

Christ Church Council Meeting: Tuesday 19th March 2019, 7:30pm in the Lower Mews

Present:

Lore Chumbley (Chair)
Jude Bishop
Lewis Boyd
Penny Edwards
Mark Elliott
Matthew Jones
Sarah Kerr
Virginia Knight (Acting Secretary)
Janet Mahto
Jane Nicholson
Jonathan Stead
Will Willans

- 1) **Opening Prayers**

- 2) **Apologies:** Georgina Bowman, Sharon Rawlings

- 3) **Minutes of the last meeting** (22nd January 2019) were read, corrected and universally approved. Jude Bishop requested page numbers on minutes and Mark Elliott promised to put those of the last two meetings online.

- 4) **Matters arising not already on the agenda:**
 - a) **Cleaner** This work has been advertised via other churches and St Andrew's School. There are two people interested. Suggested pay rate is in the region of £10-£15/hour.
 - b) **Swift Boxes** Virginia Knight has bought a box. Lewis Boyd and Robin Kerr have looked at a potential place on the NE corner of the parapet where it can be mounted without drilling. Jude Bishop suggested having a webcam and Lewis will investigate.
 - c) **West End report** Lewis Boyd presented this, concluding that: a) we don't have enough definite plans to submit a faculty application together with that for the East end, and b) there is no need to rush this. Further discussion is needed about the tablets currently at the SE corner. Sarah Kerr suggested reformatting the photographs of past priests. Lore referred to the need to display a board listing the donors of the bells. Lewis Boyd suggested we reduce pigeonholes to just a few for posts such as clergy and churchwardens. Mark Elliott proposed there should be a glass panel with blu-tak for short-term notices. The 'electrics' should be boxed in.

Lore raised the issue of where to put leaflets, which accumulate in piles at present. It was agreed that this would need further work and a separate faculty.

- 5) **Pastoral care report** was submitted. Lore raised the idea of sending birthday cards to members of the congregation, and thanked the pastoral care team for their work, in particular the afternoon communion initiative, which has made contact with a number of people who had fallen away from regular worship with us, often for health reasons. Lewis Boyd suggested gathering names to be invited to such services, and Janet Mahto reported that the invitations were much appreciated.

- 6) **Local Ministry Group** report was submitted. Lore and Philip Hawthorn intend to meet every two months and Debbie Pow will shortly be licensed as an associate minister at St Stephen's. We are joining the other churches on Maundy Thursday and for the New Fire service on Holy Saturday.

- 7) **East end reordering** The two current issues are the layout of East end furniture, and its design. Since January, Treske have come up with some revised ideas. Hugh Conway-Morris has produced an alternative design. Jude Bishop spoke in favour of getting further options from other designers. Council members had differing views on the designs they had seen so far, and Lore pointed out that Treske are able to customize their designs, for example by incorporating motifs from other decoration in the church. Lore favoured asking for a faculty for chairs of a particular length without being specific about the design. The trustees are willing to finance Hugh C-M to explore further designs and Lore said that we could commission samples from different manufacturers so that the congregation can more readily understand the alternatives.

Statement of Significance for DAC faculty application

The draft statement was discussed and corrections and other amendments were made to it.

Lewis Boyd proposed 'that this should be adopted as our statement of significance (after formatting) for the purposes of the DAC faculty application'. Janet Mahto seconded and this was passed *nem. con.*

Statement of Need for DAC faculty application

The draft statement was discussed and corrections and other amendments were made to it.

Jude Bishop proposed 'that this should be adopted as our statement of need (after formatting) for the purposes of the DAC faculty application'. Jane

Nicholson seconded and this was passed *nem. con.*

8) **Any other business:**

- a) **Communications** Sarah Kerr pointed out there had been clashes when two different people or groups booked the church at the same time. Lore said that there is a system for requesting an entry in the church calendar and Jude Bishop, Matthew Jones and Mark Elliott can all add entries. Mark added that it was necessary to mark some events as 'private' or they would go on the front page of our website. Matthew suggested having an online calendar which marked both public and private events.
- b) **Re-election to church posts** Penny Edwards, Georgina Bowman and Virginia Knight are all willing to stand again for a further 3 years on Council. Both our Churchwardens are also willing to stand again. Penny Edwards requested that she receive minutes in hard copy, as for medical reasons she finds it hard to read them on a screen.
- c) **Poetry day** A poetry day in memory of Rowena Hall will be held on Saturday 27 April at Kelston Old Barn, hire of which has been paid for. During the day a rowan tree will be planted.
- d) **Cedar Tree income** Janet Mahto reported that this had been mounting up and was now a significant amount. Lore said that she should make sure to claim her own expenses and not subsidise Cedar Tree out of her own pocket. This was left for further discussion.
- e) **Fundraising** Jude Bishop gave the latest total from our current fundraising at £21,000. Lore said that the peal of bells had raised £1119.
- f) **Events** Jude Bishop raised the possibility of the University-based Aquapella group giving a concert in Christ Church to raise money for their choir tour. Lore was in favour, with the church sponsoring the concert, and thanked Jonathan Stead and Matthew Jones for speaking to the University chaplain. There had been a request for a 'digital poster' for display.
- Jude Bishop also reported that a Canadian choir would give a concert on June 1st, organised by BANES.
- g) **Publicity** Jude Bishop asked about rollup banners, with our logo and a quote from the mission statement, to be displayed e.g. at Toppings events. They need not be identical. Lore said some thought should go into the design.
- A photo of our peal should be appearing in the next issue of *Manna*.
- h) **Fiduciary responsibility** Jonathan Stead asked if Council has this for monies handed over by the Trustees. Mark Elliott explained that legally we do not, but have taken a pragmatic approach based on what works. Lore will talk to Georgina Bowman about presenting a brief financial report to council every 4 months or so .

i) AGM reports Lewis Boyd stated that the deadline was 24th March for these.

9) Date of next meeting:

a) AGM on 7th April 2019 at 11.30 am

b) Council: provisionally 14th May 2019 at 7:30pm

10) The meeting closed with a prayer at 10.15.