***The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of Marcham with Garford***

**Wednesday 27th September 2023 – 7.45pm start, in All Saints Church, Marcham**

**MINUTES**

Revd Nick Weldon (NW) Tony Carter (TC) Tim Jack (TJ)

Chrystal Poon (CP) Bryan Eccles (BE) John Scoble (JS)

Catherine Mentzel (CMe) Caroline Manders (CM) Ali Lyndon (AL)

Barney Stevens (BS) Chris Nutman (CN) Danni Grady (DG)

Neil Rowe (NR) Sue Lawton (SL) Ruth Atkins (RA)

David Lunn (DL) Tamsin Gilbert (TG) James Gilbert (JG)

Christian Randall (architect)

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| *No.* | *Item* |
| **1.****2.****3.4.****5.** | **Welcome, Bible reading and opening prayer: NW Psalm 27Apologies for absence –** Jonathan Boardman, Carolyn Whiting**Conflicts of interest** **Minutes of the meeting of 26th July 2023 –** signed as an accurate record.**Matters arising -** none |
| **6.** | **Feedback from recent events** Holiday club – very good this year. We don’t seem to be able to get the families to come to the Sunday service. Could consider doing the Friday evening BBQ after the Sunday morning service instead to encourage more families to attend. We were at capacity in terms of numbers in the building. Men’s events – Men’s breakfast, 36 men, talk from Tim Jack. Men’s beers in the churchyard 15 – 30. Women’s events – dinner with Jill Rowe speaking, great food, 40 women attended. MAF Sunday – plane in the churchyard, great service. Lots of interest from passers-by. Sound gospel message. Sermon was quite long for children as no children’s groups.  |
| **7.**  | **All Saints Reordering Project** – with Christian Randall (architect)New plans have been drawn up for phase 1. General opinion was very positive. Some discussion as to whether we have addressed the issue of breakout rooms, which we haven’t in this plan. Need to consider this as phase 1. Discussed using the gallery for extra space, will require moving the organ which is too expensive. Estimate of cost £120 – 150k. PCC agreed to pursue this design, Christian will investigate specifications and show plans to DAC. TC requested making the design as energy efficient as possible. |
| **8.** | **Financial update: JS**Estimated shortfall of approx. £14k this year.Direct Debit resolution passed – there are occasions where it may be preferable to make payments by Direct Debit. This would normally require authorisation in written form signed by two authorised signatories for the bank account. Where the option is available to set up or amend a direct debit instruction on-line, this PCC authorises any single authorised signatory to the bank account to set up or amend a direct debit instruction using the available on-line facility.  |
| **9.** | **Fabric update: NR*** AS video projector – has now broken. Quote obtained for 2 television screens at the front, one at the back, £18k. NW feels this is too much, asked to requote for just 2 screens at the front. JG asked NW to consider a new projector, NW will get a quote for this also.
* AS Genesis One Project – marquee to be replaced with stretch tent which will look better. Intention is to hire one for a few weeks to ensure this is what we want. May be able to use some of the Genesis 1 project money – this has been extended until 1/5/24.
* AS Churchyard management (update from recent meeting with Parish Council) – new contract with grass cutting. Trees causing problems, dead limbs needing to be managed. 2 trees with Ash dieback. The Parish council is getting this assessed by an arboreal expert. Path to the north of the church needs managing, the parish council will investigate this.
* AS Coping stones and tiles above vestry – quoted £11,000. VAT reclaimable. SEB would need to cover electricity cables before the work can be done. PCC agreed this work needs to be completed, NR to get this booked in. Some discussion over whether we need to cordon off the areas of risk in case anything falls off. NR will ask contractor whether there is a safety issue.
* St Luke’s church yard lighting – faculty application. Awaiting DAC meeting.
* St Luke’s toilet and tap (update) – moved to October meeting, CW has chosen toilet.
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| **10.** | **St Luke’s: TC**Good Harvest service, 29 attended. 1st Sunday of the month for services, then people know when they are on.  |
| **11.** | **Ministry Apprentice idea: CP**School / University leaver to train up in Ministry skills. Imogen Gilbert considering this for next year. CP has put together a job description. To discuss at next meeting. TC asked about cost implication – NW suggested minimum wage level, 15 hrs / week. |
| **12.** | **Safeguarding update: RA / NW**3 ongoing cases. Up until August 2 cases, both with safeguarding agreements. Now have a third. PCC role is to ensure we have a safeguarding policy that we follow, that we have a safeguarding officer, and that everyone is trained. We are doing this, and the process is sound. Please see further notes sent round by NW after the meeting.  |
| **13.** | **School Foundation Governor vacancy** Please speak with NW if you are interested |
| **14.**  | **Health & Safety** New rug needed for tiddlypeeps due to children falling on the hard floor. |
| **15.** | **A.O.B.**  |
| **16.** | **Closing prayer** |

**PCC next meetings:** Wednesday 25th October, Wednesday 22nd November