

BENEFICES SUB (CULTURE, HERITAGE & LIBRARIES) COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 8 June 2016

Minutes of the meeting of the Benefices Sub (Culture, Heritage & Libraries)
Committee held at Guildhall on Wednesday, 8 June 2016 at 2.00 pm

Present

Members:

Nigel Challis
Deputy Billy Dove
Gregory Jones QC

Andrew McMurtrie
Graham Packham (Ex-Officio Member)

In Attendance

Officers:

Julie Mayer - Town Clerk's

It was proposed by Mr Challis, seconded by Mr Packham and agreed that Deputy Billy Dove take the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Deputy Bill Fraser, Tom Hoffman, Vivienne Littlechild, Deputy Jamie Ingham Clark and Patrick Streeter.

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

There were no declarations.

3. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Sub Committee received its Terms of Reference and endorsed the last sentence; ie *'In Practice, the Chairman of the Sub Committee, being a person able and willing to make the declaration, is usually appointed as the City of London Corporation's representative and this practice has worked well.'*

4. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The Committee proceeded to elect a Chairman in accordance with Standing Order 29. Two Members had expressed a willingness to serve and statements in support of their nominations had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting.

There was therefore a Ballot and the result was:

- **Andrew McMurtrie - 2**
- **Gregory Jones - 2**

As the Chairman did not wish to exercise a casting vote, the result was decided by drawing lots and Mr Andrew McMurtrie was declared Chairman for the ensuing year.

VOTE OF THANKS

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY – That the Members of the Benefices Sub Committee wish to place on record their sincere appreciation to WILLIAM HARRY DOVE, OBE, JP (Billy) for the extremely capable and diligent manner in which he has chaired their Sub Committee and for the care and interest he has shown in all aspects of his work for the Benefices Sub Committee over the past 10 years. This dedication and hard work continued in addition to Billy's additional duties as Chief Commoner over the past year.

BILLY has been an extremely knowledgeable and committed Chairman and is very well respected by the Vicars of the City's Benefices. Billy has always championed their dedication and hard work, which he has demonstrated during a programme of regular visits, often accompanied by the Mayor's consort. His ability to understand the needs of those parishioners, who might be vulnerable and in need of community support and goodwill has delivered real outcomes.

IN ADDITION, Billy has played a key role in the appointment of 6 Priests during his 10 years of office, thereby exercising the City of London's Patronage. Billy was also instrumental in widening the field of nominations to the Benefices Sub Committee, to all Members of the Court, in order to plan for his succession and the sustainability of the Sub Committee.

FINALLY, the Committee wishes to place on record its recognition of his distinguished service to the Sub Committee, the Benefices Vicars and their parishioners and thank him for his dedication and affable spirit over 10 years' service to the Benefices Sub Committee. His colleagues would like to convey their gratitude and best wishes for the future.

The new Chairman fully endorsed the above Vote of Thanks for the past Chairman and was very pleased that he would be continuing to serve on the Sub Committee, given his wealth of experience over the past 10 years, which included the appointment of 6 priests.

5. MINUTES

The public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on 8th February 2016 were approved as a correct record.

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

In response to a question about the new role of the Finance Grants Sub Committee, following the Corporate Grants Review, Members noted that, historically, the Finance Grants Sub Committee had considered grant applications from the City's Benefices. The Town Clerk advised that, post the review, this was likely to fall within the remit of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee. The Chairman agreed to speak to the Chamberlain in order to seek clarity in respect of the new arrangements.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There were no items of urgent business

8. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

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

Items

9-12

Paragraphs

1,2 & 3

9. **MINUTES**

The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 8th February 2016 were approved as a correct record.

10. **UPDATES FROM BENEFICES VISITS AND ALLOCATION OF MEMBERS TO THE VARIOUS BENEFICES IN ORDER TO ARRANGE FUTURE VISITS**

The Town Clerk invited Members to provide updates on any visits undertaken since the last meeting of the Sub Committee.

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

There were no questions.

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

Two items were considered whilst the public were excluded.

The meeting ended at 2.45 pm

Chairman

**Contact Officer: Julie Mayer tel. no.: 020 7332 1410
julie.mayer@cityoflondon.gov.uk**