

## LOCHGILPHEAD PARISH CHURCH

Minutes of Meeting of Kirk Session of Lochgilphead Parish Church held on 20 August 2019 in the Church Hall

### **Sederunt**

#### **Present:**

Rev. Hilda Smith, Elma Munro, Frances Fleming, Ian Davidson, Jessie Cranston, Margaret Davidson, Margaret Jacobsen, Mary MacDonald, May Taylor and Sandy Taylor

#### **Apologies:**

Edna Armstrong

Hilda opened the meeting with a reading from the Parable of the talents, before constituting the meeting with prayer.

### **Minutes of Last Meeting**

The Minutes of 6 June, 2019 were approved; proposed by Ian Davidson and seconded by Elma Munro; subject to the following specific amendment`;  
P264 ... after the sentence finishing 'Ministry and Mission', the Minutes were amended to read as follows:

"The balance in General Fund on 1st January 2019 was £4,835.37, but this had dropped to £450 by 1st May, requiring a £2000 transfer to be made from Project Fund on 13th May to enable regular costs to be met for that month. Projected Cashflow figures had been produced and circulated to all members of Session, from which it was estimated that a further £5000 would require to be transferred from Project Fund in the interim to enable LPC to meet regular costs to the end of 2019 and have a credit balance to start the year in 2020. The Session agreed to this transfer being made."

### **Financial Sustainability Plan**

Mary reported notwithstanding the fact that she had only recently sent out the call for increased financial support of the church to members of the congregation, she had already received two positive responses.

**Decision:** it was agreed that we now proceed to produce an open letter – in similar terms - to every member of the Kirk Session for information. Mary will look into the cost of delivery. The question was also asked if we would produce a leaflet giving information about the church for inclusion with the letter, and do an article for The Squeak.

### **Mid Argyll Mission Plan**

Sandy spoke to both feedback from our questionnaires, which was realised lots of single largely unrelated issues, beyond *additional services*, look to the church to *engage with the wider community* and to *keep the church open* during the day/week.

Sandy also spoke to a paper which he had circulated reflecting a suggested way forward, as promoted by the North Knapdale congregation, via their Session Clerk.

Their followed a wide-ranging discussion which addressed to our community and specific issues and needs, and how change in the local ministry team could address these; including working with young people, older people, mental health, Addictions or the development of new ways of worship. Members noted that was to be another meeting in September.

Decision: It was agreed that a member of the Session should give a verbal to the congregation on the following Sunday, and that we should continue to do so as things developed.

Discussion continued around the recruitment of the 'right people', around mission and the building and sharing of faith, about what a church would look like, about home worship and what people want from their church, a Kingdom Group ...

### **Substantive Business**

#### **a. Challenger Bus**

Hilda set out the detail of the PWAM visit as available to her at that time, as it related to who was coming and the dates of specific activities, both at the Lochgilphead Campus and the church hall.

The Kirks Session noted the arrangements for accommodation and catering in support of engagement events.

**b. Finance;** as circulated.

#### **c. Fabric**

Ian highlighted the need for repair of the 'protective enclosure to the air source heating unit at the rear of the hall, which was agreed.

Ian reported on the condition of, and need for repair of our stained glass windows. Ian gave an indicative price in excess of £10,000, and reported that he had already started to look to funding sources which would facilitate this necessary work.

Ian advised that he had received Quinquennial Report a report from Presbytery as part of the which was generally OK, but indicated the need for a number of small repairs to the Manse, which he would progress.

#### **d. Path of Renewal**

The Rev. Alan Hamilton is to meet with the Kirk Session on 11 September, to ask *how we are doing*, and consider *what more we can do*, as a congregation.

#### **e. Social**

Programme to be available at the next meeting

#### **f. Outreach**

No report

#### **g. Safeguarding**

No report

#### **h. Congregational Roll**

James McLellan is to transfer one of Ardrishaig congregation to LPC.

#### **i. Malawi Twinning Group**

Molly has asked that members source banana boxes for use in packing knitting for Malawi

#### **j. MO-MA**

Mo-Ma has secured new accommodation in An Cala.

### **Date of Next Meetings**

11 September 2019 and 29 October 2019

Hilda closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Session Clerk

Date

Date

## LOCHGILPHEAD PARISH CHURCH

### Session Meeting – Finance Report

20<sup>th</sup> August 2019

#### Balances as at 16th August 2019

<b>GENERAL</b>	<b>£ 7,463.95</b>
<b>FABRIC</b>	<b>£ 3,571.76</b>
<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>£ 37,435.44</b>
<b>SOCIAL FUND</b> Café, Hall & Social	<b>£ 4,271.31</b>
<b>YOUTH FUND</b>	<b>£ 885.26</b>
<b>BENEVOLENT FUND</b>	<b>£ 46.0</b>

**NOTES**

#### General Fund

A transfer of £2,000 was made from Project Fund on 13<sup>th</sup> May. Since that time we received donations which enabled it to be repaid on 11<sup>th</sup> July. A further transfer of £5000 was made to General Fund from Project Fund on 10<sup>th</sup> June after cashflow projections showed that it was required to enable the account to meet its costs for the remainder of the year and going into next year. This will be outstanding until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 at which time the situation will again be reviewed.

We have been reliant on the fundraising from Coffee Mornings etc, which has been less this year so far. In July, we received extra funds from the Sponsored Slim and Pennies in bags, which is ongoing. Other small fundraisers such as old mobile phones etc are also in place. However, this is not regular steady income. We can only hope that any extra income will ease the situation each month and cover any unexpected expenditure required to be made from time to time. We need to always have a credit balance in the General Fund to prevent further cashflow problems.

#### January – July 2019

**Income       £ 20,384        (does not include transfers from Project Account which is not income)**  
**Expenditure £ 22,333    = £1949 shortfall**

A letter has now gone out this month to every member and adherent of the congregation, advising them of the precarious financial situation which LPC faces this year, and into the future. The Finance Committee hope that the outcome will be positive and generate more regular giving through offerings. I will report on this at the next Session Meeting.

