

EDINBURGH SLATEFORD LONGSTONE PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

THE CONGREGATIONAL BOARD MET ON MONDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2014 AT 8.00PM IN THE SESSION ROOM

Present: Lin Baillie, Nathan Baillie, Dennise Brown, Liz Chalmers, Alison Fairley, Rev Mike Frew (Chair), Ros Fraser, Mary Hynd, Crofton Palmer, Suzanne Riddoch, Michael Taylor, Ian Welsh

Apologies: Jean Gordon, Yvonne Paterson, Angie Simpson,

The Rev Mike Frew welcomed everyone along with Tom Kisitu to the meeting and opened with a Bible reading and a prayer.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meetings held on 9th December were approved.

3 Finance

There was a small surplus of £693 at the end of the year. With monies carried forward from the previous year we had £9,052 in the bank. It was suggested we should move some of this balance into an account that will earn us interest and enable us to work within our budget constraints. It was agreed this was a good idea and we should explore the possibility at our next meeting when we can see how finances are going this year. Liz Chalmers agreed to look into whether there is a recommended amount we should hold in our general account.

The figures look good at the moment but we have to take into account that the Lighthouse Chapel pay us quarterly so there will be no income from them in February and March. The current budget for our Ministries and Missions is £31,852 but this has been reduced by Presbytery to £30,040. This has enabled us to reduce our ambitious fundraising goal. Liz received letters from both Johnston Smillie and Hollis Accounting with confirmation that Hollis Accounting are now our auditors. Liz will note the income and expenditure in the weekly notices once a month on Communion Sunday starting in April.

4 SAM – Sunday 23rd March after the morning service. Lin will check which Board members are due to renew their three year commitment and ask them whether they are willing to continue

5 Property

Church and Halls – Bryan Baillie will give a tutorial to the beadles on how to test the **fire alarms** on Tuesday 25th. Garvald have started work in the **memorial garden** and it is starting to look good. Frank Gordon has temporarily repaired the frame on the outside of the **kitchen window** but both are showing signs of rotting. It was agreed the property committee will get two quotes for the whole windows to be replaced. Elite have offered to paint the radiators in the activities hall free of charge. JM Builders did what they could with the **rendering** at the top of the **tower**, Elite will see if they can fix the rest without the use of scaffolding. A temporary repair has been made to the valley gutter in the flat roof. Quotes have been received from John Brazil of £398 and JM Builders of £485 for a long term repair to the **gutter and two downpipes**. The Board agreed to ask John Brazil to carry out the work. Non urgent work that the property committee would like to carry out are the replacement of the front door and new lights in the church. It was agreed that the committee should obtain two quotes for the lighting in the church and this would be discussed at the next meeting.

Manse – There are no issues regarding the manse. Before the next meeting the property committee will meet at the manse to carry out the annual inspection.

6 National Stewardship Programme

Coffee morning and auction of talents arranged for Saturday 1st March, 10.00 until 12.00pm

7 Hall Lets

Scallywags Nursery, based in Longstone Road, have asked if they can use our halls as an extra place of safety in an emergency evacuation. This was agreed by the Board as long as our facilities meet with their health and safety requirements. Angie Simpson will provide a set of

keys. Cathy from the Salvation Army has requested that the start date for the food bank be delayed by a couple of weeks due to illness.

8 Action Plan More census information has been released so Mike updated the mission audit report and provided copies. These will be discussed at the planned joint meeting with Session

9 Report from Session

Nothing to report from Session

10 Correspondence

No correspondence

11 Any Other Business

- The Gift Day will be flagged up in the March issue of Kirk News and will be advertised again in the June edition

10 Date of Next Meeting

The dates of the next meetings are as follows:

3rd March 2014 (7pm for an hour before Session meeting to approve accounts and discuss possible feasibility study on the church buildings)

7th April 2014 (Property committee to meet at the manse at 6.30pm)

16th June 2014

Mondays at 8pm with committees meeting at 7.15pm

This being all the business the meeting was closed at 9.10pm with each blessing the others.