

EDINBURGH SLATEFORD LONGSTONE PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

THE CONGREGATIONAL BOARD MET ON MONDAY 15 MARCH 2010 AT 8.00PM IN THE SESSION ROOM

Sederunt: Mesdames: Linda Anderson, Lin Baillie, Lily Campbell, Liz Chalmers, Jean Gordon, Mary Hynd, Julia Mason, Suzanne Ridloch and Angie Simpson
Messrs: Bob Anderson, Bill Edwards, Rev Michael Frew, and Crofton Palmer

Apologies: Mesdames: Sheila Ward
Messrs: Alex Campbell, Chris Campbell

The Rev Michael Frew opened with a reading from Psalm 13 and a prayer.

1 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of Meetings Monday 25 January 2010 and 8 March 2010, previously circulated, were approved.

2 Finance Report

Crofton Palmer gave a review of the income and expenditure for the year to date. The monthly accounts are now very comprehensive giving a breakdown of all accounts with funds for Church use.

Donations from Organisations - The finance group are looking to review what we received from congregational organisations.

Life & Work Magazine - The finance group have agreed to change the billing of Life & Work to quarterly for those who receive it as we have to pay our account quarterly too.

Gas & Electric - This will be changed to the recommended supplier, Scottish Hydro, on the 1st of April 2010.

Benevolent Fund - Rev Mike Frew has received an offer from someone who is joining the congregation to set up a benevolent fund and donate a sum of £1000. After discussion, the board feel it may not be appropriate. It may be better to look at how the Hutton Trust could be dealt with quicker and promoted better.

Annual Report 2009 - The Independent Examiner has made some small changes to our annual report and these have been reprinted for the main copies only. The changes will be highlighted at the SAM on 21 March 2010.

Risk Management - The Independent Examiner also suggested we have a risk management policy and reserves policy. The finance group will look into this.

Independent Examiner Costs - We need to think about the costs of the Independent Examiner and whether we need to continue or not. The finance group will investigate this.

Funeral & Wedding Charges - The finance group will look into what the recommended costs for these are and determine if we need to review them.

3 Property Report

Tiles in toilets - Thanks to Bob Anderson for repairing the tiles in both the ladies and gents toilets.

Kitchen Boiler - Thanks also to Dougie Bald for repairing the Hydro boiler in the kitchen.

Immersion Heater - The hot water in the toilet tap is very hot. It would appear that the thermostat may be too high and may need to be turned down. It was also suggested we turn off the immersion for the summer and turn it on again in the winter, since it is on constantly whenever the mains supply is switched on. The board agreed.

Memorial Garden - Bill Melville's two sons have offered to look after this.

Church Grounds - Dougie Bald is no longer able to cut the grass. Jean Gordon has offered to get quotes to have this done by a company.

Group Room - Thanks to Ian Brown who has recently painted the group room.

Exterior Rendering - Various points of the activity hall and above the windows and the wall at the manse need to be repaired. Quotes to be obtained by the property group.

Manse Report

Study - Redecoration cost will be £390. The board agreed.

Flat Roof - There is a hole in the flat roof of the extension. It will cost £300.44 to repair. The board agreed.

5 Correspondence

City Council – The Council now have statutory powers to enforce the designation of disabled parking in all car parks. We have been asked if we want to have disabled spaces marked out and signs put up. The board did not want to do this at this time. The board did suggest we should have some markings to keep the area at the back door clear for all access.

Law Dept - We have been advised that we should always take on board all bequests. This was noted by the board.

6 Any Other Business

SAM - Jim Byers will attend to present the accounts. Rev Mike Frew will present the report and give some information regarding the misappropriated funds. Pending legal advice, Suzanne Riddoch will give a report on how the board have dealt with the financial situation. Bill Edwards and Alex Campbell both wish to retire from the board at this time. The board thanked Alex and Bill for their contribution over the years. Rev Mike Frew has agreed to approach Denise and Ian Brown to see if either of them would like to join the board.

Guild - The Guild asked if they could investigate the cost of a portable induction loop. The board agreed.

Hall Lets - It was suggested we review the charges for letting the hall and rooms. The current charges are:

Small - £14/hour

Large - £20/hour

Lighthouse Chapel - £15/hour - specially negotiated.

The board agreed to increase the charges by 3% with immediate effect.

Fundraisers - Fees apply to all for fundraisers except when it is to raise funds for church funds. The board agreed.

Private Booking - Angie Simpson has advised that we have a private booking worth £400 in April. Many requests for bookings have been received since the web site was set up. There is also the possibility of a drama school starting up after the summer.

Lighthouse Chapel - Angie Simpson will discuss the issues raised with them.

7 Date of Next Meeting

This being all the business, the date of the next meeting was fixed for Monday 15 May 2010 at 7:00pm for Committees and 8:00pm in the Session Room for Board.

The meeting was closed at 9:35pm with each blessing the others.

JULIA H MASON
Clerk to Congregational Board

REV. MICHAEL W FREW
Chairman

The next meeting of the Congregational Board of Edinburgh Slateford Longstone Parish Church of Scotland will be held on Monday 15 May 2010 at 7:00pm for Committees and 8:00pm in the Session Room for the Board
