

## **EDINBURGH SLATEFORD LONGSTONE PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

### **THE CONGREGATIONAL BOARD MET ON MONDAY 16 JUNE 2014 AT 8.00PM IN THE SESSION ROOM**

**Present:** Lin Baillie, Nathan Baillie, Liz Chalmers, Alison Fairley, Ros Fraser, Rev Mike Frew (Chair), Mary Hynd, Crofton Palmer, Suzanne Riddoch, Angie Simpson, Ian Welsh

**Apologies:** Dennise Brown, Claire Fleming, Michael Taylor

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

#### **2 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> April were approved.

#### **3 Messy Church**

During Mike's study leave he investigated Messy Church. Mike showed us a short film about Messy Church and provided a report he had written. Mike informed the Board that there were five principles to Messy Church: Hospitality, Creativity, All-age, Celebration and Christ-centred. Messy Church would be an alternative, fresh approach to a Sunday morning service with families encouraged to attend on either a Friday afternoon/evening or a Saturday afternoon. It is expected a meeting would be held once a month. There would need to be an initial outlay for publicity; leaflets, posters and expenses for craft items and food. Mike mentioned there are two options for grants; the Presbytery Mission fund and the Go For It fund that he is willing to apply for and the Board agreed that £250 from the proceeds of the coffee morning and table sale will be donated towards the set up costs. We will add Messy Church to budgetary costs in future years for ongoing costs. Mike asked for anyone to think about it then let him know if they were interested in helping out. It is hoped that the first event will be held before Christmas and then monthly for a trial period till Easter 2015

#### **4 Finance**

There are no urgent financial worries at the moment as there are no outstanding bills and no major work waiting to be carried out and there has been little expenditure lately. Hall lets are slightly up on budget and gas and electricity expenses have gone down slightly. The electricity contract runs out in March 2016 and the gas contract runs out in March 2017. Ministry and Missions payments are up to date and Presbytery dues are to be paid now. At the end of May the balance in the general account was £6430. Real Life Options have still not paid the outstanding bill for the use of the premises for meetings. Angie will now phone to tell them they are no longer free to use the premises for meetings although they can still keep the keys for use in an emergency evacuation situation. The Gift Day is scheduled for 21<sup>st</sup> June. Suzanne has organised envelopes and will provide refreshments. The date for the coffee morning and table sale was changed to Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2014. This will be advertised in Kirk News and the weekly notices.

#### **5 Property**

**Manse** – D Bald serviced the **central heating** and had to replace the pump. There is a small leak in the new extension but this is still under warranty so will be repaired with no charge.

**Church and Halls** – Niven Baillie from HF has provided two quotes of £795 and £480 for different ways to supply and fit new **lights for the main church** and to lower the lights above the pulpit and organ so bulbs can be replaced without the use of scaffolding in the future. The Board agreed to go for the cheaper option. Niven replaced one of the **emergency lighting covers** as there had been water in it - the cause had been identified and repaired. Frank Gordon has provided a quote of £900 for replacing the two **kitchen windows** which are rotting and the Board agreed that if the quote would stand for a few months that we

should delay this until there are more funds available. John Brazil (roofer) has repaired the **flat roof** and Mike will ask JM Builders to look at the **downpipe** outside the garden store. Ian Welsh will remove the **box behind the letterbox** at the Lancas door as it is believed this would hinder an emergency evacuation. Ian has also agreed to make the **noticeboard** for the front window of the church entrance. The **lawnmower** was repaired at a cost of £86.00, thanks to Angie Simpson for a donation towards this. During heavy rain the **drain in the car park** overflows. It was agreed to get Dyno Rod out to clear it. Mike will try to find out if Real Life Options are liable to some of the cost as it is a shared car park.

## **6 National Stewardship Programme**

Nothing to report

## **7 Hall Lets**

Angie Simpson has sent out letters to organisations with changes in hall let fees. Angie has had interest in a long term let on Thursday evenings after the Brownies. The music group are reviewing their let for another year and there have been a couple of private lets.

## **8 Action Plan**

Mike has emailed for a property convenor via the Presbytery skills exchange service but has had no response as yet. Ian Welsh is making a noticeboard for the side window at the front door. Mike has also studied Messy Church during his study leave.

## **9 Report from Session**

Nothing to report other than we are still two elders short on the Board, this will be discussed at the next Kirk Session

## **10 Correspondence**

Nothing to report

## **11 Any Other Business**

**Door duty** – Mike has noted that the door duty team are not always tidying up the books in the back of the seats or removing all of the orders of service to be put into recycling so reminded those on teams of the need to do this to keep the church looking tidy and welcoming

**Spring clean** – We have not had a spring clean for a while so we will arrange one at our next meeting

## **12 Date of Next Meeting**

The dates for the next coming year were agreed as follows:

8<sup>th</sup> September 2014

20<sup>th</sup> October 2014

8<sup>th</sup> December 2014

16<sup>th</sup> February 2015

20<sup>th</sup> April 2015

15<sup>th</sup> June 2015

Mondays at 8pm with committees meeting at 7.15pm

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