

**Minutes from Council Meeting on Tuesday 11th January 2022 at 7:30pm
Lower Mews and on Zoom**

Present

Lore Chumbley: Priest in Charge (Chair)
Jude Bishop (Secretary)
Jonathan Stead (Lay Chair)
Virginia Knight
Georgina Bowman
Richard Gabe
Brenda Wall (Deanery Synod rep)
Malcolm Wall
Mark Elliott

Lore opened the meeting with prayer.

Lore thanked Jude for coping with late papers & various changes and suggested that next year we don't have a January meeting as it gives no break after Christmas & New Year.

1. **Apologies:** Jane Nicholson (Churchwarden), Rebekah Cunningham, Janet Mahto, Pauline Swaby-Wallace, Kara Maylor, Zoe Bushell
2. **Minutes** of last meeting 9th December 2021

The minutes circulated were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.

Proposed Georgina Bowman

Seconded Richard Gabe

3. Matters Arising

i. **Charities of the month**

Council were advised of the final list of monthly Charities:

January – Bath Welcomes Refugees
February – USPG – Malawi project
March – Churches Housing Trust
April - Open Doors
May - USPG – Malawi project
June – New Bridge Foundation
July – Woodlands Trust
August - USPG – Malawi project
September – Young person's choice
October - Water Aid
November - USPG – Malawi project
December – Genesis and Julian House.

ii. **Eco Church Recycling**

B@NES does collect business waste but at the following cost per week:

Cardboard £4.60
Glass bottles £4.60
Food waste (large quantity) £8.20
Cans & plastic £1.90

Paper is collected already. As we don't accumulate very much Lore will enquire whether we could have a monthly collection at reduced cost.
Mark will look at how much we produce over a month.

iii. **Awayday creative response**

The aim of the report is not to do everything proposed immediately.

Outreach to those on the edges.

- a. A suggestion from the Awayday was to consider co-opting/voting a young person onto council. Whilst it would be good to have a teenage voice it was thought impractical with pressure of school work. However it was thought to be a good idea to invite a young person if there was something specific to discuss. Council agreed that we should approach Carol Hussey to join at the AGM in May.
- b. Christ Church needs some 'watchers' to be around after the service to speak to new people & visitors. There is a group currently made up of Jane Nicholson, Simon Tatton- Brown, Jonathan Stead, Brenda Wall and Malcolm Wall. Jane Nicholson is coordinating this group.
- c. Jonathan spoke of the Iona worship and how it offered something different as it was led by laity. Kara was offering silent meditation with younger people.

Honesty in Faith and Doubt – Lore suggested we have a volunteer to look into Bible reading notes and to present a collection. Jonathan Stead suggested Peter and Beryl Bowes might be able to help with this using their experience of other parishes they have been in. Kara and Fiona Gardner might also be a good people to consult . A good resource could be Sarum College bookshop – Brenda volunteered to visit.

Virginia suggested that the prayer cycle that she produces needs to be made more apparent for intercessors. Lore said it is used every day at the 8 o'clock morning prayer.

Loving service in our Community – Christ Church is already doing a lot but needs to advertise what we're doing and how we can make it grow.

We have a link with Oasis as people from Christ Church are regularly involved in the Community Pantry project.

We need to continue to be aware of & welcome rough sleepers. B@NES looked after the homeless during COVID with extra funding available and most people seem to still be accommodated.

Links with Burlington House – Kara is meeting with Holly to try and build up some more links.

It was suggested that we use the smaller notice board on Julian Road to offer what we are and what we can offer. It was suggested that any artwork we need for this we might ask Maggie Willans to take on.

It was agreed to hold over the Awayday report and use it as a working document.

iv. **Worship and Pastoral Care**

Worship - Jonathan suggested it be a standing item on the agenda as it is critical to our mission and a lot of work goes into it. Streamed services are a great asset, benefitting lots of people especially those who feel isolated.

Sunday evening worship – Christ Church should be advertising what we do and can offer through the Deanery and the Diocese and other outlets.

Pastoral Care – We do this well. A group of friends who were on their own over Christmas got together for a very joyous Christmas Day lunch.

Communion with tea is also very much appreciated and targets those can't get to regular church services for some reason or another.

4. Co-option of new Council member

Following Sharon's death Lore suggested that we co-opt David Rawlings to Council. Council agreed to this but Lore needed to know how long David could step in for, either to the AGM or to the end of Sharon's term (2023).

Rebekah & Virginia and Georgina are expecting to stand down at the May AGM.

It was suggested that other people be encouraged to stand in May, including Ling Zi and Fiona Gardner or Peter Ellis.

5. Financial Report

Richard presented the latest financial report. Whilst income was down during the last year, outgoings were also down. Also, Gift Aid is being claimed on a more regular basis.

Richard explained that there was now a bank account for Council to split Trustees and Council money. A letter has been written by Richard and David Bishop to be sent to all Standing Order givers so they can change the account number. Richard and David agreed not to use this as a Stewardship campaign to get more people to contribute as it might confuse things.

Richard suggested when he revises the annual budget he'd like to increase the younger persons fund from £250 to a more realistic sum as well as creating a new fund for Environment and Climate Change.

Virginia commented on the fact that it's hard to find anything to do with contributing/donating to Christ Church on the website and suggested there should be a designated email account for the treasurer, e.g. treasurer@christchurchbath.org. Mark agreed to look into this.

6. West End reorganisation

a. Statement of Need – Council reviewed the document.

Lore had looked into costs of frames for the incumbents re-arrangement of photographs. The most appropriate were oak-framed with glass for about £20. Council agreed that we should buy sufficient for the current number plus a few more to ensure continuity of style.

Council agreed the following statement –

The Church Council at its regular meeting on 11th January 2022 passed without dissent among those present voting the following resolution relating to the works or proposals.

'Christ Church agrees the Statement of Need for the reordering of the West End as proposed in this meeting.' There are 15 members of council.

Proposed Mark Elliott / Seconded Brenda Wall. Agreed unanimously

b. Statement of Significance – Council reviewed the document.

Council agreed the following statement –

The Church Council at its regular meeting on 11th January 2022 passed without dissent among those present voting the following resolution relating to the works or proposals.

'Christ Church agrees the Statement of Significance for the reordering of the West End as proposed in this meeting.' There are 15 members of council.

Proposed Malcolm Wall / Seconded Georgina Bowman. Agreed unanimously

c. Decluttering of items from the church

The following petition was put before council

'Christ Church Council request permission from the Chancellor to dispose of the following

furnishings and items that are no longer needed for worship.

These items comprise:

- 4 – prie-dieus – or Litany desks
- 2 – processional candle holders
- 1 – wicker table in need of repair

Also we resolve to dispose of:

- A rectangular table
- A modern 20th century print with a religious theme
- A tapestry picture with a Celtic pattern
- A computer monitor
- A walker
- An old Cedar Tree A-board
- 8 wooden choir chairs

Council agreed to the following statement –

The Church Council at its regular meeting on 11th January 2022 passed without dissent among those present voting the following resolution relating to the works or proposals. 'Christ Church agrees the formal request for the decluttering of the church as proposed in this meeting.' There are 15 members of council.

Proposed Richard Gabe. Seconded Mark Elliott Agreed unanimously.

AOB

Lore suggested that Council consider what Christ Church could do to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June. Item for the next Council meeting

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 1st March 2022 – mixed media in the Mews

The meeting ended with the Grace at 21:00