

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

### **THE CONGREGATIONAL BOARD MET ON MONDAY 8 DECEMBER 2014 AT 8.00PM IN THE SESSION ROOM**

**Present:** Lin Baillie, Nathan Baillie, Dennise Brown, Liz Chalmers, Rev Mike Frew (Chair), Mary Hynd, Crofton Palmer, Yvonne Paterson, Angie Simpson

**Apologies:** Alison Fairley, Ros Fraser, Suzanne Riddoch, Ian Welsh

Mike welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with a reading and a prayer

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

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> October were approved subject to a couple of minor amendments

#### **3 Finance**

**General income** Expenditure is going to exceed our income by around £1807. Standing orders are down by £160 due to loss of members and the Give As You Earn scheme cutting back. There are enough funds in the bank to cover the excess. Liz provided us with a breakdown of donations received through hall lets, there is still some money due from a few of the organisations and Liz will chase them up in the hope that the money will be in our account by the end of December. The Sunday Club and Laser Group have been using their own funds to pay for **educational resources**. This should be covered by the congregation. Yvonne has said £80 will be ample and June would be a good time for it to be made available. The Board agreed. This will mean any money collected from the children can all be donated to Present Aid. The Finance Committee agreed that we will need to make an extra effort with **fundraising** next year. It was agreed to hold a coffee morning in May and also to advertise in the weekly notices for anyone to put forward some fresh ideas for fundraising. A suggestion box will be placed at the back of the church. It was also decided that any Gift Day should have a set purpose for raising money. Liz took us through the **proposed budget** for 2015 noting that there is no entry for Messy Church as it is hoped this will be self-funding through the coffee morning donation and a grant. It was reported that Edinburgh Presbytery had agreed a £3000 reduction in our Ministries and Mission Contribution, to help us towards the cost of replacing the front doors and the remaining three windows at the front of the halls building. The proposed budget was approved. We will now have a joint meeting with Kirk Session on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2015 to fully approve the budget. Thanks were expressed to Liz and Crofton for their work on the budget.

Liz Chalmers informed the Board that our **HMRC** on-line account has been set up, the fine of £400 incurred from HMRC has been cancelled and that the cleaner is happy to be paid monthly starting in January. Thank you to Liz and Angie for setting this up.

**4 Appointment of Clerk** – Lin is stepping down as Clerk to the Board at the SAM in March. Mike suggested forming a small committee to share the responsibility of appointing a new clerk. Unfortunately no-one came forward so Mike asked if he and Lin could meet and come up with names then Mike would approach them. This was agreed

#### **5 Property**

**Manse** – All work that was to be done at the manse has been completed. The **annual inspection** will be carried out by the Fabric Committee in April and the **central heating service** is due in the spring.

**Church and Halls** – The **broken tiles** on the roof have been replaced and the **stolen lead** has been replaced by heavy felt. The **drains** on the roof will be cleared of leaves twice a year by Mike and Nathan instead of JM Builders, on this occasion Angie will chase up Elite as the **rendering on the tower** is still to be repaired. The replacement of the **3 windows** at the

front of the buildings will be replaced in 2015 and the **front door** also needs replaced. Mike agreed to get quotes from 2 different companies, Elite and City Glazing, for our next meeting in February. We will spread the cost of these two jobs over the year after the Gift Day. The **Dyson vacuum cleaner** needs to be repaired. Mike agreed to take it to the shop and Crofton offered to cover the cost.

## **6 National Stewardship Programme**

Next year's campaign is about the stewardship of money. The committee met and recommended to the Board that we hold a coffee morning alongside a Gift Day, towards the replacement of the front doors. This was agreed, and will take place on Saturday 14 March, 10.00am - 12.00pm Mike's talks at the Over 50s and Guild will cover stewardship of money. Everyone at these meeting and on Sunday mornings will be given leaflets and a questionnaire/worksheet on this topic

## **7 Hall Lets**

Angie Simpson advised that Daisy Music are revising their position as the take up has not been as it was hoped. There are two parties booked for January. Architects have been in touch as they want to display plans for the redevelopment of the Longstone Shopping centre. The display will not need to be manned.

## **8 Action Plan**

Nothing to report

## **9 Report from Session**

The congregation has been cited to appear at the Presbytery meeting when the Basis of Reviewable Charge will be decided on. It's normal practice for at least a token group of elders to make an appearance. Mike will be there anyway and Rita Welsh is planning to attend but it would be good if anyone else could attend. Dennise Brown said she would check and hopefully be able to attend.

## **9 Correspondence**

None

## **10 Any Other Business**

**Attendance at committee meetings** – Mike suggested moving towards a unitary constitution where the functions of Kirk Session and Congregational Board are brought together as one governing body. This set up is being used by more and more congregations. We will discuss this again at a further meeting.

**Audit** – Crofton and Yvonne will again carry out the audit of organisation accounts. Lin will send letters to the organisations asking them to bring their accounts to Crofton and Yvonne after the Sunday service on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2015.

**Messy Church** – is replacing Take Away club. 50% of funds left in the Take Away account will be passed to Messy Church, the remaining 50% will be donated to the general fund of the congregation

**Tom Kisitu** – Tom is leaving us on 31<sup>st</sup> January after a year's placement. It was agreed to give the congregation the opportunity to contribute towards a gift for him. Leaflets will be placed into the notices and it is hoped that the gift will be presented on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February.

## **11 Date of Next Meeting**

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

16<sup>th</sup> February 2015

2<sup>nd</sup> March, 7pm – joint meeting with Board and Session to approve 2015 budget

22<sup>nd</sup> March – Stated Annual Meeting

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.