

**Abbotshall Church****Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2015**

which place and date the Kirk Session met and was duly convened with a reading (Romans Ch8) *Living according to the Spirit not the flesh* and prayer.

- Sederunt** Rev R Frew with I Anderson, J Browning, I Clark, A Duncan, A Elder, E Fraser, Jane Gilmour, Jim Gilmour, M Hope, J McLeod, M Michael, J Napier, B Page, M Petrie, M Scriven, A Steward. James Bissett trainee minister moderated the meeting.
- Apologies** M Baxendine, G Bruce, S Docherty, R Michael, A Moyes, D Murray, E Smith, K Wilkie.
- Minutes** The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2015 were approved.
- Matters Arising** The Trustees had met with Presbytery representatives on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March at 7 pm.
- Two Elders had attended the mandatory Protection of Vulnerable Groups training. Five Elders are still required to attend the mandatory Protection of Vulnerable Groups training.
- Ruth Macintyre** Ruth had indicated her wish to resign as an Elder due to her advancing years. Morag gave thanks for Ruth's many years of diligent service as an Elder of Abbotshall.
- Gordon Webster** Gordon had emailed Morag as follows:-  
"Can I take this opportunity to resign as a District Elder? After almost 50 years, and at 85, I find the thought of another winter visiting my members rather daunting. I will still be available to help in any way with church duties. It has been a privilege to serve Abbotshall Church all these years but there is a time for everything."  
  
Morag had advised the Session of the contents of Gordon's email and gave thanks for his many years of service and witness.
- Communion** The church was to be prepared for Communion at 10 am on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June. Jenny McLeod and Morna Scriven agree to assist the Minister.
- Elders were asked to assist with clearing up after Communion.
- Local Church Review** Copies of the Local Church Review Report had been circulated. The Minister, Session Clerk and two other representatives are invited to meet with Presbytery's Superintendence Committee on 9<sup>th</sup> June to discuss the report. The minister considered the review to be repetitive and too lengthy and would voice her concerns with a view to improvement.

<b>“Learn” Resource</b>	Five copies of “Learn”, a study aid for Elders, are to be circulated around the eldership during the summer. It is hoped that copies will be passed on within a maximum of two weeks using name lists. The topics of greatest interest will be noted and selected for further discussion in the autumn.
<b>The God Question</b>	A copy of <i>The God Question</i> DVD on the subject of science vs faith, mentioned at the previous meeting, had been purchased by the four town centre churches. This will be shown in the autumn during a six week course which is planned to start on Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September at St Bryce Kirk. More details to follow.
<b>General Assembly Report</b>	<p>James gave an account of the uplifting nature of the <i>Heart and Soul</i> event and suggested that it gave a good insight into the vibrant life of the Church.</p> <p>Rosie explained the new church legislation brought in under the Barrier Act regarding ministers and deacons in civil partnership. It was noted that any congregation calling a new minister is now required to make clear its view on candidates in civil partnership prior to any selection process.</p>
<b>Presbytery update</b>	<p>Jenny McLeod presented a report of the Presbytery meeting on 3rd March.</p> <p>“<i>FIFE PILGRIM WAY</i>: We were addressed by Nick Cooke of the Fife Community Engagement Project. St Andrews was one of the key pilgrimage sites in Europe 500 years ago. Pilgrimage presents an opportunity to reposition faith in people’s lives. The Fife Pilgrim Way is a new long distance walk (70 miles) under development through the heart of Fife, following in the footsteps of medieval pilgrims.</p> <p><i>THE GOD QUESTION</i>: Positive feedback had been received from “The God Question” presentation.</p> <p><i>M&amp;D MUSINGS</i>: The second edition has been issued to congregational contacts.</p> <p>The next meeting of Presbytery is on 30th June.”</p>
<b>Presbytery Elders</b>	<p>Jim Gilmour intimated his resignation and was thanked by Morag for his contribution to the work of the Presbytery. Jenny McLeod wished to continue.</p> <p>Additional Presbytery elders were now required and volunteers sought it being noted that:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attending Presbytery was good experience</li> <li>• There were now fewer meetings each year</li> <li>• Committee work is interesting</li> <li>• There are more elders than ministers</li> <li>• Rosie will be the Moderator</li> </ul>
<b>Safeguarding</b>	Rosie advised the Session that she was now registered with the

PVG scheme.

