

From: Rosalyn Howarth, Friends of the New Bevan Community Church

2 April 2019

I wonder if you might like to make a correction to paras 1.19 and 1.20 in the agenda pack, since the LBPB is making an issue out of the fact that it refers to the nominating group as having been involved in the purchase proceedings, which, it wasn't, and in my e-mail of 24th March I referred to Winston and Christine Hendrikse and the Barnet Christian Fellowship, not the nominating group. Just to give further clarification, Winston and Christine Hendrikse were members of the BCF. They set up a charity in their name to purchase the church on behalf of the BCF. £90,000 deposit was paid, using their own funds and the private funds of Diane Druce, the pastor of BCF.

My only use of "we" and "our" was in respect of the notice to vacate, and this was because, as well as being the lead member of the nominating group, I am also a member of the BCF, so on that occasion I was speaking in that capacity and not on behalf of the nominating group. Perhaps, to avoid any misinterpretation, I should have stated "The BCF has been given notice to vacate on the 14th April" and subsequent references to "we" and "us" should be amended to "they" and "them".

Furthermore, the charity did not withdraw from the purchase to make way for the ACV nomination, as suggested by the LBPB. They withdrew initially because Barclays Bank withdrew their loan to the charity in October 2018. Winston Hendrikse subsequently passed away. It had then been the hope of Christine Hendrikse to continue with the purchase, using the proceeds from the sale of properties belonging to her late husband, however, probate issues meant that there would be a long delay before these monies became available. Christine Hendrikse therefore reluctantly withdrew from the purchase negotiations altogether in early January 2019, as she was unable to provide proof to the LBPB of the funds being available. I did not begin putting together an ACV nomination until some after that, and when I started, I don't know whether the church had actually been put on the open market.

I probably will now need to say a few words at the committee in view of the LBPB's comments but 3 minutes will not be sufficient to say everything, so I wonder if you could, at least, make the Committee members aware of the corrections to 1.19 and 1.20.