees. Mailbox etc (printers) £2,006, Bath Lock and Key £362, Bath Signs, Nicholson Organ work £900 and Outside Catering.

Future Expense – Parish Share to Bath and Wells – See below

Christ Church has formed Compassionate Fund which is separate from the finances of Christ Church. Contributions raised so far £2,092. From that sum £1,750 has been spent for a special chair for Martin Palmer. There is £342 left in the fund with some further contributions to come.

Malcolm discussed the Parish Share payment with and Wells. We will pay £15,000 for the year; after discussing with David Bishop, Malcolm suggested to Christ Church pay £7,500 now. After discussion, this was proposed by Mark Elliot, seconded by Janet Mahto. The vote was unanimous.

### **Fund Raising**

Malcolm Wall's son Alex is happy to arrange a wine tasting evening. This will be a fund raising activity. Lore suggested that the time is coming when we need to have a fund committee. Mark Elliott suggested a figurehead to specifically be responsible for fund raising (with expertise and vision). Alex Soboslay mentioned Trustees were discussing the same thing.

Virginia Knight asked out about outgoings and paying a lot for heating even though it was a mild winter last year compared to previous years and if there were some efficiency system in place. Judith Bishop said it was difficult to gauge as the church

just had a new boiler installed, a new system and provider. Mark Elliott mentioned that we are trying to be efficient as we can.

### **3. Election of Standing Committee Representative**

A replacement is needed on the standing committee for Andrew Sillett. Judith nominated Virginia Knight proposed by Judith Bishop and seconded Janet Mahto. The vote was unanimous.

### **4. Worship**

Rev Lore suggested about having a back to school service for children on 4<sup>th</sup> September and call it 'New Beginnings' service and invite St Andrew's school. Rev Lore suggested from time to time as well as them attending the normal service, a separate service for children in the Lady Chapel aimed at children with supporting adults. Mark Elliot said it needs to be for the children and the benefit of the children and not for the benefit of the adults. Rev Lore asked if Brenda Wall would be involved in heading up the children's group. Judith Bishop suggested if Isaac Elliott would be interested in reading. Mark Elliott will ask Isaac Elliott.

**Action:** Mark Elliott and Brenda Wall

### **5. Reports From:**

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

No report was available from the Building Committee, but Alex Soboslay shared with us the DAC report. The faculty application for the toilet renovations has been submitted but no responses have been received as yet. Mark Elliott asked when they are likely to discuss it, Alex said it had been discussed and it is at the actual Chancellor's decision stage, the DAC has given permission. Alex also mentioned Christ Church had not been able to follow the advice of the DAC that the doors between the toilet lobby and the main lobby should be retained and used. The Architect felt they were too heavy and bulky to use when the priority is accessibility. The doors will be stored in Christ Church.

#### **Charities – Subgroup Report**

Rev Lore and Rowena Hall met to discuss charities. The recommendations were put before council the charities for the following months:

Compassion Fund – July

Toilet Twinning - Aug

Children by Choice – Lisa Clarke to talk in Sep?

Gideon's – would like to talk around Bible Sunday?  
Water Aid - ??  
Genesis and Julian House – A rep to come in early Dec.  
Zambia -Jeremy Key-Pugh will be visiting in September.

Jeremy Key-Pughs will be preaching sometime in September.

Rev Lore will discuss with the relevant charities dates when they will be able to give a presentation after the Sunday service. Judith Bishop to speak to Lisa Clarke. Council agreed that these are appropriate charities to be adopted by the 'Charity of the Month' initiative.

**Action:** Rev Lore Chumbley and Judith Bishop

Mark queried the administration of the Compassionate Fund. Lore clarified that both Church Wardens and the incumbent will decide on the distribution of funds. Unanimous agreement will be required before a payment is made. The intention is that the fund is used for Church members who are genuinely in need and should pay for 'one-off' projects.

### **Photography and Security in Church – Subgroup Report**

Rev Lore presented to council the Photography and Security Notice, seems to be working well and has been used already in a wedding order of service. This will be put in the service sheets for weddings, baptism etc and we are to have few notices printed to hand out.

### **Deanery Synod Representative Report**

Brenda Wall (Synod rep) reported on the deanery synod and read out a message from Bishop Ruth. (copy attached). There were two strands to the Deanery Synod: a report from Magnificat, a committee charged with twinning wealthy with less wealthy parishes. In addition the rural Dean has requested a response from each Parish to the proposed 'Deanery Plan' which has the slogan: Everyone a Disciple Maker'.