**Pastoral Care Update** The pastoral care activity was working well and Anne commended elders for their diligence when advising her of members in need.

**Correspondence** Jim Browning advised the Session that he was struggling to continue with stewardship activities and that he would be pleased to pass this task to another. It was suggested that a group might be formed to help and that this year Creation should be the theme for the stewardship season in September. Additional support was requested.

Euan Fraser was pleased to announce that the total Christian Aid collection by Abbotshall was £2232.50 being £103 more than 2014. He was very clear that door-to-door collection was by far the best fund raising method as it offered a wider selection of people an opportunity to give than a church collection. It was noted that some people had received envelopes by various routes.

**AOCB** Care Home Chaplaincy:-  
With the closure of Raith Gates and Appin House and the opening of the replacement home at Ostler's Way in Torbain parish along with the opening of Raith Manor on Oriel Road (in Bennoch parish) chaplaincy is under review to make sure that all the homes are properly covered. Rosie Frew, Ian Elston and Tony Fowler are meeting to discuss a smooth transition for the residents to the new Ostler's Way home. Rosie is taking on responsibility for Raith Manor. It was noted that help from elders is always appreciated.

**Diary dates** *Sunday 31 May, 11.00am* – Young Church Service  
*Sunday 7 June, 9.00am and 11.00am* – Celebration of the Lord's Supper  
*Wednesday 10 June, 7.00pm* – KART AGM in Abbotshall Church Hall  
*Sunday 14,21,28 June*- worship at 10am  
*Saturday 13 June, 10.00am-12noon* – Coffee Morning  
*Thursday 18 June, 7.30pm* - Congregational Board  
*Thursday 25 June, 2.00pm* – Thursday Fellowship Group  
*Wednesday 1 July, 9.30am* – Strathallan, end of term Service  
*Thursday 2 July, 9.45am* – Kirkcaldy West, end of term Service

Sunday 5 July, 11.00am – Bennoch Church  
 Sunday 12 July, 11.00am – Abbotshall Church  
 Monday 13 July – Sunday 26 July – Minister on holiday  
 Sunday 19 July, 11.00am – St Bryce Kirk  
 Sunday 26 July, 11.00am – Linktown Church  
 Sundays 2,9,16,23 and 30 August – worship at 10am  
 Monday 3 August – Sunday 23 August – Minister on Study Leave  
 Sundays 6,13,20,27 September – Stewardship Season  
 Tuesdays 8,15,22,29 September and 6,13 October – The God Question discussion evenings.

**Dates of next meetings**  
 Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June 7.30 pm – Congregational Board  
 Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September 7.30 pm - Kirk Session  
 Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> October 7.30 pm– Congregational Board  
 Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November 7.30 pm - Kirk  
 Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January 7.30 pm - Trustees

**Closing Prayer** The meeting was closed by the Session saying “*The Grace*” together.

**Action Items**

Five Elders are still required to attend the Mandatory Protection of Vulnerable Groups training.	The five Elders
Elders were asked to assist with clearing up after Communion.	Elders
Two additional elders are invited to meet with the Presbytery’s Superintendence Committee on 9 <sup>th</sup> June to discuss the Local Church Review. Contact Rosie or Morag by 5 <sup>th</sup> June.	Elders
Five copies of “Learn” are to be circulated around the eldership during the summer. Copies should be passed on within a maximum of two weeks.	Elders
An additional Presbytery elder can be nominated and a volunteer is sought.	Elders, Rosie.
Additional support was requested for the stewardship activity.	Elders, Rosie.

Minute Clerk

Moderator