

**Abbotshall Church****Thursday 6 June 2013**

which place and date the Kirk Session met and was duly convened with prayer.

- Stewardship of Time** Sandra Holt, a Church of Scotland stewardship consultant, gave a presentation on the Stewardship of Time.
- Oath de fideli** Having agreed to be the Session Clark, Morag Michael took the Oath de fideli administration "I promise to carry out faithfully the duties of Session Clerk".
- Sederunt** Rev R Frew with I Anderson, M Baxendine, J Browning, I Clark, A Duncan, A Elder, J Henderson, R Henderson, J McLeod, M Michael, A Moyes, D Murray, W Page, M Petrie, M Scriven, A Steward.
- Apologies** P Bell, W Beveridge, S Docharty, R Duncan, T Espie, Jane Gilmour, Jim Gilmour, G Houston, R Macintyre, R Michael, J Napier, J Scott, E Smith.
- Minutes** The minutes of the meeting on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013 were approved.
- Matters Arising**
- a) Some contributors had been trained in the use of the website and were still learning, some still had to be trained.
  - b) The Church was now functioning without a Beadle and lists of duties had been prepared by the minister. Duty elders were learning the Beadle's role and only those who felt able carried the Bible into the pulpit. The Minister had set up the church for Communion which took about one hour. She had also found that there was plenty of time between Communion services to make the necessary changes. There is now a need for someone to take on this job each time there is Communion.
  - c) Church and Hall cleaning was now being done well by the new cleaner.
  - d) As the halls were booked during the week of 5<sup>th</sup> August Linktown Church halls will be used by KART for the holiday club for school pupils.
  - e) Arrangements had been made for the presentations to Alex and Mabel McLean and Ruth Moyes.
- Presbytery Elders** It was agreed that Jenny McLeod would become the Presbytery Elder and that Jim Gilmour would be the Additional Elder.
- Deputy Session Clerk** As a vacancy now existed for a deputy Session Clerk elders were asked to consider taken on this role with a view to an appointment after the summer. Interested Elders should speak to the Minister.

## **Safeguarding**

Mike Baxendine reported as follows:-

### *Young Church Leaders*

- All three had completed the safeguarding Training courses
- Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) and Disclosure Forms for two Leaders had been issued
- One PVG Form had been returned and sent to 121 George Street and is awaiting the issue of a PVG number
- One PVG form was awaiting return and verification by myself
- One Leader is covered by the original child protection scheme but will require to submit a PVG Form in October.

### *Pastoral Care Group*

- Eight out of twelve had completed the training course
- PVG and Disclosure forms had been issued to the eight who had completed the training
- Five PVG forms had been completed, verified and were ready to return to 121 George Street
- Four had still to attend training when the next course became available.
- Six had resigned since the original report
- Margaret Garvie had volunteered to join the Pastoral Care Group

The Session welcomed Margaret Garvie as a member of the Pastoral Care group.

## **Presbytery Update**

The recent meeting had been brief. Congregations had been commended for the quality of their record keeping. The Presbytery had agreed to support each of four local candidates for the ministry with a £250 grant.

The Session Clerk had received a letter inviting attendance at next year's "*Celebrate and Discover*" event. The theme is "I am the Vine you are the branches". Two representatives are needed to attend an information meeting, those interested please contact Morag.

**Prayer Promoter**

Morag had attended the excellent service on 12<sup>th</sup> May to celebrate the ending of the banner pilgrimage.

She reminded the Session that there were many prayer resources available such as :-

- Presbytery Prayer Call
- The Bible Society prayer call
- Crossreach weekly prayer diary
- Operation Mobilisation prayer diary

It was noted that a Deputy Prayer Promoter was now required and that interested parties should speak to Morag.

**Pastoral Care Update**

Anne reported that the group was coping well and that there had been two 90<sup>th</sup> birthdays recently. The Session was advised that one member would be 102 years old on 29 June.

**Diary Dates**

The following diary dates were noted.

*Thursday 20 June, 7.30pm* – Congregational Board meeting

*Thursday 27 June, 2.00pm* – Thursday Fellowship Group

During June and August there will be 9 am and 11 am Sunday morning services. During July the Sunday morning service will be held in different Churches.

**AOCB**

A letter had been received from Ruth McKay resigning as an Elder. Morag commended her for her years of service and for the range of talents with which she had enriched the Church and agreed to write to her on behalf of the Session.

The supply of formal Communion cards had come to an end. As it had been agreed some time before that these cards would now be replaced by invitation cards sample invitation cards were circulated and their contents discussed. It was agreed that members would not be obliged to present the cards at Communion but that it might be helpful in identifying the numbers present. Sample invitation cards from other churches or ideas regarding the card's contents should be passed to Rosie.

The formality of Communion and aspects such as the sharing of the peace by a handshake, the singing of appropriate hymns, the use of formal dress and the covering of the pew shelves in the cloths were discussed. It was agreed that a more relaxed style should be adopted and that elders should attend smartly dressed but that specific colours need not be worn.

Session was advised that there had been a shortage of copy for the newsletter during the year. Consequently the number of issues is to be reduce next year with publishing dates of the first week of September, the second week of November, the first

week of February and the third week of May.

**Date of Next Meeting** The next Session meeting will be on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm.

Subsequent meetings will be:-

26<sup>th</sup> September – Congregational Board

31<sup>st</sup> October – Kirk Session

28<sup>th</sup> November – Kirk Session

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

**Action Items**

a) Training for website contributors continues.	Morna Scriven
b) There is now a need for someone to prepare the Church each time there is Communion.	Rosie Frew Members
c) Elders interested in the role of deputy to the Session Clerk should speak to the Minister.	Elders Minister
d) Two representatives are needed to attend a “ <i>Celebrate and Discover</i> ” information meeting, those interested please contact Morag.	Morag Michael Members
e) It was noted that a Deputy Prayer Promoter was now required and that interested parties should speak to Morag.	Morag Michael Members
f) Sample Communion invitation cards from other churches or ideas regarding the card’s contents should be passed to Rosie.	Elders Rosie

Minute Clerk

Moderator