

LOCHGILPHEAD PARISH CHURCH

The Kirk Session met in the church hall on the evening of 12 February 2020. The Rev. Hilda Smith opened the meeting with a short reading about Moses and his leadership, before constituting the meeting with prayer.

Sederunt

Rev. Hilda Smith (Moderator), Ian Davidson, Jessie Cranston, Malcolm MacFadyen, Margaret Jacobsen, Mary MacDonald and Sandy Taylor.

Apologies for Absence:

Edna Armstrong, Elma Munro, Frances Fleming, Margaret Davidson and May Taylor.

1. Minutes

The minute of the meeting of the Kirk Session held on 3 December were approved; proposed by Ian Davidson, seconded by Margaret Jacobsen; subject to amendments as they related to the need for training in Godly Play before we look to introduce it, and clarification about a community meal which should be attributed to the 'Alpha' group.

Matters Arising

Discussion on the Lochgilphead PC community support appeal letter was deferred to the next meeting of the Kirk Session.

Ian; reported that the planned 'risk assessments' had not yet been concluded. Mary; that the Guild had not discussed the possibility of Guild members leading prayer.

2. Correspondence

- a. **Refugio** is a monthly evening Communion set in the context of silence, symbol and reflective prayer. It takes its name from the shelters where pilgrims, walking the medieval route to Santiago de Compostela, stop and find rest on their journey. Refugio is a stopping place for today's pilgrims, away from the bustle of everyday life, away from many words and much doing, to a quieter, more reflective space, in which we can be nourished by bread and wine.
An email on the availability of introduction sessions has been sent to all elders with e-mail addresses Margaret Jacobsen has attended. The next meeting to be held Benderloch this month.
- b. **Presbytery Elder.** Margaret Jacobsen Is To Stand Down. **Decision:** Members are encouraged to give thought to serving as the LPC Presbytery Elder. This will be considered again at our next meeting.
- c. The Moderator, the Rt Revd Colin A M Sinclair draws to our attention to the **Kingdom Come movement.** A global, ecumenical prayer movement which takes place each year from Ascension to Pentecost, when Christians are encouraged to pray for more people to come to faith during these 11 days of prayer. This will be its fifth year. **Decision:** Details to be sent to LPC elders and included in the Order of Service.

3. Reports

i. Presbytery

No Presbytery report given that the last Kirk Session meeting was held on the same day and reported that evening.

ii. Safeguarding Committee: No report

iii. **Use of Front Door**

Sandy reported several requests to see the front of the church open and used, referring to the role of the front door in a welcoming church. Members had indicated that they were concerned that the door was used for funerals but not for worship, expressing the wish to use it.

Decision: The Kirk Session decided to open the front door, with one member of the welcome team at each door. Hilda to continue to use the rear door at the close of service. This to be trialled for a short period, and reviewed at the next Kirk Session.

ii. **Five Year Plan**

Hilda opened discussion referring to foreseeable changes in Kirk Session, the number of elders and their purpose and roles. Members went on, once again to explore the role and purpose of elders and how they supported our church in today’s world. Members agreed that pastoral care was not only about home visits, but included a wider caring role, supporting individuals, in church and at home; including the organisation of lifts to church and of ‘checks’ which could be made when certain members did not appear at church, for fear of accident or ill-health. Discussion also looked at the role of elders as Trustees, managing the church property, fiancé and other assets. Discussion on Outreach was deferred to our next meeting.

iii. **Treasurer’s Report**

General	£8, 269.73	Youth Fellowship	£773.40
Project	£41,804.99	Social (Hall & Café)	£3,096.47
Fabric	£4,084.80	Benevolent Fund	£46.03

Decision: The Kirk Session noted the balances

iv. **Treasurer: Presentation & Approval of Annual Accounts**

Mary tabled copies of the Annual Accounts.

Decision: The Kirk Session deferred consideration to allow time for perusal before an *ad hoc* meeting of the Kirk Session after the service on Sunday.

v. **Fabric**

Ian advised that he had circulated his Fabric report, which was essentially for noting. He did ask for agreement to progress a request for Presbytery authority to apply for grant in respect of the repair of the stained glass windows. **Decision:** The Kirk Session agreed.

vi. **Autumn Fete** - Fundraising Group

Members recognised the value of an Autumn Fete in monies raised, but also Demands of those organising it. Ian made clear that this item was included not simply to discuss the organising of an Autumn Fete, but the establishment of a Fundraising Group, which would organise other fundraising events.

Decision: The Kirk Session will revisit this when we next meet.

6. **Worship**

Hilda reported the following key dates:

23 February & 22 March	Baptisms
24 Feb – 1 March	Annual Leave
15 March	Annual Stated Meeting
19 April	Conference

7. **BENEDICTION**

Hilda closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator
Date

Session Clerk
Date