

BENEFICES SUB (CULTURE, HERITAGE & LIBRARIES) COMMITTEE

Thursday, 11 June 2015

Minutes of the meeting of the Benefices Sub (Culture, Heritage & Libraries) Committee held at Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall, on Thursday, 11 June 2015 at 2.00 pm

Present

Members:

Deputy Billy Dove (Chairman)
Nigel Challis
Dennis Cotgrove
Gregory Jones QC
Virginia Rounding
Graham Packham (Ex-Officio Member)

Officers:

Julie Mayer

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Vivienne Littlechild, Deputy Bill Fraser, Tom Hoffman and Andrew McMurtrie.

2. DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

- Mr Nigel Challis declared a general, non-pecuniary interest as a Trustee of the London Diocesan Synod and the Bishops Council.
- Mr Gregory Jones declared a general, non-pecuniary interest as a Member of the Guild Church Council of St Lawrence Jewry.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN, IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER 29.

The Sub Committee proceeded to elect a Chairman, in accordance with Standing Order 29.

The Town Clerk read out a list of those Members eligible to stand and, being the only Member expressing a willingness to serve, Deputy Billy Dove (Chief Commoner) was elected as the Chairman of the Benefices Sub Committee for the ensuing year.

Members were reminded that on 5th March 2015, the Court of Common Council agreed to waive Standing Order 18, thereby permitting the Chief Commoner to stand as Chairman of the Benefices Sub Committee.

Deputy Chairman

The Town Clerk advised that, in accordance with the Terms of Reference, the Deputy Chairman of the Grand Committee, Mrs Vivienne Littlechild, would be the Deputy Chairman of the Benefices Sub Committee, for the ensuing year.

Chairman's Welcome

On taking the Chair, the Chairman advised the Sub Committee that, having served 10 years, this would be the last year of his Chairmanship. The Chairman was very pleased at the level of interest shown in the Benefices Sub Committee and welcomed the new Members.

Members were reminded that, on 2nd March 2015, the Culture Heritage and Libraries Committee agreed to widen nominations to the Benefices Sub Committee to the entire Court of Common Council, not just to Members of the Grand Committee. When the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee met on 26 May 2015, to agree the composition and membership of its sub committees, they subsequently agreed to extend membership to all those who had expressed an interest; given that they all met the desirable criteria under the provisions of The Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986 and the Patronage (Benefices) Rules 1987; (i.e. Communicant Members of the Church of England or of a Church in Communion with it).

Finally, the Chairman reminded Members of the fundamental purpose of the Sub Committee; i.e. to make recommendations in respect of the future appointment of Clergy. Members also noted that, currently, there were no vacancies pending. The Town Clerk advised that the Sub Committee generally met two or three times a year and the meetings would provide Members with an opportunity to receive an update on the activities within the Benefices.

4. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 24 November 2014 were approved as a correct record.

5. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

There were no questions.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There were no items of urgent business.

7. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED, THAT – under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act.

Item no
9 – 11

Para no
1, 2 & 3

8. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 24 November 2014 were approved as a correct record.

9. **THE CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION BENEFICES UPDATE**

The Sub Committee received a report of the Town Clerk, which provided an update on the City of London Corporation Benefices; including a general historic overview and a brief report on the Chairman's recent visits to Benefices Churches.

10. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE**

There were no questions.

11. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

There were no items of urgent business.

The meeting ended at 2.45 pm

Chairman

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