

**EDINBURGH SLATEFORD LONGSTONE PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND  
THE KIRK SESSION MET ON MONDAY 11 MAY 2015 AT 7.00PM IN THE SESSION ROOM**

**Sederunt:** Mesdames D Brown, A Fairley, J Gordon, M Marshall, S Riddoch and R Welsh  
Rev M Frew

**Apologies:** Mesdames L Baillie, L Campbell, S Davidson, J Fox, M Fulton, M Hynd, S Taylor and S Ward  
Messrs C Campbell and I Welsh

The minister opened the meeting with a reading from Acts 1 and a prayer.

**1. Minutes of Previous Meeting:** The minutes of meeting Monday 2 March 2015, previously circulated, were approved.

**2. Communion Roll:** Session noted

- a) Deaths: Nil
- b) Additions: Nil
- c) Removals: Nil
- d) Change of Address: Nil

**3. Minister's Report**

**Church Attendance:** The minister expressed his concern at the dip in Sunday morning church attendance by all ages and discussion was invited around this issue.

**Messy Church:** In contrast with Sunday church, there were 46 participants at the most recent event (the same as the very first Messy Church, in December).

**New Month New Worship:** St Nicholas' Sighthill Church has now joined ourselves and St David's Broomhouse in this monthly event.

**Pentecost:** The local fraternal has not been able to organise a joint Pentecost celebration this year.

**Holiday Club:** There is a meeting on 12 May for all prospective team members. Everyone is keen that the club should take place, but it remains to be seen whether enough team members can be found. Davidson's Mains had been approached with a request for help but nothing is confirmed at this stage.

**Retirement:** The minister indicated that he has had to revise his expected retirement date, which will now not be until mid or late 2017.

**Session and Board Conference:** The minister reminded Session that this would take place on Saturday 22 August, 10.00am - 3.00pm in the Heriot Watt Chaplaincy Centre (the only date available). He suggested the programme might be a review of progress, and planning for the future. This could include exploring the desirability of exploring the Unitary Constitution, possibly by inviting outside help from a congregation which has adopted it. This was agreed.

**Church membership:** Sam Crawford and Margaret Allan have expressed an interest in taking on Church membership here. The minister is going to take them through membership classes over a few weeks. One of Sheila Ward and Suzanne Riddoch will meet with them and the minister.

**4. Local Churches Review**

**Review with Hazel Hastie:** The minister advised he has asked Davidson's Mains if anyone there would be willing to help with Holiday Club or Property Convener.

**5. Pastoral Care**

Nothing to report but a meeting is due to be held soon.

**6. Worship Committee**

Nothing to report..

**7. Board Report**

**New Doors:** The front doors have been replaced and the coffee lounge and group room windows will be replaced soon.

**Finance:** Income is down a bit but spending is also down.

**8. Presbytery Report**

**Presbytery Elder:** We need to appoint a Presbytery Elder as Rita Welsh needs to stand down because of her current OLM studies. This would involve attending 6 meetings per year at Palmerston Place, starting at 6.45pm and can leave part way through if required. The individual can get involved in committees if they wish but this is not compulsory. Meetings take the form of reports from committees, speakers and may have to make decisions on any Presbytery matters such as disputes. Can be asked to represent the congregation at Inductions etc. if available.

**St John's Colinton Mains:** Have called a minister, Peter Nelson, and his induction is on 28 May 2015.

**Currie Kirk:** New minister called, Easter Smart, starts 5 June 2015

**Presbytery of Edinburgh:** World Mission Fair to be held on Saturday 20 June at Polwarth Parish Church

## **9. Correspondence**

Nothing to report

## **10. Any Other Business**

**Grace:** Jean Gordon raised the issue that at the end of the Service most people seem to have their eyes closed but at Session and Board meetings we say it together with eyes open and holding hands. The congregation will be invited to join in if they wish. It was agreed to try this at the end of a service and Session can discuss at our next meeting.

**Ordained Local Ministry (OLM):** Rita Welsh gave a report on the work she has been doing on her OLM course.

## **Dates of Next Meetings**

The next meetings were fixed for Mondays 7 September, 2 November 2015, 11 January, 7 March and 9 May 2016 all at 7.00pm in the Session Room unless otherwise advised.

This being all the business the meeting closed at 8.15pm with each blessing the others.

**SUZANNE E RIDDOCH**  
Session Clerk

**REV. MICHAEL W FREW**  
Moderator

## **KIRK SESSION AGENDA FOR MONDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 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. Office Bearers Conference Report
8. Local Churches Review Update on Actions
9. Pastoral Care
10. Worship Committee
11. Board Report
12. Presbytery Report Presbytery Elder – Sheila Ward agreed to take on this role
13. Correspondence
14. Any Other Business
15. Date of next meetings