



**Cathedral of St Michael & St George, Makhanda
(Grahamstown)**

Minutes of a Virtual Cathedral Parish Meeting

Date: Sunday, 31 May 2020

Time: 11h00

Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting

1. Welcome: The meeting was called to order at **11:00am** by Dean Andrew

2. Attendance:

2.1. *Present:* **12 Participants** with The Very Revd. Dr Andrew Hunter as **Chairperson**.

3. Topic of discussion: *Open discussion on re-opening the Cathedral during the Level 3 COVID-19 Lockdown*

Discussion Outcomes:

Topic	Concerns Raised	Proposed Solutions
Live Streaming services whether the cathedral re-opens or not. Using Wi-Fi and tripods for streaming in the Cathedral.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not all parishioners have Facebook for live streamed services Data Services are expensive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using YouTube live streaming Sound only broadcasting Turning down the resolution of video Seeking options for Zero-rated sites (No data required)
Re-open Cathedral	Logistics/Planning e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> setting up tables signing of records Spacing of parishioners Sanitizing of pews Thermometers not Accurate Server attendance 	Logistics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide sanitizing wipes to parishioners Hold thermometer up to 5 cm away from forehead for higher accuracy
	Singing spreads the virus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No singing during services
	Collection spreads the virus	Using electronic payment services. E.g. e-wallet
	Senior Parishioners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> They have the option not to attend Having a separate/ exclusive service for this demographic
	Turning parishioners away with the 50-member attendance cap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estimate possible attendance based on current live streaming attendance and pre-covid-19 service attendance Request parishioners to attend alternate Sundays to allow everyone a change to attend services. Pre-Booking for Cathedral services
Cathedral re-open Email Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtaining adequate feedback and participants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using WhatsApp messages and SMS services to keep Parishioners informed and to seek their inputs.

Conclusions:

Despite the expressed comments above, there was a general feeling that it is too early to re-open the Cathedral. This was a productive planning discussion for when the day comes when the Cathedral has to re-open.

Summary of Action Points:

- ✓ Seek more affordable and accessible ways to stream online services
 - ✓ Accommodate senior parishioners in services
 - ✓ Promote electronic payment methods
 - ✓ Seek more efficient ways of communication with parishioners
 - ✓ Provide a clear outline of the protocols and measures that will be taken should the Cathedral re-open – provide re-assurance.
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4. Thanks and Closure: Meeting was adjourned at 11:40am.
