

## Summary of Chapter minutes November-December 2021

### November

- A brief Chapter meeting was held in November prior to welcoming members of Grater Chapter for their meeting.
- The Vice Chair withdrew from the meeting for the annual appointment of the vice chair. With Canon Weatherall in the Chair, Canon Elias was unanimously appointed as Vice Chair for a further year and retook the chair.

### December

- *Draft School lease* – the School had suggested an amendment for its exclusivity in providing choristers. Any other arrangement was impractical. A further amendment would be proposed so that exclusivity would be maintained as long as the number of choristers set by the Dean was provided by the School. Subject to this amendment, Chapter unanimously approved the lease variation and side letter.
- *Lease of the Parish Hall to the School* – While Chapter had regard to community use, the pandemic had reduced income and the School needed more space. Some time was available (evenings, weekends, one or two midweek slots) and would be offered to the community. Chapter agreed unanimously that the lease should be extended to July 2022.
- *Questions from the congregation on the 2020 accounts* – Three questions had been raised. The Chapter Clerk would draft responses for the Finance Committee to agree. The Treasurer had arranged to meet two of the correspondents.
- *Correspondence with the Charity Commission* – Chapter noted the correspondence. The Chapter Clerk was dealing with the question on the Cathedral Constitution.
- *The Budget for 2022* was set to break even on a cash basis depending on some increase in giving, and there were early signs of improvement after the stewardship campaign. Chapter thanked those who had worked on the preparation of the budget and the Committee for its review and recommendation. Chapter unanimously approved the 2022 budget.
- The application to the RB for a *withdrawal of income of from the Jasper Tower Fund* of £3,708.09 to fund works in the Jasper Tower was approved and Chapter authorised the Chapter Clerk to arrange for correspondence with the RB to effect the withdrawal.
- The payment of interest and capital on the *St Mary's loan* from the RB was approved. The cost of IHASCO online training in 2022 was approved. The cost for the new giving station was approved, which will enable gift aid to be claimed on donations. The device could be programmed to show information about the running costs of the Cathedral.
- A Strategy Workshop is planned for February 2022, date to be confirmed.
- The Assistant Director of Music had made a good start and Chapter agreed that his probation period should end. No Choral Scholars had been appointed following a disappointing response, with further attempts planned. The pandemic was proving challenging with concerns over continuity at Christmas. A number of measures were being taken with the back row stepping in on Sunday. Further work was needed to recruit singers to the Parish Choir.
- A faculty is now required for the new Lady Chapel Organ, and Chapter agreed that an application should be made.
- Chapter congratulated Owen Hurrell on reaching the finals of the BBC Young Chorister of the Year competition.

- The involvement of older children as servers at the All Age Eucharist has been well received and children are keen. 224 are registered for Sunday School. 26 children signed up for confirmation from January, with confirmation by +June after Easter, Covid regulations permitting.
- The Clockhouse property is vacant following Brian Hibberd's death. Following an enquiry from his executor Chapter agreed that it should register an interest in the property. An informal discussion with the RB for accommodation might be initiated. Canon Weatherall was thanked for hosting an excellent party for Peggy on her retirement.
- Chapter had received a substantial gift from the widow of Peter Beck. The Precentor would write with thanks and appreciation.