

Minutes of Church Council Meeting 4 November 2004

Present: Antony Claridge, Dorothy Twissell, Nicky Gladstone, Margaret Burrows, Chris Gladstone, Frank Twissell, David Marles, Yvonne Morris, Sylvia Ayers, David Bishop, Angela Soboslay, Mark Elliott, Emma Elliott, Bob Siderfin

Apologies: Matthew Jones, Sarah Jones, Jenny Wright, David Wrigley, Jane Fletcher

David Marles chaired the meeting.

Minutes of the last meeting, held on 8 September were approved, and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

Jobs and Actions for the next 3 months

- i. Book of Prayer
Chris Munday is working on this, and has also taken over responsibility for the prayer card used for weekly intercessions. The meeting expressed thanks to Dorothy Twissell who had previously taken responsibility for the prayer card.
- ii. Telephone Prayer Network
Forms will be made available in early November so that people can sign up for the network. An article has appeared in November's magazine.
- iii. Greeters
Will be active in the near future.
- iv. Porch Area
The Architect is to visit Church next week in order to examine the kitchen roof. Once this has been repaired then improvements to the porch area can be considered in earnest.
- vi. External Communications
Matthew Jones has produced an excellent leaflet for students giving details of services at Christ Church. The draft "pew leaflet" for local distribution is nearly ready.
- vii. New Press Officer
Still no-one forthcoming, anyone interested should see Nicky.
- viii. Other Forms of Fellowship
Following on from the last meeting, two social evenings had been held at a local pub. It is hoped that "Meet Up Monday" will become a regular fixture on the first Monday of every month.

Remarks from the Officiating Minister

Antony expressed his full support for "Meet Up Monday" and the Prayer Network. Saturday 6 November will see the Bath Deanery Day Conference, which will be attended by at least six members of the congregation. Antony stressed the importance that the unique characteristics of Christ Church should have a place in any discussions regarding the future of the Deanery's structure.

Licences for the following Chalice Assistants are to be renewed:

Bob Siderfin, Penny Edwards, Jane Fletcher, Lloyd Grosvenor, Margaret Burrows, Chris Graham

In addition, the following are to become Chalice Assistants:

Tessa Claridge, Janet Mahto, Rosanne Gabe.

June Metcalfe will be standing down as a Chalice Assistant. A card will be sent to June to thank her.

Remarks from Agenda Setting Group

The next meeting of Council will consider Christ Church's charitable giving. It was suggested that time should also be given over to feedback from the Deanery conference.

The Agenda Setting Group felt that material from the Away Day has now been exhausted, and that after the next two Council meetings, suggestions will be sought from the congregation for agenda items.

Deanery Synod

The next two meetings (November and March) will be devoted to feedback from the Deanery conference. In June, a service will be held at which concrete proposals are offered. All will be welcome to attend.

Churches Together in Bath

Sylvia Ayers gave a full report on recent CTB events. The service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will be held on January 24th. The Bath Half Marathon will be held on Palm Sunday, March 20th 2005, in spite of objections from CTB. The meeting expressed the opinion that the negative publicity for Bath churches generated by this issue is regrettable.

Christ Church would be willing to host a future CTB meeting, and would provide coffee.

Use of the Church Building

David Bishop introduced this item, and encouraged members of Council to give their consideration to how we make use of our Church building, what problems we encounter, and our hopes for the future.

Council then proceeded to tour the building to enable members to gain a clearer picture of its current state and what might be achieved in the long term. All were requested to make notes following the meeting, and to return them to David Bishop, who will then report back.

Any Other Business

A large Christmas Card is to be purchased. The congregation will be able to sign this card and make a donation, rather than exchanging cards in the traditional way.

An appeal has been launched to raise £500 in order to buy a well for an African village.

As Boxing Day falls on a Sunday this year, Antony asked for Council's opinion on whether a service should be held on that day. The feeling was that this would be desirable.

The meeting closed with prayers.

Summary

All members of Council to return their "Use of Building" thoughts to David Bishop

Items to go forward to Trustees / Standing Committee

- Kitchen roof estimate

Items to be discussed at a later date (referred back to Agenda Setting Group)

- Feedback from Deanery Conference
- Feedback from Christmas Fair
- Disabled Access to Church
- Charitable Giving
- Feedback from "Use of Building" item at this meeting.