

### Summary of Chapter minutes February 2024

- Chapter welcomed the new Canon Precentor Ian Yemm, and thanked the outgoing Precentor, who remains a Trustee and was present in his new role as Archdeacon of Margam.  
A warm welcome was extended to the Reverend Stephen Adams who is supporting the Cathedral at this time. The Dean returned from sick leave on January 8<sup>th</sup> and went on compassionate leave on February 17<sup>th</sup>.  
A warm welcome was also extended to Craig Williams who was present as an observer, by virtue of his role as Chair of the LCCC.
- Chapter received updates from Stephen Moore on music, Chris Preece on the Cathedral shop and Olivia Moore on the Festival. Chapter congratulated Stephen and Olivia as they expect their first child.
- The Chancellor reported that: she had been involved in the appointment of a new Cathedral School Chaplain – Gareth Raynor Williams. The Lenten Appeal is *Embrace the Middle East* as chosen by the youth council of the LCCC.  
The Cathedrals Plus Conference was very worthwhile and other staff would benefit from attending this in future.  
There will be a new approach to the Good Friday family service as part of the Messy Easter initiative.  
An Aurelia Trust grant had been received for a mobile interpretation panel in Processional Way.
- The Precentor reported that: the music at his installation service was extraordinary. He thanked everyone for their welcome. He reported that the Music Department is on good form, demonstrating enthusiasm and competence in bucketloads. He paid tribute to Fr Mark Preece.
- A discussion was had in relation to the use of incense following the implementation of the new policy. Incense was being used much less frequently, and with smaller quantities in use each time. Daily use has been discontinued. We are uncertain of the role the charcoal plays in air quality but this is also being minimised.
- MP reported on the Property Summit held in December. He noted that it was resolved that the Deanery will remain as a Deanery and some problems there have already been addressed. There are issues with both properties at St Mary's.
- The budget for 2024 was **approved** subject to the caveat that our contribution to the diocese is not confirmed. RL reported that the projected year-end deficit is £34k, significantly lower than 2023.  
A revised approval of costs flowchart was **approved**, subject to more prudent thresholds. A discussion was had in relation to fees for occasional offices which are under revision.  
GW updated the committee on the Flower Guild's finances following the recent AGM. GW awaits the decision of the committee of the Flower Guild in relation to the offer of managing their restricted fund directly by the management accountant.

The committee **approved** a request to release funds from the Jasper Tower Fund in relation to bell maintenance undertaken by Nicholson Bellhangers (£2697.00) and Heating Works undertaken by Wheelers (£9000.00).

The committee **approved** a request to release funds from the Library Fund in relation to 6 months' salary of the Music Animator who is working in schools (£6,500).

- Bishop Mary had appointed four new Honorary Canons to Greater Chapter:  
The Reverend Gareth Raynor Williams (new Cathedral School Chaplain)  
Lady Williams of Oystermouth  
The Very Reverend Dr Mark Oakley, Dean of Southwark Cathedral  
The Reverend Andrew Sully  
Following a recruitment process, Hefin Owen had been appointed as the new Lay Canon on Cathedral Chapter. He will attend the next meeting of the Dean and Chapter on 21 March.  
GW will arrange with Bishop Mary for an installation service to be held in the coming months for Honorary Canons, the new Lay Canon, the Canon Treasurer and the new Archdeacon of Margam.
- A tribute was paid to Cathedral Archivist John Kenyon who died on February 8<sup>th</sup>. Condolences were extended to Chris, Jo and Pip. The funeral will take place on March 8<sup>th</sup>.  
A discussion was had in relation to the appointment of a new archivist. JvdL noted that, following an expression of interest, Dr Nick Lambert would assume the role in the interim with the support of Judith Thompson. SR offered to send details of a conservateur from her Ministry Area who may be interested in the substantive post.
- CW gave a report on the background to the LCCC and its role in volunteering within the Cathedral. As the committee carves out a role within the Cathedral, CW noted that he would appreciate advice or requests for work in order to maintain strong links with the congregation.  
Ceri Weatherall was appointed Chair of the HR Committee.  
The Music Development Committee will meet formally upon the appointment of Hefin Owen as trustee.  
The Development Committee will meet upon the Dean's return.
- GW reported on a paper received by James Laing in relation to the Clockhouse. Following the decision to house Fr Sion Brynach at the property, the Dean and Chapter would need to accept that any option to purchase the property is disclaimed for a period of five years.  
RL noted that we should accept the disclaimer but request that terms of a future option to purchase be discussed fully.