

**NORTH PARISH CHURCH, STIRLING.  
MEETING OF THE KIRK SESSION, HELD ON  
MONDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2019**

**1188 CONSTITUTION OF MEETING.**

Rev. Scott McInnes welcomed the members of the Kirk Session and thanked them for their attendance. He opened the meeting with a reading from Ephesians 4:1-16  
He then constituted the meeting with prayer.

**1189 SEDERUNT AND APOLOGIES**

The meeting took place in the Murray Hall on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2019. The names of the 15 elders present were recorded in the Sederunt Book with apologies from another 7.

**1190 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the Kirk Session meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April 2019 were approved and accepted by the Kirk Session.

**1191 MATTERS ARISING**

**1. Presbytery Elder.** Allan McCallum has requested to step down as Presbytery Elder. Mr David Briggs has volunteered to take on this role. The Kirk Session approved his appointment as Presbytery Elder. Maureen will notify Presbytery.

**2. Pastoral Care.** The Session discussed the options that had been put forward to changes in the way we do pastoral care at Stirling North.

- Do nothing, as the time may not be right to make changes to pastoral care.
- Revert to some form of Elder's district system.
- Apply the principle laid out when the current Pastoral Care System was launched and visit every member once a year.
- Look at some blends of 'Home Groups@ and 'districts' for pastoral care.
- Explore some other structures of pastoral care.
- Consult members of the congregation regarding pastoral care.
- Explore the possibility of producing a church magazine/news letter.

It was agreed that we should look at and update the Communion Roll, A group of elders who have been attending the North Church for a good number of years should get together soon to go through and update the roll.

Members on the roll will be contacted and updated.

It was agreed to have a "Back to Church" service, which will be held on Sunday the 29<sup>th</sup> September. The Guild has agreed to host a Church family lunch following this service. Donations for the lunch will be requested in aid of the Guild Project on that date.

**3. Evening Services.** Due to poor attendance at the evening services, the Kirk Session agreed to stop the evening services and Sunday@3 where numbers have also fallen. This may be reconsidered at a future date. This will free up time for other events, e.g. meet with other churches. There will still be a regular prayer meeting. Details to be worked out.

**1192 APPOINTMENT OF ADMIN. WORKER./**

### **/WORKER.**

The suggestion was made that it would be good to employ an administration assistant who would be in the church office regularly, who would give support to the property convenor and would also improve communications within the church. We are financially stable to employ someone. The Kirk Session agreed to ask the congregational board to take over developing a plan.

### **1193 MESSY CHURCH**

A review and lunch which was held in April was well attended. The steering group have reviewed some of their procedures. Messy Church brings all the church family together. The next 3 Messy Church services planned will take place on the 15<sup>th</sup> September, 27<sup>th</sup> October, and the 1<sup>st</sup> December.

### **1194 NEXT STEP WORKING GROUP**

Planning for the future. The Kirk Session had a discussion on the things we already do, and things which we could do. Scott asked the Kirk Session for permission to set up a small working group to look at things we need to do and to prioritise which are the most important. The Kirk Session agreed to setting up a working group of 5 to 8 people, who will report back to the Session

### **1195 MINI BUS**

The mini bus was recently involved in a road traffic accident with another car. 17 church members were in the bus at the time. The Kirk Session responded with a vote of thanks to Alisdair for his skilful driving on the evening of the accident, in which no one was seriously injured. Pat and Alasdair have been corresponding with the insurance company. The mini bus may be written off, and in that case, we won't purchase another. The suggestion was made that any money paid from the insurance could be put in a transport fund. The Kirk Session agreed and the matter is now referred to the Congregational Board.

### **1196 GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.**

Scott spoke about the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland 2019. The centrepiece of the Council of Assembly's report is the radical action plan for reform of the church, as instructed by the General Assembly 2018. The plan envisages reforms at national, presbytery and parish levels, a major investment in 'new ways of doing church'. Working with other churches and organisations, improved training and support for all leadership roles in the Church.

The first task is the establishment of a growth fund of £20-25m, to be spent from 2020 -2026 on initiatives to develop mission through new ecclesial communities and church planting.

Scott advised the members of the Session to look at the Church of Scotland Website link to Life and Work. The report in Life and Work is very informative.

### **1197 PRESBYTERY REPORT.**

No report was available at this meeting. Hunter Grier reported that 4 candidates have been presented for Ministry training

### **1198 SAFEGUARDING**

Training is all up to date. PVG checks have been received for Jan and Dave Gillies.

Anna will inform the Kirk Session when new safeguarding training courses are available.

### **1199 ROLL KEEPER REPORT**

Annis reported that one of our Communicant members, Mrs Sylvia McGlynn, has recently died.

### **1200 CORRESPONDENCE./**

**/CORRESPONDENCE.**

Maureen has sent an extract minute to Presbytery, re the appointment of Mr David Briggs as Presbytery Elder.

**1201 A.O.C.B.**

**Church directory.** Sheena, Evelyn and Ian need Kirk Session agreement to put names on the church website. This was referred to the Congregational Board for guidance from our data protection officer, Ian Mackenzie.

**Path of Renewal.** Scott has received an email from Rev. Liz Crumlish, who coordinates Path of Renewal. Letters have been sent to ministers, Presbyteries and session clerks to let the know the project is open for new nominations.

Path of Renewal offers ministers mentorship and gives congregations an opportunity to “stand back, reflect and discuss”. They are looking for ministers and congregations who are open to reflecting and considering new ideas and ways of working. Every minister will be connected to a mentor and will be working with a group of people who are interested in changing our church culture and in supporting each other.

Congregations across Scotland can apply for Path of Renewal, and there will be no restrictions on the number of congregations from each Presbytery. The original 40 ministers who took part in the initial pilot project will continue to take part and will act as mentors and guides for the new ministers.

**1202 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

28<sup>th</sup> August 2019

**1203 CLOSE OF MEETING**

The meeting was closed with prayer.

.....**Minister**.....**Session Clerk**