

## EDINBURGH SLATEFORD LONGSTONE PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

### CONGREGATIONAL BOARD MEETING MONDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2015 AT 8.00PM IN THE SESSION ROOM

**Present:** Mesdames: Dennise Brown, Liz Chalmers, Alison Fairley, Yvonne Paterson, Suzanne Riddoch and Angie Simpson

Messrs: N Baillie, F Bargh, and Rev Michael Frew

**Apologies:** Mesdames: Lin Baillie and Mary Hynd

Messrs: Crofton Palmer and Ian Welsh

The Rev Michael Frew opened with a reading from Psalm 65 vv1-4 and 9-13 and a prayer.

#### 1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of Meeting Monday 15 June 2015, previously circulated, were approved.

#### 2. Office Bearers Conference

**Unitary Constitution:** The minister talked through the output from the discussion around moving to the Unitary Constitution. Some members thought it seemed a sensible move with streamlining of processes. Decisions could be made quicker as powers would be delegated to committees. It was agreed we should ask representatives from St David's Broomhouse and Craiglockhart or Juniper Green to come to a joint meeting with the Congregational Board and Kirk Session to give us information of their experiences.

#### 3. Finance Report

**Update:** The treasurer reported that our actual income is £3,019 under our budgeted figure however, costs have been kept to a minimum and we currently have a deficit of £769 year to date.

**Rag Bag:** It was agreed we should try Rag Bag on a 3 month trial. The treasurer will organise registration and a flier to go out to the organisations.

**Scottish Water:** Scottish Water had us classified as 2 separate building for rates purposes. After discussions with the treasurer and Scottish Water and a site visit we will now be classified as one address for water and council tax.

**Ministries & Mission Allocation:** Our allocation for 2016 is £30,849. It was agreed we should write to the Finance Convenor of Presbytery to explain we are having difficulty with our income this year and may be struggling to meet this figure for next year.

#### 4. Property Report

**Annual Roof Inspection:** JM Builder to be asked to carry this out around end of October.

**Annual Inspection of Buildings (Church and Manse):** This will take place in April 2016

**Autumn Clean:** The date for an autumn clean of the Church buildings has been set for Saturday 21 November 10 am – 12 noon.

**Health & Safety:** Health & Safety questionnaire has been completed for 121 George Street and following submission two warning notices have been sent out. The minister and Nathan Baillie will look for appropriate places to put these; more can be sourced if required.

**Garden:** Robin Scott and Drew Thomson are continuing with the clearing of ground at the tower end of the building and plan to remove the Elderberry tree and burn the waste.

**Garvald:** Garvald has advised they are willing to cultivate a piece of the land at the back of the building to grow vegetables and flowers as they would like to spend more time here. The Board agreed to this change.

**Front Path:** 3 contractors have looked at the front path and given estimates. Of those supplied the Board has agreed to go with Richmack Ltd at a cost of £2,020.80. It was agreed we should apply to the Fabric Loan Trust for funds to cover the costs for this work. The treasurer will complete the necessary application.

**Fire Door Activities Hall:** This door is still causing problems and the minister will speak to Frank Gordon about this to see if there is anything else we can do.

#### Manse Report

**Upstairs Toilet** – Has been decorated...

**Sitting Room Windows** – Have been replaced.

**Study Radiator** – Has been replaced

#### 5. Hall Lets

**Annual Lets:** We are still waiting for some users to return their Hall Lets requests.

**Real Life Options:** Currently being chased for some outstanding payments.

**New Users:** Angie Simpson is meeting with 2 potential users and will report back at next meeting.

**Parties:** Parties have been booked for 19 and 26 September.

#### 6. Correspondence – Nothing to report.

## **7. Any Other Business**

**Donation:** Lottie Morrice's family have indicated they would like to give a gift to the Church in her memory. As Lottie was involved in Sunday Worship it was thought something in relation to this could be appropriate. The minister does not know how much we are talking about and will discuss further with the family. In the meantime the minister has made enquiries re replacing the projector and it was thought we could get one for around £1,000. A microphone may also be possible and this would cost around £150.

## **8. Date of Next Meeting**

This being all the business, the date of the next meetings were fixed for Mondays 19 October and 7 December 2015 and Mondays 15 February, 18 April and 20 June 2016

The meeting was closed at 9:15pm with each blessing the others.

**SUZANNE E RIDDOCH**  
Clerk

**REV. MICHAEL W FREW**  
Chairman

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## **SLATEFORD LONGSTONE PARISH CHURCH**

**The Congregational Board will meet on MONDAY 19 OCTOBER 2015 at 7.45pm in the Session Room with the Board Committees meeting at 7.00pm**

### **AGENDA**

1. Opening Devotions
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of Previous Meeting
4. Any Other Business to be added
5. Matters Arising
6. Office Bearers Conference follow up - Meeting with Kirk Session at 7pm on Monday 2 November 2015
7. Finance Committee Report
8. Fabric Committee Report
9. Hall Lets
10. Correspondence
11. Any Business added at 4
12. Date of next meeting