

Draft minute extract of discussion at Benefices Sub-Committee meeting on 7 February 2022:

Members heard that, following the Court of Common Council's approval in December 2021 of the Committee Structure as proposed by the Governance Review paper, the Benefices Sub-Committee would be merged into a new sub-committee of the Policy and Resources Committee, the Civic Affairs Sub Committee (CASC), with responsibility for the City's obligations for its various Benefices.

Members felt it would be unfortunate if CASC only exercised the strict legal obligations of the City of London Corporation as Patron of the various Benefices. The Chairman said the current Sub-Committee should provide some guidance to the Policy and Resources Committee on the future work of CASC as it related to the Benefices. He felt that there were four areas where CASC could go beyond the legal remit as patron:

- Preserving the liaison links between the Members and the Benefices;
- The informal support that the sub-committee has provided;
- The advice from the City that has been provided e.g. the Property Session with City Surveyors; and
- Maintaining the Benefices Lunch, which allows incumbents to meet each other and the Members

Edward Lord said that the emphasis should be on maintaining the links with the Benefices. They also felt that the change in governance could be an opportunity to broaden out the Members who would form links with the Benefices. The allocation for the Benefices lunch should be included in future budgets.

Members proposed that the wider work of the Benefices Sub-Committee could be continued by having a 'lead member' for the Benefices on CASC, and ensuring that the Benefices were a standing item on CASC's agenda.