

EDINBURGH SLATEFORD LONGSTONE PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

THE CONGREGATIONAL BOARD MET ON MONDAY 21 May 2012 AT 8.00PM IN THE SESSION ROOM

Present: Bob Anderson, Lin Baillie, Lily Campbell, Liz Chalmers, Ros Fraser, Rev Mike Frew (Chair), Mary Hynd, Sheila McCrum, Suzanne Riddoch, Michael Taylor, Sheila Ward

Apologies: Dennise Brown, Jean Gordon, Crofton Palmer, Angie Simpson, Ian Welsh

The Rev Mike Frew opened the meeting with a Bible reading and a prayer

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting on 19th March 2012 were approved with a couple of minor corrections: An additional £400 was required for the engineer's fee for the sun lounge, not £800 and the water rates charge was £2818.06 not £2,600.

3 Finance

The Finance committee reported that we over budgeted slightly for **weekly offerings** but with overall donations, including an unrestricted donation of £600, we were currently on budget.

Overall expenditure is under what had been budgeted for.

£252 was paid for **organ and piano tuning**. The 3 pianos had been tuned twice a year but with some discussion with the piano tuner it was agreed that 2 pianos would move to once a year but the piano in the Session Room would still require to be tuned twice a year.

The **sun lounge** in the manse is completed and all paid for with money from our reserve funds and the grant previously awarded.

The Property Committee requested a breakdown of what has been paid out on the church and the manse before the meeting so they can discuss what jobs can be afforded. Liz will email to Mike on a regular basis who will distribute to the committee.

Caledonian Glazing were unable to fix the **tower window** at their cost of £55 so it cost £78 through another company so we will avoid using them again.

A new fan has been fitted in the kitchen.

The **Gift Day** brought in a credible £2855 given that the day had not been well publicised. In future the day will be advertised in the Kirk News, envelopes will be available on the Sunday before and we will not hold it at the same time as Christian Aid or other similar fundraising events. The donations will go towards the £3000 payment for Ministry and Missions costs.

Liz Chalmers is still following up whether we are due to pay **water rates** as churches are supposed to be exempt. The bill has been put on hold for the time being.

The Finance Committee have offered to organise, with help from the Board, a **coffee morning** and table sale to raise funds for general purposes. It will be held on Saturday 22nd September. There will be tea, coffee, bacon and sausage rolls, a craft activity, face painting and a nearly new clothing stall.

4 Property Church and Halls -

The **cracked rendering** is still to be fixed. The work is due to be started around 20th June. Ros and Michael carried out an inspection of the buildings and noticed the ceiling in the ladies toilets needs repaired. The plasterer from Scott & Davie who is due to attend to the cracked rendering will be asked for a quote. Bob Anderson is willing to co-ordinate a team of volunteers from the congregation and organisations to paint the **activities hall**. It was thought the best time to do this would be 17th and 18th August. After this is done, quotes will be sought for varnishing the floor.

Small jobs which are required are a handle broken on a **radiator**, the **slab** covering access to the drain at the main gate needs attention, a **broken window** in the church, a **lock** on the back door and **bolt** on the gate to the Memorial garden to be fixed. Bob Anderson offered to look at the bolt, and Mike Frew will attempt to repair the lock

It seems the **Memorial garden** has not had any work done on it so Mike will speak to Real Life Options about the work they had promised to do.

Manse –

There is some **snagging** to be corrected in the sun lounge. There are some gaps in the windowsills and Mike requested permission to have **blinds** installed for the big windows. The Board agreed and Mike will get two quotes. Mike and Maggie expressed their thanks to the Board for the work on the sun lounge. The quality of the work from start to finish was excellent and it is now very comfortable to sit in.

The **chimney** is still to be repaired.

5 National Stewardship Programme

Nothing to report

6 Hall Lets

The Lighthouse Chapel have requested they set up a standing order of £600 per month instead of Angie making up a new bill each month. This was agreed by the Board as long as the Lighthouse Chapel still inform Angie when they intend to be on the premises and keep to arranged time. This will be trialled for 6 months.

7 Report from Session

Rita Welsh has stated her intention to attend a Mission-Shaped Ministry course which will run for 6 months mostly on a Saturday. Session would like to support Rita by funding the course at a cost of £100, the Board agreed.

8 Correspondence

Betty Bald had expressed her concerns that a number of items had gone missing from the church; a dyson vacuum cleaner, a kettle, towels and some saucers. It appears that the doors are regularly being left unlocked and anyone can enter the buildings. There are a lot of organisations with a lot of people having keys which makes it harder on security. Mike offered to look into the cost of an electronic door security system which would restrict access more effectively

9 Any Other Business

The contract on the photocopier was due to finish on 12th June but will now be extended for another 6 months to let the City Council put the contract out for tender.

9 Date of Next Meeting

The dates of the next meetings are as follows:

Monday 18th June 2012

This being all the business the meeting was closed at 9.20pm with each blessing the others.