

**MINUTES OF THE CHURCH SUPPORT GROUP COMMITTEE MEETING HELD  
IN YEW TREE COTTAGE, MAIN ROAD, MARGARETTING  
ON MONDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2020**

PRESENT: David Frost, Tim Lee, Penny Savill, Michael Scott and Harold Taylor

1. NOTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 18 NOVEMBER 2020

These were agreed as a correct record and signed by the chairman with the following amendment.

- Item 2 Matters Arising (iii) AGM 2020:  
'The Chelmer Room has been booked for Wednesday, 14 October.'

2. MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA

There were no matters arising.

3. CHURCH SUPPORT GROUP FINANCES AND MEMBERSHIP

Harold reported our current bank balance now stands at £1,095.40. This includes the £100 donation from Margaretting Friends and Revd Canon John Brown's membership subscription.

4. CHURCHYARD IMPROVEMENTS AND MAINTENANCE

Wildflower areas: Michael and David reported on progress being made towards establishing the wildflower areas. The seeds have been purchased and will be sown later in the year. Michael explained how he had been removing a small section of turf with an Adze cutting tool. Wildflower and beetle bank signs have been installed. It was agreed to have a bonfire to get rid of 'uncompostable' vegetation. **ACTION: M. SCOTT**

Hedges and Trees: Michael reported Patrick Wreathall has volunteered to cut back the west facing hedge. The south facing ditch is to be cleared in the Spring. **ACTION: D. FROST and M. SCOTT**

*Since the meeting the ditch has been cleared by local farmer Gary Sharp.*

Rear and front gravel paths: More shingle is required to level out the paths. **ACTION: D. FROST**

Gravestones: Resetting sunken or fallen over memorial stones is in hand. **ACTION: D. FROST and M. SCOTT**

5. CHURCH BUILDING REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

Gutters and tiles: David agreed to chase the contractor for a start date to clear, repair and/or replace the damaged gutters and down pipes. At the same time, the contractor will be asked to provide a quote to cut back the branches overhanging the chancel roof. Tim advised against asking the contractor to scrape off the moss growing on the tiles. Penny agreed to telephone Margaret Boxall to see if her grandson is still available to clear the gutters.

**ACTION: D. FROST and D. FROST**

Heating: David reported he had fixed a loose bracket supporting the heating pipe in one of the front pews.

Quinquennial inspection: The summary of recommendations was discussed. The committee identified the following work to be brought to the immediate attention of the PCC.

- Periodic electrical test inspection
- Lightning conductor test
- Steeplejack inspection of the tower and spire.

Tim agreed to bring these matters to the attention of the PCC treasurer, Martin Taylor. **ACTION: T. LEE**

It was noted the mould emerging between the floor tiles and pew platforms had been inspected by Harry Blurton, Michael and David. Harry had recommended we scrape off the mould, apply bleach and monitor the situation; he thought moisture had caused the mould, that is dampness emanating from the cracked gullies. Also, there are some blocked ventilation holes in the pews that need clearing. **ACTION: D. FROST and M. SCOTT**

Further discussion about the tasks requiring attention within eighteen months was deferred until after the meeting. It was agreed a list of tasks to be undertaken by the support group would be drawn up and the log book used to record church repairs and improvements should be given to David to bring up to date.

**ACTION: D. FROST, P. SAVILL and M. SCOTT**

6. MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL LETTERS

Letters inviting members to renew their membership will be circulated in February. A copy of Michael's annual report will be circulated with a letter and renewal form. A note, encouraging new members, will be published in the parish newsletter. **ACTION: P. SAVILL and M. SCOTT**

7. PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Tim gave a brief update on the PCC meeting held on Saturday, 25 January.

The main item of interest to the support group is a proposal to introduce a lay-led service on the first Sunday in the month. Tim will be leading this service and it will be advertised in the parish newsletter. **ACTION: T. LEE**

8. FUND RAISING

Arts Roundabout: Christine Lemmon's pupils will be performing 'Joseph' on Sunday, 1 March.

Song Cycle: This group is booked for Saturday, 11 July.

Strawberry Blonde: This booking has been postponed to Saturday, 12 September.

Church tours: No U3A tours have been requested.

Open Days: These could be combined with a flower meadow open day and invitation to try bell ringing

9. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday, 20 May 2020 at 11am in Michael's home.