

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

## Minutes of the meeting held on

Wednesday 28 October 2020 over Zoom

### Present

Mark Newman (MN)  
 Neil Rowe (NR)  
 Ruth Atkins (RA)  
 Tamsin Gilbert (TG) – Chair for the meeting  
 Jill Rowe (JR)  
 Chrystal Poon (CP)  
 Caroline Manders (CM)  
 Charles Gaisford (CG)

Pamela Carter Moore (PCM)  
 Barney Stevens (BS)  
 Ann Southwell (AS)  
 Tim Jack (TJ)  
 Cathie Little (CL)  
 Chris Nutman (CN)  
 Danni Grady (DG)

Item			Action						
1.	<p><b>Welcome and opening prayer</b></p> <p>Tamsin opened the meeting with reading Psalm 42 v4-5 from her daily reading and Mark led in prayer.</p> <p>Apologies were noted from: Bryan Eccles and Kevin Mentzel.</p>								
2.	<p><b>Approval of minutes from last meeting</b></p> <p>The minutes of the Standing Committee meeting held on 23 September 2020 were approved as an accurate record.</p>								
3.	<p><b>Matters arising</b></p> <p>Any matters arising would be covered during the meeting.</p>								
4.	<p><b>Covid-19 related issues</b></p> <p>Church services can continue under all tier restrictions provided people remain in their own households and keep their distance from others.</p> <p><u>Options for Christmas</u></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="225 1615 1278 2018"> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="225 1615 437 1760"><u>Saturday 5 December</u></td> <td data-bbox="437 1615 970 1760"><u>Christmas crafts</u> in collaboration with Thirsty - two sessions with approx. 15 people at each.</td> <td data-bbox="970 1615 1278 1760">This was supported.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="225 1760 437 2018"><u>Saturday 12 December</u></td> <td data-bbox="437 1760 970 2018"> <p><u>Lamps production</u> – Bread and Starlight, showing it in church on the screen and giving those who can't attend the link to see it.</p> <p>DG said the church is equipped to do this and TG was also thanked</p> </td> <td data-bbox="970 1760 1278 2018"> <p>This was supported.</p> <p>Consider it being shown at the church or the community hall –</p> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<u>Saturday 5 December</u>	<u>Christmas crafts</u> in collaboration with Thirsty - two sessions with approx. 15 people at each.	This was supported.	<u>Saturday 12 December</u>	<p><u>Lamps production</u> – Bread and Starlight, showing it in church on the screen and giving those who can't attend the link to see it.</p> <p>DG said the church is equipped to do this and TG was also thanked</p>	<p>This was supported.</p> <p>Consider it being shown at the church or the community hall –</p>	
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	for what she has done to make the church Covid safe.	depends if it has to be live streamed	
<u>Saturday 19 December</u>	<u>Christmas carol 'concert'</u> with readings.  The Parish Council may be doing a similar event at the new hall. This would need coordinating.	Following discussion, it was agreed TG would link with the Parish Council to see what their plans may be, and further discussion can take place.	TG to link with the Parish Council
<u>Sunday 20 December</u>	<u>Longest night service</u> – at 4pm for those who find Christmas difficult. Short service with readings, short talk and some recorded music. Rosemary Siebert is prepared to lead this.	This was supported but will need to check is this the right day and time. The longest night is on Monday 21 December	
	<u>Doorstep carol service</u> at 6pm –		
<u>Tuesday 22 December</u>	<u>Christmas buggy service</u> at 10am	This was supported	
<u>24 December</u>	<b>Christmas Eve walk</b> (instead of a Crib service) with little stations throughout the churchyard  CL suggested in addition have prayer stations in church the week leading up to the 24 <sup>th</sup> with music playing in the background.  PCM suggested recording the choir at Garford.	This was supported  TG to discuss further with CL  TG to discuss further with PCM	TG / CL  TG /CL
	<u>Midnight communion</u> with sign-in as usual		
<u>Christmas Day service</u>	<u>Family communion</u> with sign-in as usual.		
<p>Rob Finch has ideas for engaging with the youth in the village.</p> <p>PCM suggested discussions take place with Debbie Flint about services / arrangements at Garford.</p>			TG/NR

5.	<p><b>Finance update</b></p> <p>BE and CL are working on the budget ready for November.</p> <p>Discussion took place on our response to the deanery about helping to provide a fund for churches in need due to Covid. NR questioned how many churches are in need and what is the financial deficit? CL queried what would happen if the requests do not meet what is required.</p> <p>Q1: Do we agree in principle to the Deanery setting up a Contingency Fund to support struggling parishes in our Deanery financially? ➤ This was approved.</p> <p>CL asked what contingencies the Deanery already has for churches in need. TJ responded, yes, as this is an issue already. The Deanery does not have any additional funds.</p> <p>Q2: Are we willing to sacrifice our Parish's share of the £7540 'cap' as a contribution to help establish this Fund? ➤ TJ and CM to seek further information before a decision is made and to also ask if there is any intention to re-visit the algorithm for calculating the Parish Share.</p> <p>Q3: Do we accept the proposed increase in our share for 2021, from £55,390 this year to £56,044 next year (1.2% increase). ➤ This was approved.</p>	TJ / CM
6.	<p><b>Fabric update</b></p> <p><u>Access to All Saints church</u> We have been liaising with the parish council about repairing the path and driveway (using the same materials). They have shared some quotes and we have also spoken to our architect and a contractor he knows about the options.</p> <p>We have suggested that the church might be willing to contribute to creating a soakaway in the drive to help prevent the drive washing away but will wait to review the quotes before we go any further.</p> <p><u>Road</u> NR has reported the state of the road by the church and it has been acknowledged.</p> <p><u>Lighting issues</u> (separate report form CG shared prior to the meeting). In the first instance CG suggest we try to reuse the existing mounting positions and see if we can simply refocus / align the lights to illuminate the different areas and see where changing the lamp colour would help. Also, trialling a different type of light – approx. £100 ➤ This was approved.</p>	
7.	<b>Parish Profile</b>	

	This item was deferred.	
8.	<p><b>Mission Partners update</b></p> <p>Mission partner team is at a critical point that requires PCC and probably whole church discussion.</p> <p>MN explained about our support to Send a Cow (SAC). The project we had supported has come to an end and we have been asked to support another project (supporting women and their food security) on a yearly basis or contribute to central funds (Gold Dust Fund) and SAC chose how to use the money. By supporting a project, we do get feedback on how the money is being spent. CL asked about match-funding and it works.</p> <p>Following discussion, NR agreed to see if funding could be split between the project and the Gold Dust Fund.</p> <p>Depending on the outcome of NR discussions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A) All to the project (agreed if the funding cannot be split)</li> <li>B) Split roughly in the 1/3 to Gold Dust and 2/3 to the project (agreed if the funding can be split)</li> </ul> <p>TG advised a separate discussion will be required about the future of Mission Partners.</p>	NR
9.	<p><b>Health &amp; safety / safeguarding update</b></p> <p>Risk assessments for Covid are vital at present. These are frequently monitored and updated. Safeguarding – there are several issues that we need to discuss relating to reports sent out from diocese.</p> <p>TG will circulate safeguarding information following the report on the safeguarding issue at Christ Church in Oxford. MN said this may impact on how the church approaches its pastoral care.</p>	
10.	<p>DG closed the meeting in prayer</p> <p>The meeting closed at 21:30</p>	

**The next meeting is on 25 November 2020 and will be a physical meeting**

**Date of next meetings:**

27 January 2020 (Zoom),  
24 February 2020 (in person),  
24 March (zoom)

– possible ‘away morning’ to discuss MP in Dec?