

**The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of Marcham with Garford**  
**Minutes of the Standing Committee meeting held on Wednesday 27 May 2020**

**Present**

Tamsin Gilbert (TG)  
 Bryan Eccles (BE)

Neil Rowe (NR)  
 Ruth Atkins (RA)

Item		Action
1.	<p><b>Welcome and opening prayer</b></p> <p>Please note: the meeting was held virtually via Zoom.</p> <p>TG opened the meeting in prayer.</p> <p>Apologies were received from Richard Zair.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Approval of minutes from last meeting</b></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 22 April 2020 were approved as an accurate record.</p>	
3.	<p><b>Matters arising</b></p> <p>There have been no further requests for funding from the COVID-19 fund.</p>	
4.	<p><b>COVID-19 related issues</b></p> <p>TG provided an update:</p> <p>We are still not allowed to hold any public services in the church, though authorised people can go in to pray and check on the building. We hope that by the start of July we might be able to allow people to go in for private prayer but are awaiting further guidance from the CofE.</p> <p>We all need to be praying and thinking about how things will be different as lockdown is lifted. TG and NR are very keen that services should continue to be streamed, even when we can have people in church as there will be those who cannot attend in person. As our communities work their way out of lockdown, the church needs to be asking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What can we do to help?</li> <li>• Are we listening to the questions people are asking?</li> <li>• Are we prepared for the issues that are going to arise as a result of the pandemic?</li> <li>• Do we need to consider parenting, marriage, bereavement, alpha courses online or in person?</li> </ul> <p>Agreed TG will seek views from all PCC members with a two week turnaround.</p> <p>TG advised a lone working policy for the Church.</p>	<p>TG</p> <p>TG</p>





	<p><u>Hungry</u> Information was circulated to all PCC members prior to this meeting about the vision for the planned relaunch of what used to be Village Café.</p>	
9.	<p><b>Health &amp; safety / safeguarding update</b></p> <p><u>Safeguarding</u> No new safeguarding issues to report.</p> <p><u>Health and Safety Policy</u> A draft version has been circulated to all PCC members. BE will support TG on further development of the policy to reflect what we need as a church.</p>	BE/TG
10.	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>NR reported the school has identified 15 families struggling to access the work set by the school as they only have a mobile phone at home. The cost would be £300 for each home book (laptop without a hard drive) and they would be used on a library loan basis by the school.</p> <p>Oxfordshire County Council has provided funding for six to seven home books and the Friends of Marcham School are able to fund a further two. Funding is being sought for another two from the COVID-19 fund – this was supported and approved by those present at this meeting. TG will also check this decision with Rachel Gaisford.</p> <p>NR to ask the Friends of Marcham School to complete one of the application forms for the COVID-19 fund.</p> <p>The meeting closed at: 21:37 following a closing prayer from NR.</p>	TG  NR

**The next meeting is on Wednesday 24 June 2020.**

July 22; Sept. 23; Oct. 28; Nov. 25.