

**EDINBURGH SLATEFORD LONGSTONE PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND  
THE KIRK SESSION MET ON MONDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2015 AT 7.35PM IN THE SESSION ROOM**

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

Apologies: Mesdames S Davidson, J Fox and R Welsh.  
Mr C Campbell

The Rev Michael Frew had already opened the joint meeting with a reading from Acts chapter 6 and a prayer.

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** The minutes of meeting Monday 7 September, previously circulated, were approved
2. **Communion Roll:** Session noted
  - a) Deaths: John Gardner, 67 Longstone Road.
  - b) Additions: Nil
  - c) Removals: Nil
  - d) Change of Address: David & Nora McCartney from 8 Redhall Road to 82/6 Craiglockhart Terrace EH14 1BA – Lily Campbell agreed to continue as their elder.
  - e) Restoration: Alex Armstrong of 15 Longstone Street, this was agreed after the minister explained that he thought Mr Armstrong had misunderstood what was happening when we sent letters out to the congregation a couple of years ago.

### 3. Minister's Report

**Start! Course:** This has made a beginning with four participants, jointly led by the minister and Sheila Ward  
**New Monthly Worship Service:** The minister presented the results of the recent survey. There had been 21 responses from both Messy Church and the Sunday congregation (17 expressing interest in an additional service, 4 expressing no interest), which showed a wide variety of preferences for days of the week and times. The most popular choices of time were Thursday at 6.00pm (5 indications), Friday at 6.00pm (5) and Friday at 7.00pm (7).

Session discussed whether this indicated enough interest to go ahead with an additional monthly service and also whether it would be a more effective strategy to focus on some form of regular discipleship / cluster group. It was decided that we should look at starting up a new cluster group rather than a new service.

**Christmas social event:** It was agreed we would hold a social event on Sunday 20 December after the morning service. Jean Gordon and Mary Hynd agreed to organise the refreshments. Anyone else willing to help should let Jean or Mary know.

### 4. Local Churches Review

Nothing to report

### 5. Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care team held their annual meeting on 5 October with 6 people attending. Things are running smoothly at the moment and on following up from the 2014 annual meeting it was noted that some actions were still to be followed up. The minister handed out copies of a prayer for visitors. It was agreed letters of appreciation for visitors should be sent from Kirk Session and this is in progress. The date for next meeting was set for October 2016.

### 6. Worship Committee

The committee has not yet met but will be doing so soon to organise the Bereavement Service which is to be held on Sunday 13 December. Dennise Brown and Patsy Riddoch have agreed to organise the refreshments for this.

### 7. Board Report

**Front Path at main gate:** It was reported that we have been successful in securing grant monies of £2,000 from the Presbytery's Property Loan Fund to cover the costs of repairing the path from the front gate to the entrance at the Tower end of the church.

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

**Coffee Morning:** A fund raising coffee morning will be held on Saturday 28 November from 10am – 12 noon.

### 8. Presbytery Report

Sheila Ward reported on the 2 meetings she has attended so far in September and October.

### SEPTEMBER:

Start with Opening Worship

Local church review –Duddingston.

Congregational business - 4 local churches.

Social and Community interests - included information about a petition calling on GAP to become a world leader in the fashion industry by agreeing to ensure their manufacturing workers had fair wages and safe working conditions.

Information about a Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Service

Councils Parking intentions to extend Restricted Parking hours into evenings and Sunday's which would impact on City Church attendance.

Property report

Finance report

Administrative matters

Sheila had found this meeting interesting.

## **OCTOBER:**

Marchmont St Giles Communion - very formal except for Fischy music from James Gillespies Primary School

Local church review - St Stephens Comely Bank

Groups to discuss the life of Presbytery.

Social and Community interests - continued Councils Parking restrictions

Info about a March for Climate change.

World Mission Report about the Syrian and Refugee Crisis.

Property report.

Administrative matters.

## **9. Correspondence**

**Safeguarding Training:** The clerk reported she has received information about Safeguarding Training that should be completed by all Kirk Sessions. She will contact St David's Broomhouse and St Nicholas Sighthill to see if they have already completed this and if not will try to organise a joint session with them if they are interested in this.

## **10. Any Other Business**

**Kirk News:** Sharon Taylor apologised for a few errors or omissions from the most recent edition of the Kirk News as she had a few technical issues with her pc.

**11. Date of Next Meetings:** These were fixed for Mondays 11 January, 7 March and 9 May 2016 all at 7.00pm in the Session Room unless advised otherwise.

This being all the business the meeting closed at 8.28pm with each blessing the others.

**SUZANNE E RIDDOCH**  
Session Clerk

**REV. MICHAEL W FREW**  
Moderator