

**EDINBURGH SLATEFORD LONGSTONE PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND  
THE KIRK SESSION MET ON MONDAY 4 NOVEMBER AT 8.00PM IN THE SESSION ROOM**

**Sederunt:** Mesdames L Baillie, b Bald, D Brown, S Davidson, M Fulton, J Gordon, M Hynd, M Marshall, S Riddoch, S Taylor and S Ward  
Messrs C Campbell and Rev M Frew

**Apologies:** Mesdames A Fairley, J Fox and R Welsh.  
Mr I Welsh

The minister opened the meeting with a reading from Psalm 46 and a prayer.

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** The minutes of meeting Monday 2 September 2013, previously circulated, were approved.
2. **Communion Roll:** Session noted
  - a) Deaths: Mrs Nancy Anderson, 17 Easter Currie Crescent, Edinburgh  
Mrs Dorothy McDonald, 30 Claycott Park, Ladywell Avenue, Edinburgh  
Mr John Thomas, Braeside Care Home, Calder Road, Edinburgh
  - b) Additions: Nil
  - c) Removals: Mrs Ereene Millan, 53 South Gyle Gardens, Edinburgh – by Certificate
  - d) Change of Address: Nil

### 3. Minister's Report

**Guides:** The moderator intimated that the Girl Guides group is no longer able to meet because it lacked leaders. The Brownies and Rainbow groups continue.

**Communion Organiser:** Betty Bald clarified that she does not want to give up as Communion organiser but she would like back up that she could call upon in the event that she was unable to get to Church one Sunday. There were no volunteers at the moment but Elders were asked to consider if they could assist and let Betty know.

**Hutton Trust:** The moderator read extracts from the proposed changes to the constitution and Session agreed to these changes.

The current Deed of Declaration of Trust states inter alia:

*"... the funds shall be applied within the Slateford Longstone Parish boundary area and the local education catchment area; Particular consideration shall be given to the aged and unemployed... "*

We wish to change this to read:

*"... the funds shall be applied within the parish area, to members of the congregation in need and to those families whose children attend one of the schools in the parish; in addition there will be no residency requirement for applications for assistance from the food bank..."*

The reason we wish to make the changes are as follows:

*The parish boundary has changed in the years since the Hutton Trust was founded. The current restriction means that we cannot offer assistance in the relief of poverty to those who live beyond the parish boundary, even though they may be members of the congregation in need. As a consequence, there are few applications for assistance.*

*We wish to partner with the Trussell Trust and the Salvation Army, who are establishing a food bank in the Gorgie district of Edinburgh; in particular our own church is expected to become a satellite distribution centre. The Hutton Trust would currently be unable to assist in financing this, as we would have to ask Trussell Trust voucher holders if they reside in the parish before offering a food parcel, thus potentially causing considerable distress*

*Parish boundaries have little relevance to people's lives in the 21st century, and "Local education catchment area", the term used in the current Deed of Declaration, is imprecise as it does not state whether the catchment area referred to is of the primary school or secondary school (which is not in the parish).*

**Food Bank:** Some of our volunteers for the Trussell Trust food bank were able to attend a recent training session. It is hoped that the food bank will open soon

**Christmas Services:** The moderator suggested we hold Christmas services at the following times:

3.00pm, 8 December – Memorial Carol Service

10.30am Sunday 22 December – All-Age Christmas Service, plus social after the service. Mary Hynd and Dennise Brown agreed to organise the catering for this.

11.00pm for 11.30pm Tuesday 24 December – Watchnight Service. Betty Bald and Sheila Ward agreed to organise the catering for tea and mince pies before the Service.

10.30am Wednesday 25 December – Christmas Day Service.

Session approved these arrangements.

There has not yet been a request from the Corn Exchange for carol-singing at their events, but there is the possibility of doing so in the new Sainsbury's store. An enquiry has been made with Sainsbury's and we await a

response. If we do either or both of these it was agreed we would collect monies for Bethany Christian Trust Night Shelter work.

**Parish Christmas Card:** Details for the Parish Christmas Card are to be passed to Sandra Davidson no later than 24 November.

**Christian Resources Exhibition:** This takes place at Ingliston on 27th and 28th November. Free tickets are available from the Bible Society, and the moderator asked if any elders would be interested in going as a group

**Community Council:** The moderator needs to be re-elected to the Council, and asked if 2 elders would be willing to nominate him. This was done at the end of the meeting by 2 Elders who live in the area ,

**Julia Lewandowska:** Julia was with us on placement a few years ago. On 3 November she preached as nominee at Kirkwall: East Church; unfortunately bad weather prevented her from travelling to the linked congregation of Shapinsay but it was hoped she will preach there on 10 November

#### **4. Local Churches Review**

**Mission Audit:** The group has met and some contact has been made with local organisations for information and the group meet again this coming week to pull together information gathered. It is hoped there will be a report available for January Session meeting.

#### **5. Pastoral Care**

The group met to review the current system as it has now been in place for a year. It was generally felt that the system is good and working but a few improvements are still required.

#### **6. Worship Committee**

Nothing to report

#### **7. Board Report**

**Offerings:** Offerings have increased since the appeal made in July.

**Elder for Board:** One Elder still required to serve on the Board. Any volunteers should let the Clerk know.

**Minutes and Financial Reports:** Elders are to receive emails or copies of both in future.

#### **8. Presbytery Report**

**St David's Broomhouse:** Someone is preaching as sole nominee in 2 weeks' time.

**Mission Partners:** George and Margaret Shand leave Jerusalem in January 2014 and moving to the Tinto Parish Churches

**Independence Referendum:** Churches Parliamentary Office have been offering a Referendum Forum. We will approach them to see if we can organise something for our local area.

**Justice for Bangladeshi Garment Workers:** Highlighting a campaign to encourage people buying cotton goods to send a letter to the manager of the store to enquire if workers are treated fairly etc. A leaflet is available with more information.

**A Place at the Table:** The current Moderator of the General Assembly is interested in the work of National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon, and is publicising an initiative to encourage people to set an extra place at their table then donating the cost of the meal not served towards the work of the Synod in providing basic essentials to Syrians displaced because of the current civil war.

#### **9. Any Other Business**

Nothing to report.

#### **10. Date of Next Meeting**

This was fixed for Monday 13 January 2014 at 7.00pm to be held in the Session Room.

This being all the business the meeting closed at 8.35pm with each blessing the others.

**SUZANNE E RIDDOCH**  
Session Clerk

**REV. MICHAEL W FREW**  
Moderator

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**KIRK SESSION AGENDA FOR MONDAY 13 JANUARY 2014 at 7.00pm 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 – Mission Audit
6. Pastoral Care
7. Worship Committee
8. Board Report
9. Presbytery Report
10. Correspondence
11. Any Other Business
12. Date of next meetings