

Which place and date the Kirk Session met and was duly constituted with a reading and prayer.

- Sederunt** Ena Hudson with I Anderson, M Baxendine, J Browning, I Clark, A Duncan, B Farrell, Jim Gilmour, J McLeod, M Michael, D Murray, J Napier, W Page, M Petrie, A Steward, K Wilkie.
- Apologies** G Bruce, S Docherty, J Farrell, E Fraser, Jane Gilmour, R Henderson, M Hope, R Michael, A Moyes, J Scott, M Scriven, E Smith, R Wright.
- Agenda** The published agenda was approved with the addition of an item on the Church sound system
- Rev. Marc Prowe** The moderator welcomed the Rev. Marc Prowe.
- Minutes of Last Meeting** The minutes of the last meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> August were approved.
- Matters Arising** *Shoe Box Appeal.* Elders were reminded that the last day for shoe boxes to be left at the Church would be Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October and subsequently at Templehall on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.
- Church Sound System** Rev. Prowe complemented all those on the Fabric Committee who had volunteered their time and talents to install and maintain the sound system. Due to recent difficulties at a wedding service and feedback from worshipers, however, he suggested that there was a need to spend some further thought and money on improvements bearing in mind the age profile of the congregation.
- The Moderator advised that this matter had been brought before the Session as it directly influenced worship.
- Mike Petrie explained that a sound engineer had surveyed the church in early summer. The engineer had also interviewed both Bruce Farrell and Richard Michael to gain a comprehensive view of requirements. The report giving the outcome of this survey had been delayed due to the pressure of his work over the summer and would be progressed.
- The difficulties at the wedding service had arisen from a last minute change requiring the use of a microphone which had not been tested prior to the service. In the absence of anyone on the sound desk this had caused serious acoustic interference. After some discussion it was agreed that a team of people would be organised by Mike and Bruce to attend the sound desk during all services.
- The Session was asked to note that the T-Loop in the Church ran around the edge of the gallery and so the best reception areas are in the central pews or the front of the gallery. Also Elders were advised that modern hearing aids automatically switch to a T-loop signal when one is in use.

Various aspects were then discussed including the use of a T-loop in the Kennedy Hall, speakers addressing the Session meeting from the front and alternative seating plans for Session Meetings.

- Communion** Elders' duty letters were distributed. Morag explained that seating the congregation only in the central pews downstairs reduced the number of duty elders and simplified the distribution of the elements. Additional ropes would be provided to close the side pews. Volunteers were required to prepare the church on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November and all were requested to remain after the communion to assist with clearing up.
- Duty Rota** The latest rota had been issued. The rota is restricted by people on tea and coffee duty, bell ringers and any one with mobility problems. Elders were reminded that they were responsible for finding substitutes.
- Friendship Group** The following report was submitted by Morna Scriven.
- “We met on the last Wednesday in August to discuss a syllabus for the next year. It was decided among the members present that we would try to have a speaker at our meetings but that we didn't want somebody every month. Morna, Isobel and Anne (Steward) met again and brought together a programme. We still have some people to contact before it is all finalised and then it will be sent round the membership, put in the next newsletter and on the church website.
- At the September meeting we are going to cover shoe boxes in Christmas paper for people in the church. They will be left on the front pew on the first Sunday in October for anybody to help themselves. We hope to put this on a future agenda to do every August.”
- Safeguarding** All those safeguarding trained from 2013 are required to attend a refresher course between February and May next year. The course is of a half day duration, usually on a Saturday morning or if there are enough interested people at an alternative time. Dianne Murray and Morna Scriven, who trained after 2013, were exempt at this time.
- Pastoral Care** The group had met recently and there was nothing to report. The Moderator was advised that members in Hospitals and Retirement Homes are visited by the group as well as Rev. Prowe.
- Presbytery Report** Presbytery met on 5th September.  
**Moderator:** George and Beryl Luke were appointed joint moderators. They have long and extensive experience of Presbytery, particularly in their roles of prayer promoter and elder trainer, but also in their invaluable assistance to Presbytery in the background.  
**Accounts:** Jean Webster presented the accounts. The per capita levy is being increased to £3.50. The attestation of accounts has been completed and congregations can now submit their returns to OSCR.  
**Presbytery Staff:** The Presbytery administrator has resigned.

Presbytery is going to advertise for a Depute Clerk.

**Celebration of 500th Anniversary of the Reformation:** St Andrews is the designated Scottish city in a Europe-wide initiative, "Reformation Cities" and several events are planned to take place in October 2017. For full details please see <http://2017.wp.st-andrews.ac.uk>

**Intimations:**

- Dysart St Clair are running a series of events
- Foodbanks are in urgent need
- Heart and Soul Swing Band are holding a concert in Culross on 23rd September
- St Columba's is hosting a visit from their partner church in Malawi from 12<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> September.

The Moderator advised that the Kirkcaldy Food Bank was struggling due to the level of demand. Briggs Marine have donated a fixed sum every month for five years but there was a great need for donated food. A survey of the clients' needs was being conducted to identify patterns with a view to targeting support. The clients are short of money and food and generally in desperate straights.

**The Vacancy** The Nominating Committee had reviewed various options and was doing as much as possible to find a Minister.

**Correspondence** The following intimations had been received.

*Soul Space* Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September at St. Kenneth's Parish Church Kennoway, 1-3 pm and 6.30-8.30 pm. Option led reflection on the theme of Psalm 139.

*Sleep in the Park* Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December overnight in Princess Street Gardens. A mass sleep out to end homelessness in Scotland for good.

*Understanding Our Faith* Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November in Perth.

*Borderline* Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 8 pm to 6 am a sleep out in Lord's Cricket Ground supporting homeless Scots in London.

A thanks card had been received from Betty Cooke.

**AOCB** Volunteers required to read scripts were being sought for the parts of Jesus and Peter at the service on the following Sunday.

Andrew Duncan announced that legacy cheques had been received from the estates of the Nan Dow and Olga Gosling.

Arrangements were made for Remembrance Sunday and the provision of poppies.

It was agreed that Ensemble could play in the Church on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December.

