

Devon Churches Rural Forum Agenda

Meeting 8th July 2020 – 10 am to 12 noon (max)

By Zoom

Timing Guide

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|---|---|----------|
| 1 | Opening Prayer | 10.00 am |
| 2 | Welcome and introductions | 10.05 am |
| 3 | Apologies | |
| 4 | Notes from the last meeting on 4 th February | 10.15 am |
| 5 | Matters and actions arising from the last meeting (not covered elsewhere on the agenda) | |

a) North Devon Show and Farm Visit August 5th with Bishop Robert – both cancelled but we will hope to re-schedule for 2021.

b) Rural Worship days

The Rural Worship Day being organised by Praxis South West on 21st November has been postponed to 2021 due to a clash of dates with the revised date for the 2020 Rural Ministries Southwest conference date.

As a follow-up from the DCRF 2019 Rural Worship Day – the Calendar of Seasonal Worship is still in preparation – delayed by recent events. Action: Penny and Chris.

6 DCRF Project Updates

a) Placements for Ordinands

There are no updates for this project since our February meeting as a result of the coronavirus hiatus. The team, led by Simon, will be looking towards 2021 for the first placements and look forward to working with Archdeacon Mark in his new role at SWMTC in due course.

b) Theology and Models of Rural Ministry - Lightening the Load.

Following the feedback at the February meeting, the shape of the document has been substantially revised and updated in the light of coronavirus. It now comprises an initial paper “A Theological Celebration of Rural Life, Ministry and Mission”

followed by a five session toolkit. The full resource is called “Lightening the Load: Freeing the church for mission” and subtitled “A resource for multi-parish rural benefices in the wake of coronavirus”. The project has been handed over to Sarah Cracknell and the Growing the Rural Church Team to enable it to be taken forward and integrated with other work streams.

You can access the [“Theological Celebration of Rural Life, Mission and Ministry” paper here](#). As noted above, the paper is integral to the sessions and the full resource, but may also have some wider standalone interest.

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| 7 | Update on Rural Crime with Martin Beck – Devon Rural Crime Officer | 10.25 am |
| 8 | Main Item – “Farming Now”

Presentation by Andrew Butler – Devon County Adviser NFU – with discussion and questions | 10.40 am |
| 9 | Notices and Events

https://www.devonchurchesruralforum.org.uk/whats-on/events-conferences-workshops/ | 11.40am |
| 10 | AOB | |
| 11 | Dates and themes of next meetings:

Monday 2 nd November, 10am-12 noon | |
| 12 | Closing Prayer | 12 noon latest |