

**EDINBURGH SLATEFORD LONGSTONE PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
THE KIRK SESSION MET ON MONDAY 2 MARCH 2015 AT 7.30PM 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 and S Ward
Messrs C Campbell and Rev M Frew

Apologies: Mesdames L Campbell, J Fox and R Welsh

The minister opened the meeting with a reading from Psalm 25 and a prayer

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting: The minutes of meeting Monday 12 January 2015, previously circulated, were approved.

2. Communion Roll: Session noted

a) Deaths: Archie Wright, Longstone Park, Edinburgh (25/01/15)
Doreen Duncan, Longstone Grove, Edinburgh (07/02/15)

b) Additions: Nil

c) Removals: Nil

d) Change of Address: Nil

Annual Statistics: Annual Statistics as follows were submitted to Presbytery in January 2015

Communion Roll as at 1.1.14	225	
Additions		
Profession of Faith	1	226
Removals		
Death	6	
Communion Roll as at 31.12.14		220 + 2 adherents

Roll changes were homologated by Session

Safeguarding Congregational Register: The Register was presented for review and now contains 17 names with 14 removals at end of 2014. Removals were Marion Ruth Alexander, Elizabeth Bald, Chris Campbell, Elizabeth Chalmers, Sandra Davidson, Alice Fergus, Marion Fulton, Rosalind Lennie, Catherine McCulloch, Norma Morris, Brenda Palmer, Elizabeth Riddoch, Jean Taylor and Nora Williamson.

4. Minister's Report

Music Leader: The minister indicated that the Congregational Board had at its last meeting discussed the position of the music leader, who is still signed off due to her broken wrist. The Board had agreed to pay the usual salary till the end of April, whether or not she is able to return to work and to review the position at its meeting on 20th April. The minister asked if the Session was happy to delegate powers to the Board in this matter. Session gave their approval for this.

Tom Kisitu: The minister confirmed that his induction to St Nicholas' Sighthill is on Wednesday 18th March. He enquired of Session whether we should try to arrange transport for people who would like to attend but would need a lift. Session agreed to this. The clerk advised she has received an email from the Session Clerk at St Nicholas asking if we can give an indication of the number of attendees by 11 March. Also parking in their car park will be restricted to blue badge holders on this evening.

Messy Church: Three events have now been held with attendance ranging from 30-50. Most participants are getting into a pattern of regular attendance, though on each occasion new people have arrived. All participants who have expressed a view are keen for Messy Church to continue. The trial period ends later this month, and Session was invited to consider whether or not the events should continue beyond Easter and become a long-term feature of congregational life and mission. It seems unlikely that the project will become self-financing. Approval was sought for Messy Church to continue. Session agreed Messy Church should continue. As far as funding is concerned we will have to consider how to cover this when the need arises. Two more Messy Church events have been organised for April and May.

The minister also reported on his enquiries regarding the Presbytery Staffing Fund helping to pay for a one-day-a-week Messy Church worker. It seems that the guidelines would allow us to apply, though some financial input from congregations is normally expected. Approval in principle was sought to proceed with an application, though the Board would need to be consulted since there are financial implications. Session was not of a mind to proceed with this at the moment but the idea will be discussed with the Messy Church Organising Committee.

5. Local Churches Review

Review with Hazel Hastie: The minister reported that he had met with Hazel Hastie to review our progress against the various action points we had set for ourselves. The details had already been discussed at the joint meeting with the Board immediately preceding this meeting.

6. Pastoral Care

Nothing to report.

7. Worship Committee

Nothing to report..

8. Board Report

Elders for Board: Session was reminded that we still have 2 vacancies for Elders on the Board. No one is willing to take this on at this time. The clerk reminded Elders that we will have to advise our new representatives in March and asked those already serving to advise if they are willing to stay on for another year and for those not currently on the Board to consider serving for next year.

9. Presbytery Report

General Assembly Commissioner: The minister and Rita Welsh will be attending the General Assembly 2015.

The Tent: 13th July - 19th July

An exciting project being held in Saughton park for one week only This is a local project for local people aimed at bringing a little bit of that summer excitement

There will be three events held daily at The Tent:

- 10:30 - 12:30 - Holiday Club for Primary School Children.
- 14:00 - 16:00 - Sports, music, art and drama.
- 18:00 - 22:30 - Family and community events. These will change every evening as we try and offer something for everything. This could be a film night, an evening of Jazz or for those feeling a little more active a ceilidh.

On Sunday 19th July the local churches will close their doors at the Church and congregate in the large marquee to join together in worship as one church

Heart & Soul: Heart and Soul which celebrates the broad life of the Church takes place in Princes Street Gardens on Sunday 17th May 1-6pm . It's free and open to everyone and all ages.

South Sudan: The World Mission Council has prepared an order of service focussing on the circumstances of the people of South Sudan. The minister will explore the possibility of using this along with St Nicholas' Sighthill once Tom Kisistu has settled in.

10. Correspondence

Nothing to report

11. Any Other Business

Christian Aid Week: Sheila Ward advised she will be on holiday for Christian Aid Week 10 – 16 May. Sheila is willing to organise the collectors as usual but will not be able to do the banking at the end of the week. Suzanne Riddoch said she will do this..

Dates of Next Meetings

The next meeting was fixed for Mondays 11 May 2015 at 7.00pm 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

KIRK SESSION AGENDA FOR MONDAY 11 MAY 2015 at 7.00pm IN THE SESSION ROOM

1. Opening devotions
2. Apologies for absence
3. Any Other Business to be added
4. Approval of previous minutes
5. Communion Roll
6. Minister's Report
7. Local Churches Review Update on Actions
8. Pastoral Care
9. Worship Committee
10. Board Report – Elders to serve on Board (so far Suzanne Riddoch, Lin Baillie, Mary Hynd, Alison Fairley, Dennise Brown and Ian Welsh) there are 2 vacancies
11. Presbytery Report – Presbytery Elder required, please give some consideration to taking on this important role.
12. Correspondence
13. Any Other Business
14. Date of next meetings

Office Bearers Conference – Advance notice this will be held on Saturday 22 August 2015 at Heriot Watt Chaplaincy Centre likely from around 10.00am – 3.00pm. Please keep this date free.