

## **Meeting summary for March WordPress Meeting (03/13/2024)**

### **Quick recap**

Mark discussed the importance of choosing a WordPress theme that's compatible with the latest WordPress versions to avoid potential issues. He also touched on the subjects of website security and accessibility. Later in the conversation, there was a discussion about the technical aspects of WordPress, the possibility of removing a filter, and the need for regular data backups. Towards the end, Mark proposed the idea of creating a checklist for discussions and mentioned the possibility of working with Vicky and Debbie on a project.

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### **Summary**

#### **WordPress Themes and Plugins Discussed**

Mark discussed the use of WordPress themes and plugins, emphasizing the importance of choosing a theme that is compatible with the latest WordPress versions to avoid potential issues. He cautioned against modifying the WordPress theme as it can lead to problems. Mark also touched on the topics of website security and accessibility, but did not delve into these subjects in detail.

#### **Website Theme Change and Comments Discussion**

Mark raised a question about changing the theme on his website that had been installed by someone else in late 2016 or 2017. He wanted to know if this would affect the current structure where pages are organized under a main page. Deborah confirmed that this was possible depending on the developers used. There was also a discussion about the difference between spam and comments on Mark's site, with a focus on gaining credibility through links. Finally, an issue was raised where a friend's comment was saved and subsequently appeared on another post without the need for approval, which led to a discussion about setting up approval settings for comments.

#### **WordPress Installation and Filter Discussion**

The discussion was largely disjointed and unclear, making it difficult to provide a precise summary. However, it appears that Mark touched on topics such as the installation of a WordPress site, the technical aspects of how WordPress reads and interprets various elements of a webpage, and the potential of removing a filter. However, no clear decisions or action items were discernible from the provided transcript.

#### **WordPress Theme Updates and Data Backups**

Mark discussed the automatic updates of themes in WordPress, emphasizing that users can take control by disabling auto-updates if they wish. He mentioned that some themes

require a yearly fee for updates, and suggested that users should be cautious when changing their theme as it could potentially break their website. Lastly, he touched upon the importance of regular data backups.

### **Building Project With Checklist and Web Development Tools**

Mark discussed the idea of building something and suggested using the playground site. He proposed the creation of a checklist to ensure all points are covered in discussions, an idea inspired by the use of checklists in piloting. He also mentioned the possibility of working with Vicky and Debbie on a project. There was also a discussion about web development tools such as Divi and Elementor, with Mark sharing his positive experience using Genesis with Elementor. Towards the end, there was a mention of a surprise event with prizes.

### **Next steps**

- Create a checklist for new WordPress installations and modifications.
- Consider discussing the differences between various website builders and themes in future meetings.