Mark suggested we should consider 'How we take what we do to our community'.

Judith Bishop emphasised the possibility of working within our Local Ministry Group. In response, Rev Lore communicated the news that St. Stephen's will be running an Alpha Course in the Autumn. She asked if we could also advertise the course and encourage attendance from Christ church members. There were no objections.

## **6. Parish Plan**

Rev Lore passed a proposed Parish Plan in response to the Deanery-wide request. We are already involved in the sort of outreach suggested by the Deanery. The three point plan consists of:

- Reordering the West end of Christ Church, the porch and the toilets to make the Church more welcoming and accessible.
- Cedar Tree. As well as our Friday morning Cedar Tree we are opening the church on Saturday mornings through the summer.
- Re-ordering the East end of the Church to reflect the worship style and needs of the Christ Church family.

The proposed Parish Plan was reviewed. It was agreed all would consider it and if n objections were received by the end of the week Rev Lore would email it to the Rural Dean.

**Action:** Rev Lore Chumbley

### **St Andrews School**

Rev Lore mentioned 60 children from St Andrews last week and spent the week in church as part of their 'School Walls' programme. Lore said we need to keep the links going and suggested having a harvest festival to which we would invite the children. We could also invite 5-6 year olds from St Andrews into the bell tower and tell Christmas story dramatized by adults.

### **Bath Spa University Students**

Bath Spa University is renowned for art and music Lore suggested taking the choir over to Bath Spa at the beginning of term for choral evensong. We would invite students to join the choir and to a service and lunch at Christ Church the following week.

Brenda also suggested about providing lunch for the children and parents of St Andrews school. Georgina, mentioned that the choir use to go to other churches.

### **Dorothy House**

Mark proposed to offer choral evensong as a gift to Dorothy

## **7. East End Re-Ordering Project**

Lore and Sarah Jones met with Peter who is an International facilitator. Peter suggested we should take some time to decide. What happens at the East End and what shape the east end is, needs to reflect what we do as a church. Caroline Bruce is happy to get involved and has co-opted Professor Simon Keyes as a second facilitator. Lore will meet with Caroline and Simon week. Alex was concerned about the time on the temporary licence Lore said she spoke to the Dioceses who are happy to receive an email requesting an extension of the temporary license so that the church can experiment with changes. Rev Lore will request an extension. Any thoughts, memories or ideas on experimenting changes in the church to be sent to Lore.

**Action:** Rev Lore Chumbley

## **8. Council Reponse to 'Changes in the Administration of Communion'**

Rev Lore handed out Notes for Parishes from the Diocese of Bath and Wells on who may assist with the distribution of Holy Communion. The regulations under which this is permitted were changed in 2015 by General Synod and new ones are now in force. There are two main changes:

- In some circumstances, children may now assist in distributing the Sacrament.
- Authorisation can now be developed to the parish or benefice, without the need for the Bishop's direct involvement if the PCC choose.

It was agreed that at present there was no need to change our current practice (ie the Bishop to license administrators of Communion). Since, in the future we may wish to involve young people in administration, Mark Elliott proposed that his item should be put on the agenda for July 2017. The Council agreed.

## **9. Open Church**

Open Church on 10<sup>th</sup> September is planned to coincide with Ride and Stride Day. There will be singing by the choir, possibly an organ recital and (silent) demonstration of bell ringing. There may also be a Caribbean Steel Band.

**10. AOB**

Rev Lore suggested that Council meetings should start at 19:30 (rather than 19:40) for the sake of those still working who have to get up early. Matthew Jones (absent) had sent his agreement to this. The council agreed to trial and earlier start at 19:30.

Rev Lore informed Council that Brenda will be starting her training as Lay Reader in the autumn and as part of her training, Brenda will be preaching at Christ Church from time-to-time. Council agreed to meet the shortfall in Brenda's funding of about £75 a term.

Council also agreed to offer a gift to St Mary's RC church to the value of up to £250 to commemorate their reopening after their fire. Malcolm was in touch with Fr Jeremy about what form this take.

**Action:** Malcolm Wall

**14. Date of Next Meeting**

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

**Future meeting date for your diary:**

18<sup>th</sup> October 2016

Meeting closed at: 22:10

Closing Prayer

Signature: ..... Date: .....

Lore Chumbley (Priest in Charge)