

BENEFICES SUB (CULTURE, HERITAGE & LIBRARIES) COMMITTEE

Monday, 24 February 2020

Minutes of the meeting of the Benefices Sub (Culture, Heritage & Libraries) Committee held at Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Monday, 24 February 2020 at 5.00 pm

Present

Members:

Andrew McMurtrie (Chair)

Simon Duckworth (Deputy Chairman)

Caroline Haines

Ann Holmes

Deputy Wendy Hyde (Ex-Officio Member)

Alderman Gregory Jones QC

James de Sausmarez

In Attendance

Officers:

Julie Mayer

- Town Clerk's Department

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Deputy, the Reverend Stephen Haines; Deputy Jamie Ingham Clark; Graham Packham; Deputy Richard Regan and Ian Seaton.

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

Simon Duckworth declared a general non-pecuniary interest by virtue of being a Church Warden at St Lawrence Jewry.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 23 October 2019 were approved as a correct record.

4. UPDATE ON CONNECTING THE BENEFICES WITH CITY OF LONDON SCHOOLS

Further to a suggestion from a Member, the Chairman had written to all Benefices Vicars reminding them of opportunities for bursaries at Christ's Hospital and Whitley. Members noted that this could be of particular benefit to looked after children or children at risk of being looked after.

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

There were no questions.

6. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT**

There was some discussion about diversity and Members noted that a significant number of women were now undergoing training or being appointed to the Clergy. One Member commented on having recently served on a very diverse interview panel. There was a further observation about the declining numbers of white middle-class men generally in some congregations. Members also noted an American study suggesting that the Christian Church was particularly female orientated in some denominations.

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 I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

Item	Paragraph
8-11	1,2 & 3

8. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

The non-public minutes of the meetings held on 23 October 2019 were approved, subject to an amendment.

9. **VISITS TO THE VARIOUS BENEFICES**

Members were invited to discuss their recent visits to the various benefices.

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

There were no questions.

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

The Chairman raised a couple of matters of urgent business whilst the public were excluded.

The meeting closed at 6:00 pm

Chair

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