

Profile of the Church today – Property

Properties

The church buildings comprise three properties,

- Church
- Church Halls
- Manse.

Church

The present **Church** building dates from 1788 and is located in central Kirkcaldy on a small rise within a burial ground dating back to the original church in 1650. It is a traditional stone building with slated roof, a tower and steeple. The building is category B listed and is within a conservation zone. Over time various alterations have been carried out to provide an open, light and comfortable environment within which to worship. Internally it consists of a sanctuary with a choir range, dais, main seated area with beechwood pews set in a semi-circular layout with a central aisle and two other aisles to the east and west transepts. There is a child centered play area set in the west transept. There are three balcony areas, East, West and Raith also formed in beechwood and configured to match the lower semi-circular area of worship. The Sanctuary and Galleries can seat approximately 400.



The pulpit is of beechwood construction to match the pews and located on the dais. There is an office/vestry with robing area and toilet, a session room capable of meetings for approximately 15 persons, tower and spire with cast iron bell still in use to the present day. The Session room doubles as the preparation area for photocopying activities. There is a toilet and Beadle's cupboard to the side of the entrance vestibule. Music is provided by an original James Jepson Binns Pipe organ. A Yamaha Clavinova Electric Piano is often used to supplement worship.

The church buildings support disabled access, with disabled toilets being provided within the Halls complex. There is a hearing loop and PA system installed with capabilities for the play back and recording of services and other events held within the Sanctuary.

As well as Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals the Church has been used for concerts, musical recitals and Local Authority public meetings.

Halls

The **Halls** are also of traditional stone and slate roof construction. They are category C listed and are also within the conservation area. They are separate but adjacent to the main church. There are two halls, the Main hall and the Kennedy hall. A small but effective kitchen supports organisations using the halls and any social events held. There are male, female and disabled toilets within the complex. External ramps

provide disabled access to the complex. A stage exists within the main hall and has been used for concerts, pantomimes, drama and fetes. The Main Hall can seat 120 set in concert style and can comfortably take 80 set for supper, coffee and other types of social events. The stage is provided with stage curtains, lighting and a sound system. There is a hearing loop within the main hall and arrangements are in place to add a hearing loop to the smaller Kennedy Hall. This hall takes about 60 set in a concert style. There is a wall mounted projection screen and presentations can be made to meetings via a PC capable TV.



The halls are used on a daily basis by a wide range of groups meeting at varying times throughout each day. They comprise:

- Tia Chi classes; Scottish Country Dance Group; Fife School of classical Ballet; Zumba; Craft Group; Royal Scottish Country Dance Group; Ladies Probus Choir; Rainbows, Brownies and Guides; Beavers, Cubs and Scouts; Monthly Coffee Mornings; Young Church; Coffee after Sunday Worship; Taekwondo group.

They are also used on a one off basis for :

- Birthday Parties; Charity Functions; Elections.
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Manse

The **Manse** is a stone built detached villa with slated roofing and traditional sash and case windows. It is centrally located in Milton Road, a distance of some 0.5 miles from the church and close to the main shopping area, train station, schools, theatre and sports facilities. On the ground floor there is a spacious entrance hall, lounge, dining room, living room, kitchen with adequate storage and a wash closet. Upstairs there is a master bedroom, 3 bedrooms, a study and a bathroom with shower. Heating is by gas fired central heating with all radiators controlled via thermostatic valves. The manse is carpeted throughout and is fitted with vinyl floor coverings in the wash closet, bathroom and kitchen. While white goods are not installed at present these will have been supplied prior to our new Minister taking residence. A tarmac driveway leading to a single garage accesses the property. There is a small garden to the front and a large garden to the rear. At present the gardens are maintained under contract.



The Manse meets all of the Guidelines and Regulatory requirements laid down in Appendices 4 and 5 of the Vacancy Guidelines for Kirk Sessions and Interim Moderators produced by the Ministries Council of the Church of Scotland.

Property Management and Condition

The Church and Hall properties are subject to a general inspection on a weekly basis with a formal inspection carried out late autumn of each year to assist with the updating of our five-year rolling maintenance programme with maintenance activities for the next year. The Church and Hall properties are in good condition. The Manse is covered by similar arrangements with regular discussion with the Manse family to once again assist with updating the five year rolling maintenance programme and to agree maintenance activities for the coming year.

Identified items for repair are carried out timeously once approved by the Church Management Group and Financial Board.

The Manse properties are also in good condition. The manse in particular will be subject to a schedule of repair detailed to ensure that all regulatory requirements have been met before a new Minister takes residence. Areas subject to personal choice will be discussed with the incoming Minister and, where relevant, the new manse family.

Supporting Documentation

The following documents are available via the church website <https://abbotshallchurch.org.uk/documents> for viewing. These are:-

- 2015 Quinquennial Inspection Report - Church;
- 2015 Quinquennial Inspection Report – Halls;
- 2015 Quinquennial Inspection Report – Manse;
- 2016 Property Register – (Valid to 31st December 2016);
- 2016 Manse Condition Schedule – (Valid to 31st December 2016);
- Schedule of Manse vacancy works (Approved June 2017);
- Kirkcaldy Central - Local Churches Location Map.
- Church Video;
- Halls Video;
- Manse Video.