

Church Council Meeting – 20th November 2018

7:30pm - Lower Mews

Present: Janet Mahto, Jane Nicholson, Sarah Kerr, Jonathan Stead, Lewis Boyd, Virginia Knight, Will Willans, Georgina Bowman, Judith Bishop, Mark Elliott, Revd Lore Chumbley (Chair)

Apologies: Matthew Jones, Tosin Onile-Ere Rotimi, Penny Edwards

Opening prayer

Revd Lore Chumbley led the meeting in an opening prayer.

Minutes of last meeting

Various minor amendments were made to the minutes after which they were accepted as an accurate record.

Matters Arising

Cleaning - after checking with Trustees we are going to take on a cleaner.

Swifts - the diocese have produced a blanket faculty for swift boxes. Virginia will take this forward with the architect.

Young people – there was further discussion of welcome being offered to young people.

Relicensing Mark Elliott as Reader - Mark has taken the C1 and c2 safeguarding training.

Ling is joining the inclusivity committee.

Virginia is shadowing Hazel doing Christmas postcards with a view to taking over that task.

There was no deanery synod report, other than to say that Christ Church hosted it, and it went well.

Worship

All Souls – there were about 8 attendees, but the service was very well received. About 100 names were remembered.

Remembrance - a vote of thanks was offered to Mark and the choir. Everyone thought the extra period of poems and readings after the service worked very well.

Follow the Star booklets – the meeting agreed to get 50 booklets for the beginning of Advent which will be left at the back of church throughout the season.

Thursday morning Eucharist has flourished. 13 - 14 people now attend up from 2 or 3 last year.

Outreach

Evelyn Lee-Barber and Lore will be leading an Exploring Christianity course starting 21st Jan 2019.

One of the Exploring Christianity evenings is on Orthodoxy and Icons. Lore proposed a workshop day led by Helen McIldowie-Jenkins (details provided separately) to be held sometime Feb / Mar 2019.

Council agreed that we could fund a day from the outreach fund for this workshop. We will see how many people are interested. If no one is interested, it will be cancelled at no cost. If enough people are interested there will be two days.

Phoenix house Christmas food – it was reported that Genesis have stopped providing food for Christmas lunches. There was a suggestion that we talk to Genesis about why they stopped. The feeling was that any effort to try to replace or replicate this seems quite fraught with difficulty.

Phoenix house raised flower bed. – This is very overgrown. After some discussion the mood of the meeting was we should talk to Fr Jeremy about joining with St Marys and possibly finding a community gardening movement to help maintain it together.

Church East End Reordering

A short report back from the group that met with Treske furniture was received. The DAC strongly advised that the whole detailed plan including furniture needs working out before the faculty is applied for. Discussions about how to fit in all the required furniture are ongoing with Treske and Hugh Conway Morris.

Fundraising

The Bel Mooney “Seven Deadly Sins” event - raised £1,000.

Time and talents has raised £3,313 so far.

There was a proposal for an all age games day.

The Davisons are holding a piano concert with supper as a fund raising event.

There will be a raffle for Advent.

Charities

A request was made that the chosen charities are listed on the charities notice board.

There was a general discussion about the level of charitable giving made by the church.

ME proposed and JS seconded from now on we give the loose collection on the 2nd and 4th Sundays to charity rather than just the 2nd Sunday. This passed with 10 for and 1 abstention.

There was a discussion of the list of charities presented by the charities sub-committee.

It was unanimously agreed that the following charities should be the charities of the month this year. (Months to be allocated by the charities group.)

USPG 4 times a year

Children's hospice SW

Julian House / Genesis

Bath women's refuge

Open doors

Burlington House

Tear fund

Amnesty International

Bath welcomes refugees

Cedar tree

Janet would like more people to come. For those that do come it is a very welcome service and Janet thanked those from the congregation who attended and chat to people.

AOB

Lore asked about funding for up to £100 for a young person's trip after Christmas which was unanimously agreed.

Janet reported back on an event she had attended regarded dementia awareness in church.

Georgina reported that our electricity suppliers are changing in order to reduce the amount of the increase in the charges.

Virginia has attended the Community House of Prayer representing Christ Church and will continue to do so.

Janet has a Gardener who will kill weeds around the church for a small fee. This was unanimously agreed.

Next meetings

Tues 22nd Jan – when we will hopefully be voting on the East End plans for the faculty application
19th March
7th April is the AGM