

**EDINBURGH SLATEFORD LONGSTONE PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
THE KIRK SESSION MET ON MONDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2013 AT 7.45PM IN THE SESSION ROOM**

Sederunt: Mesdames L Baillie, D Brown, S Davidson, A Fairley, M Fulton, J Gordon, M Hynd, M Marshall, S Riddoch, S Taylor, S Ward and R Welsh
Messrs C Campbell, Rev M Frew and I Welsh

Apologies: Mesdames B Bald and J Fox.
Mr I Welsh

The minister opened the meeting with a reading from Romans 8: 28-39 and a prayer.

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** The minutes of meeting Monday 13 May 2013, previously circulated, were approved.
2. **Communion Roll:** Session noted
 - a) Deaths: Alistair MacDonald, Blenham House, Calder Road, Edinburgh
 - b) Additions: Jennifer Gill, 24/4 Kingsknowe Place, Edinburgh, EH14 2EH (by resolution)
 - c) Removals: Helen Carruthers, 13 Avontoun Park, Linlithgow
 - d) Change of Address: Nil

Safeguarding Congregational Register: The clerk presented the Safeguarding Congregational Register noting there are 38 current names on the register and 7 removals. Names removed are Kelly Evans, Joan Rhodes, Julia Riddoch, Kirsty McAdam, Carol Edwards, Sheila McCrum and Margaret Tully. The register was approved by Session.

3. Minister's Report

Helen Carruthers: The minister reported that Helen Carruthers has decided to attend a more local church, since she now lives in Linlithgow. He recommended that Session record its gratitude to her for the significant contribution she has made during her time at Slateford Longstone. The clerk was instructed to write to her in similar vein.

134th Scout Group: The minister reported that the Scout Group had been disbanded, and that its members had gone to other groups. The regional commissioner has negotiated with the Hall Lets convener for the continued use, at a small charge, of storage space for some remaining equipment.

Communion Arrangements: The minister reported that Betty Bald had indicated that she wishes to stand down from her role as organiser of the monthly Communion services. She is willing to continue until a replacement elder is identified.

Fire Safety: A new fire alarm system and emergency lighting have been installed over the summer. According to regulations, the alarm system should be checked weekly and this will be the responsibility of the beadles.

Hutton Trust: It was reported the Trustees of The Hutton Trust are considering a change to our constitution to enable us to broaden out the terms so that we can offer assistance to others who may not live in the parish or the local school catchment area.

Trussell Trust: The Trussell Trust is setting up a West Edinburgh Food Bank and we would like to link on with this to become a distribution point. We are looking for a pool of 8 people to work on a rota basis. Session approved the support of the Trussell Trust.

Minister in Israel: The minister will be in Israel this coming weekend for his last board meeting of the Nazareth Trust.

4. Local Churches Review

Mission Audit: Rita Welsh talked us through what would be involved to carry out a Mission Audit. Rita talked us through the paper that had been prepared. It was suggested we form a group of 3-4 people who would work together to do this.

Rita and the minister want to be involved in the group and it was agreed we approach Lily Campbell and Elizabeth Strong who may be interested due to their involvement with the Community Council. Janette Pollock may also be interested in assisting as a source of information.

Session went through the list of proposed actions and agreed what we would progress with. The minister will paste these into our response document for Presbytery and referrals will be made to the Board for some matters.

5. Pastoral Care

Bereavement Elders: Bereavement Elders will remain in contact for up to 2 years after a bereavement.

New Elders: Helen Carruthers had agreed to be Children and Families Elder (this was reported prior to Helen's decision to move to a church nearer her home), but this post will now be vacant

Sharon Taylor has agreed to take on the role of vice convener of the Worship committee and has taken on a few extra pastoral care visits.

Dennise Brown has agreed to take on more pastoral care visits.

6. Worship Committee

Harvest Service: A Harvest Service will be held at the end of September with a collection for The Trussell Trust. All organisations, whatever age, are to be invited to attend and it will be an All Age Service. Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Over 50s Sunday Club and Lazer Group to be invited.

7. Board Report

Financial Situation: As reported to the congregation we are in poor financial position and need an increase of around 16% in current offerings to keep us on track to meet our financial commitments.

8. Presbytery Report

Congregations Leaving Church of Scotland: The minister reported that 3 congregations in Edinburgh have indicated their minister and part of their congregation wish to leave Church of Scotland due to the General Assembly decision on Same Sex and the Ministry.

9. Correspondence

Nothing to report.

10. Any Other Business

Nothing to report.

11. Date of Next Meeting

This was fixed for Monday 4 November 2013 at 7.00pm to be held in the Session Room.

This being all the business the meeting closed at 8.30pm with each blessing the others.

SUZANNE E RIDDOCH
Session Clerk

REV. MICHAEL W FREW
Moderator

KIRK SESSION AGENDA FOR MONDAY 4 NOVEMBER 2013 at 7.30pm IN THE SESSION ROOM

1. Opening devotions
2. Apologies for absence
3. Communion Roll
4. Minister's Report
5. Local Churches Review Update on Actions
6. General Assembly Instruction
7. Board Report
8. Presbytery Report
9. Any Other Business
10. Date of next meetings