

**EDINBURGH SLATEFORD LONGSTONE PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
THE KIRK SESSION MET ON MONDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2017 AT 7.00PM IN THE SESSION ROOM**

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

Apologies: Madame D Brown

The Rev Michael Frew opened the meeting with a reading from Mark Chapter 9 vv33-41 and a prayer.

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** The minutes of meeting Monday 5 December 2016, previously circulated, were approved.
2. **Communion Roll:** Session noted
 - a) Deaths: Peter Robertson and Mary Woodman
 - b) Additions by Certificate: Mrs Carol Murray by transfer from Skirling Parish Church
 - c) Removals: Nil
 - d) Change of Address: Nil

Attestation of the Communion Roll as at 31 December 2016.

Annual Statistics: The Clerk has submitted Annual Statistics as at 31 December 2016 to Presbytery as follows:

Members as at 1.1.16 **214 (plus 2 adherents)**

Removed	by death	13	
	by transfer	0	
	otherwise	0	-13

Added	by profession	2	
	by transfer	1	+3

Members as at 31.12.16 **204 (plus 1 adherent)**

Supplementary Roll as at 31.12.16 **29**

3. Minister's Report

Lent Course: The minister indicated that he would like to run once again a Lent course for interested people. This would be on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm for six weeks, beginning on 2 March. Session agreed to this.

Holy Week: The minister reported that he is meeting with colleagues on Wednesday 8th February to discuss plans for Holy Week services. It is hoped that Stenhouse Baptist Church may join with us now that they have a new part-time pastor, Thomas Dean, though his main remit seems to be church-planting. Session agreed to this.

Messy Church: This has re-started after a break in December and was well-attended on 27 January. The team is very keen to continue Messy Church after the minister's retirement, though additional team members would be required. Sheila Ward has agreed to take the lead in organising future Messy Church events after the minister leaves.

Future Planning: It was noted that the following responsibilities would need to be undertaken by members of the congregation upon the minister's retirement and volunteers were added where possible.

Weekly reporting to Christian Copyright International	Messy Church – Sheila Ward Sunday Worship - TBA
Xerox copier meter readings	Jean Gordon
Messy Church co-ordination	Sheila Ward
Weekly audiovisual presentation	Kirk News article
Weekly bulletin preparation	Kirk news article
Property convener (Fred Bargh intends to step down at the end of June)	Kirk news article

4. Unitary Constitution

It was noted the Property and Finance teams need to find a way to work together whether it be meeting on the same nights or some other form of liaison and this will be considered for future meetings.

5. Local Church Review

Nothing to report.

6. Finance

Ongoing Finances: It was reported we finished 2016 with a surplus of £599 which gave a small boost to the start of 2017 and meant the Finance team were able to give the Property team a small budget to work with for the first quarter of the year.

Easter Play: The retiring offering for the Easter Play raised the sum of £111.60.

Stated Annual Meeting: It was agreed the Stated Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday 19 March 2017

Fundraising: The finance team advised they are planning to hold a coffee morning on Saturday 18 February and will be looking for assistance to organise this on the day.

7. Property

Cherry Trees: A neighbour has reported that our cherry trees in the memorial garden are overhanging some of the neighbours gardens and blocking light. One tree may be on the boundary with Choices and someone at the General Trustees is checking this for us. Costs may go over the available funds for quarter one and we will need to consider how to cover these costs if the situation arises.

Roof Repairs: Some roof repairs that were deferred from the end of last year have now been carried out.

Manse Occupation: At a Church Property Committee Meeting on 9 January 2017 the minister asked if he and his wife could be allowed continued occupancy of the Manse for a period of up to three months following his official retirement date. The retirement house they have acquired requires a degree of refurbishment and it is estimated that all necessary work should be completed by the time of his retirement, but may be extended beyond that date. Kirk Session were in agreement with an extension of occupancy if required.

8. Pastoral Care

It was reported everything is running smoothly at the moment. Members previously on Sandra Davidson's list for visits have been re-allocated to other Elders.

9. Worship

Bereavement Service: It was reported the service went well and was much appreciated by those who attended. The general opinion is that December is the best time of year to hold this service and it will continue in future years.

Communion Services: It was agreed the April Communion will be held on Easter Sunday and there will be no Communion on 2 April 2017.

10. Presbytery Report

Nothing to report from December meeting

Retirement: The minister reported he has sent his official letter advising he wished to demit his current post "on the grounds of age". This will go before Presbytery on Tuesday 7 February.

11. Correspondence

Nothing to report

12. Any Other Business

Nothing to report

3. Dates of Next Meetings

Dates for the next meetings were set as 6 March (Property and Finance teams at 7.00pm with Session following at 7.45pm), 3 April and 5 June 2017 at 7.00pm in the Session Room unless advised otherwise.

This being all the business the meeting closed at 7.58pm with each blessing the others.

SUZANNE E RIDDOCH
Session Clerk

REV. MICHAEL W FREW
Moderator

SLATEFORD LONGSTONE PARISH CHURCH AGENDA SESSION MEETING MONDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2017 at 7.00PM

1. Any business to be added
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of Previous Meeting
4. Annual Report and Accounts
5. Reviewable Charge
6. Local Church Review – minimum of 2 elders for a get-together with reps from other congregations to discuss plans for future LCRs. Optional dates are Thursday 23 and Monday 27 March. If anyone would be able to attend please advise the minister or clerk.
7. Any other Business added at 1
8. Dates of next meetings – Mondays 3 April and 5 June all at 7.00pm in Session Room unless advised otherwise.