

Minutes from Council Meeting on Tuesday 1st September at 7:30pm on Zoom

Present

Lore Chumbley: Priest In Charge
Jane Nicholson
Alex Soboslay
Janet Mahto
Georgina Bowman
Zoe Bushell
Matthew Jones
Mark Elliott
Jonathan Stead
Jude Bishop
Sharon Rawlings
Virginia Knight
Brenda Wall
Sarah Kerr
Lewis Boyd

Secretary

Tosin Onile-Ere

1. Apologies Wil Willans

Worship: Started at 19.41 led by the Priest in Charge.

At the conclusion of worship Lore asked the assembled Council members if they gave consent to having the meeting recorded; this was agreed unanimously.

2. Minutes

Two amendments were made to the minutes of March 3rd 2020. Brenda proposed acceptance of the minutes and this was seconded by Sharon. The Council unanimously adopted the minutes.

3. Matters Arising

Lore has contacted Thrings to find the Trust Deed referring to Christ Church but found very limited information. She will continue her search through the Diocesan Archives. There may be a list of items in the county archives which she will continue to pursue.

At this point Lore stood down as chair and handed over to Mark as the next item, a report by Alex on the Cedar Tree cafe directly involved her. The report had already been distributed to Council members prior to the start of the meeting. Alex was asked to give the salient points on the report he produced which concerned three council members, Janet, Lewis and Lore. The three council members responded to the report. Then each member of the council was asked to give their opinion. Matthew then proposed that the council reject the request to approve the report; this was seconded by Georgina. The result was as follows;
For, 14
Abstain 1
Against 1

The chair proposed that "Council should select two members of Council and request a member of Christ church Trustees to engage with the Trustees of Cedar Tree to clarify the operational position of Cedar Tree Cafe." Jane seconded the motion. It was carried unanimously.

Matthew and Virginia were nominated for this task proposed by Jude and seconded by Georgina. Mark closed the item and Lore resumed the chair.

4. Brief Financial Review

The council income was about £3-4000 down on projected income but as the church had also been closed from March to July many associated expenses were not incurred and so expenditure was below budget. In all, the council was in a good financial position and there was money available for both new and ongoing projects.

5. Response To Lockdown/Reopening

The council expressed great gratitude to Angela and Mark for their hard work during the Lockdown. Mark proposed that the church begin to consolidate technology for live streaming as it had been very helpful during the lockdown for many people to access the church and it had been a source of comfort. A budget of £2500 was proposed to achieve this end to buy four tripod-based cameras. Georgina commented that live streaming is part of our outreach and that there is money available for the proposed technology. Georgina proposed we set aside £2750 for this work to allow for the purchase of microphones in addition to cameras. This was seconded by Jude Bishop. There were 14 votes in favour of adoption, 1 abstention and 1 no vote. The motion was carried.

6. Liturgical Update

After discussion of the use of the lectionary, the council stated that they had confidence in the Priest-in-charge from time to time to vary the readings from the lectionary in Ordinary Time.

7. Possible Curate For Christ Church

The Diocese has approached the Priest-in-charge with a named candidate for a curate to train at Christ Church for three years. Lore suggest that she first assess the candidate and then, if appropriate, invite council to meet the candidate either by zoom, or face to face before making a decision. Concerns were raised about Lore's work load. Lewis commented that if a curacy goes ahead the church will need to provide prayer & support.

8. Being resurrection People

This is a theme which has arisen over the past few months in several different areas of Christ Church's life. Pilgrim will be looking at the implications of 'being resurrection people' over the Autumn term and how it affects our social action, worship and our interaction with other churches.

9. AOB-

Jude informed the Church that St Andrews School has requested the use of the mews to host an after school activity, Taekwondo. Jude recommended

1. a risk assessment be carried in view of the ongoing pandemic
 2. the church erect signage in Lower Mews
 3. the church waive charges to see this as part of the church's outreach commitment.
- Motion to adopt was proposed by Janet, seconded by Sharon and carried unanimously.

10. Georgina also asked about the possible costs of holding her Book club at the Church.

10. Annual Church Meeting

Matthew, Sharon and Zoe are eligible for re-election to council at the AGM. Matthew has chosen not to put himself forward for re-election, Zoe will stand but Sharon has yet to make a decision. Penny Edward's death leaves a further post vacant on Council. Lewis has chosen to stand down from his post as Church Warden. Council noted their gratitude to him for his period of office. Council agreed that all members of the church should be encouraged to participate and seek election. This would be announced at the next Sunday service.

The AGM is scheduled for 11th October 2020 with next council meeting pencilled in for the 3rd of November 2020.

The meeting ended with the grace.