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

**Minutes of the committee meeting held on**

**Wednesday 28 September 2022**

**Present**

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| Ruth Atkins (RA)  Tamsin Gilbert (TG)  Chrystal Poon (CP)  Bryan Eccles (BE)  Neil Rowe (NR) | | Rev’ d Nick Weldon (NW)  Chris Nutman (CN)  Barney Stevens (BS)  Alison Lyndon (AL)  Danni Grady (DG) | |
| **Item** |  | | **Action** |
| 1.  1.1  1.2  1.3 | **Welcome and opening prayer and Bible reading**  The meeting started at 19:55.  NW read from Hebrews 3 from verse 1 and gave his reflections.  PCC members shared their prayers and NW closed them. | |  |
| 2.  2.1 | **Apologies for absence**  Apologies were noted from: Anne Southwell, Tim Jack, Carolyn Whiting, Pamela Carter Moore, Caroline Manders and David Lunn  (John Boardman) | |  |
| 3. | **Conflicts of interest**  There were no declarations of interest. | |  |
| 4.  4.1  4.2 | **Approval of minutes from the meeting held on 27 July 2022**  Name of Insurance company is Ecclesiastical and not Ecclesiastes.  The minutes were then approved. | |  |
| 5.  5.1 | **Matters Arising**  Report from Saturday 24 September will be shared by NW before the next meeting. | |  |
| 6.  6.1  6.2  6.3  6.4  6.5  6.6  6.7  6.8  6.9  6.10  6.11  6.12  6.13 | **Church refurbishment discussion with Christian Randall**  Christian introduced himself.  Christian referred the Feasibility Study which was shared prior to the meeting. It gives the Diocese an overview of previous work and the current options looked at. Build on and make the best of what the church has.  Aims: Improving the toilets, the kitchen, storage, flooring, meeting spaces and stay within the footprint of the church.  Initially a number of options were introduced, and the pros and cons identified for each. We now have a final two options. (West end is the kitchen and toilets area and east end is near the altar).  Option 1: kitchen is against the back wall with a trolley that pulls out  Option 2: East end is the same, but kitchen is enclosed and in the area of the current one but with a servery area into the main church area. Some storage is lost.  Will investigate further what steps are hidden under the dais as this will add additional costs to the work.  TG asked about the kitchen area being re-arranged and the toilets moving to where the current storage cupboards are. This would increase costs.  CN asked if any of the proposed changes would impact on future changes to the stair access to the gallery. At present church capacity does not need the gallery to be used. Removal of the gallery would have huge cost implications.  BS asked if the single toilet could be upstairs in the gallery space and the AV team move to the other side. CR said this could be possible.  AL suggested another layout for the disabled toilet and kitchen – putting the kitchen across the back (where the current toilets are). This would mean having a single toilet upstairs. (if unsure about what this is please ask anyone who was at this meeting). CR said he would look at this option.  There is support for a fixed kitchen rather than one where a trolley would be moved out from the kitchen.  BS queried if there would be enough space for the worship group if the size of the dais is reduced. Christian will link with BS about this.  The points raised at the PCC meeting on Saturday 24 September have been shared with Christian and he will look at them for a next iteration of the plans. | |  |
| 7.  7.1  7.2 | **Garford toilet**  Christian and NR have discussed options for a toilet at the church – an outside compostable toilet (it has to be maintained and people have to go outside to use it). Cost is £20k. Other option is an internal toilet in the vestry area with a modern version of a cesspit outside (internal toilet and generally maintenance free) £30k. Both still have the challenge of needing a water supply and discussions would be needed with the farmer.  Various views from people in Garford about having a toilet at the church or asking the farmer for use of a toilet on his farm. | |  |
| 8.  8.1 | **Foundation governor vacancy**  RA is stepping back from her role as Foundation Governor and there is now a vacancy. NW and CW carry on in their roles as Foundation Governors. | |  |
| 9.  9.1 | **St. Luke’s**  Harvest service has taken place and just over 30 people attended, and a service took place on the village green on Sunday 18 September to commemorate the life of Queen Elizabeth II. | |  |
| 10. | **Safeguarding update**  There are two on-going safeguarding issues which are in hand. | |  |
| 11.  11.1  11.2 | **Health and Safety**  A couple of people have tripped over the edge of the carpet near the kitchen/play area.  Pews have been rearranged in a north facing direction – this does mean access is a little different – please be aware and help out those who are less mobile. | |  |
| 12.  12.1  12.2  12.3  12.4  12.5  12.6 | **AOB**  Finance  Cathie Little has retired from her role on the finance team.  Action: A letter of thanks to be written to Cathie.  John Scoble will be joining the finance team with Brian and John has been given some access to PCC financial information.  Still need someone on the finance team to do the bookkeeping.  The budget for next year will be discussed at the November meeting.  Mary Embleton has asked via the MML group for a contribution of £200 form their funds towards her airfare to go to Moldova. PCC agreed funding via the MML funds up to £350.  Heating in the church  Various people have made comments about the heating in the church. Although we remain on a fixed price contract, we will endeavour to be careful about usage of gas. | | NW |
| 13. | The meeting closed in prayer. | |  |
|  | The meeting closed at 21: 30 | |  |

**The next meeting is on Wednesday 26 October 2022**

The November meeting is on Wednesday 30 (not the 23rd)