

EDINBURGH SLATEFORD LONGSTONE PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

THE CONGREGATIONAL BOARD MET ON MONDAY 16 MARCH 2009 AT 7.15PM IN THE SESSION ROOM

Sederunt: Linda Anderson, Lin Baillie, Julia Mason, Rosemary Reid, Suzanne Riddoch & Sheila Ward

Bob Anderson, Bill Edwards, Rev Michael Frew & Crofton Palmer

Apologies: Lily Campbell, Jean Gordon & Angie Simpson
Alex Campbell, Chris Campbell & Ian Welsh.

The Rev Michael Frew opened with a reading from 2nd Corinthians, Chapter 8.

1 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of Meeting Monday 26 January 2009 previously circulated, were approved.

2 Together We Make a Difference

Numbers for each event – Linda Anderson updated us that for Wednesday 25 March there had been 54 replies and for Saturday 28 March there were 20 replies, including 5 children. There are still some replies to come back so the numbers may increase by the actual event. Linda also noted that some people had asked about lifts to and from the event. Sheila Ward advised that Sheila McCrum would organise this. Both Bob and Linda Anderson have offered to be a welcome team at each event. Bill Edwards has also agreed to be part of the team.

3 Finance

General – Rosemary Reid handed out the January and February 2009 figures. Freewill offerings remain steady at around £2,500 per month and the use of the premises by the Lighthouse Chapel has helped increase the income too. Rosemary noted that we had had a good start to the year and have a small surplus.

Audit of Church Accounts – This has been completed.

4 Parish Grouping

The Rev Mike Frew advised that the proposal for the Parish Grouping had been circulated to all office bearers. Mike has suggested that the office bearers meet after the SAM on 29 March 2009 to agree this.

5 Fabric

Church & Halls – Bill Edwards circulated a report he had pulled together concerning the current state of the buildings and what work would be needed to bring the buildings up to scratch. The Board agreed to have the following work carried out this year:

- External boundary wall – estimated cost of repair is £1557 + Vat.
- Overflow on cold water tank – Bill Edwards and Dougie Bald will repair this.
- Rear door to garden, internal door to church and hall emergency escape door – the estimated cost of these repairs by the joiner is £600 + Vat.

Flat Roof – The flat roof is need of a complete overhaul. The estimated cost of repair is £15000. Rev Mike Frew agreed to contact the General Trustees to find out if we could apply for a grant towards any of the cost. In the meantime Bill Edwards will patch the roof.

PAT Testing – Rev Mike Frew reported that Fresh Start offer a PAT Testing service at a cost of £60 call out plus £1.75 per item tested. The Board agreed. Bill Edwards and Bob Anderson will arrange for this to be done.

Lancas Exit - Bill Edwards reported that we need to get at least a portable ramp for this exit as it is an emergency exit. This will be investigated further.

Manse Report

Roof – Rev Mike Frew has now received the quote to reduce the chimney stack. This was quoted as £5000. As this work is not urgent, Rev Mike Frew suggested we leave this for the time being. The Board agreed.

Decoration – One room need to be decorated this year and Rev Mike Frew suggested the study as he would be on study leave in June and would be available. The Board agreed.

Manse Inspection – Rev Mike Frew circulated a report on the condition of the manse and items that require attention. The following areas have been highlighted as needing attention:

- Sun Lounge – Life span is limited and some work has been carried out this previously. The Board need to decide what to do about this.
- Lean-to Kitchen Store – This is rotting at the base and is not weather proof. The Board need to decide what to do about this.
- Exterior Pebble-dash – the pebbles drop off when touched. No action at this time.
- Garage – water leaks in from broken joint with neighbour's outbuilding. Board agreed to ask Rab Taylor to look at this.
- Windows – the double glazing at the front of the house and upstairs does not provide good insulation . No action at this time.
- Front Storm Door – This is warped and shows signs of rotting at the base. The joiner reports that the door is sound but the draught excluder needs replaced.
- Upstairs Front bedroom floor – this is in poor condition. No action at this time.

5 AOB

Monitor – A monitor has been installed for the choir. This is a new monitor as the ex-demo monitor broke down.

Church Computer – Rev Mike Frew advised that he has recently upgraded his Microsoft Office to version 2007. Mike has suggested that we get a couple of licenses for those that he passes files to. The Board agreed to pursue the cost and what would be involved for those getting the licenses. Mike also asked if the board would consider purchasing PowerPoint for the Mac PC used in the church. The cost is approximately £73. The Board agreed.

6 Date of Next Meeting

This being all the business, the date of the next meeting was fixed for Sunday 29 March 2009 with the office bearers to agree the Parish Grouping and 11 May 2009 for the next Board Meeting at 7:15pm in the Session Room. The meeting was closed at 8.40pm with each blessing the others.

JULIA H MASON
Clerk to Congregational Board

REV. MICHAEL W FREW
Chairman

The next meeting of the Congregational Board of Edinburgh Slateford Longstone Parish Church of Scotland will be held on Monday 11 May 2009 at 7:15pm 2009 in the Session Room
