

BENEFICES SUB (CULTURE, HERITAGE & LIBRARIES) COMMITTEE

Monday, 27 February 2017

Minutes of the meeting of the Benefices Sub (Culture, Heritage & Libraries)
Committee held at Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Monday,
27 February 2017 at 4.30 pm

Present

Members:

Andrew McMurtrie (Chairman)
Nigel Challis
Tom Hoffman

Deputy Jamie Ingham Clark
Patrick Streeter
Graham Packham (Ex-Officio Member)

In Attendance

Officers:

Julie Mayer

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1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Alderman-Elect Gregory Jones, QC (Deputy Chairman), Deputy Bill Fraser and Vivienne Littlechild.

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

There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20 October 2016 were approved as a correct record.

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

A Member raised a historic safeguarding issue, which had been reported in the Times and various other national newspapers on 14th February 2017. Members noted that a former Vicar of St Mathias, Stoke Newington, who had served for 20 years in the 1970s and 80s, had been convicted of a serious offence. Whilst accepting that this was historic, Members asked for assurance as to safe recruitment procedures. The Town Clerk agreed to enquire as to the boundaries of responsibility between the City of London Corporation and the Church of England, for Disclosure Barring Service (DBS) checks and safe recruiting generally. The Town Clerk also to contact the Church of England in order to enquire as to the availability of a 'lessons learnt' report on this case and whether it would be available for Members of the Benefices Sub Committee.

5. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

There were no items of urgent business.

6. **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 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

Paragraph No

7-10

3

7. **MINUTES**

The Non-public minutes of the meeting held on 20 October 2016 were approved.

8. **VISITS FROM THE VARIOUS BENEFICES**

Members provided updates on their recent visits to the various Benefices.

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

There were no questions.

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

The Chairman thanked Mr Nigel Challis who would not be standing for re-election as a Member of the Court of Common Council. Mr Challis had been a valued member of the Benefices Sub Committee and was extremely knowledgeable about Church matters nationally and in the City.

The meeting ended at 5.20 pm

Chairman

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