

## **Minutes of Elders Meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> August 2020 at 7.30pm by Zoom**

**Elders :** Norman Cordiner, Allan Dunbar, Duncan Dundas, David Goudie, Angus Jamieson and Alasdair MacLeod.

**Apologies :** Kenny Mackenzie

**Secretary :** George Mackenzie

### **1. Opening Devotion**

In Nehemiah 2 v8 and in v18 we read the words - "and because the gracious hand of the Lord is upon me". The book of Nehemiah is a place to go for lessons on leadership. The options we go through are numerous and we don't know all the answers. Sometimes we feel overwhelmed. The only solution is that we go to God. 2 Corinthians verse 12 - "my grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness". In Acts 4 we read the early church was feeling intimidated. Acts 4 v29 - "enable your servant to speak your word with great boldness, stretch out your hand".

Time of open prayer.

### **2. Membership Update**

Kirsten Adams to be interviewed by Angus and David with a view to membership.

Alasdair is discussing membership with Brian Forbes.

Elders discussed various new individuals and couples that had become involved with CCC. It has become difficult to engage with them due to the current restrictions.

### **3. Wedding**

Dean and Iona have asked Alistair to lead the wedding ceremony next year.

### **4. Church Identity**

Culduthel Christian Centre (Holm Evangelical Church) is an Evangelical Church (affiliated to the Baptist Union). This will be reflected in our Google listing.

### **5. Finance**

God has generously provided for the church during lockdown and Income has exceeded expenditure.

During lockdown the church has continued to make loan repayments and the outstanding interest free loan currently stands at £102,000.

The church was able to place some staff on furlough during lockdown. Income from rents and coffee shop has been Nil during that time. As the church reopens, costs will rise and the importance of reviving these income streams was noted, particularly as we will have increased salaries.

A gift of £3000 has already been received towards the new camera, video and IT equipment.

A gift of £1000 was received towards IT equipment for CAP.

The annual accounts to 31st March 2020 to be circulated to church members. The board of the trustees have approved the accounts.

Norman gave a prayer of thanks for the generosity of givings to the church.

### **6. CAP**

A risk assessment re working safely in the CAP shed is being carried out by Alan Imrie - looking at both health and safety and COVID.

### **7. Church Building**

The elders briefly discussed who was currently using the church building and how it might be used in the short term. The church building opens on 31st August.

## **8. Return to Church Preparations**

First church service will be on the evening of 30th August. Alasdair asked for prayers for this first church service.

The elders thanked everyone for their support on approving the purchase of the new equipment to allow streaming of services.

There will be a "question and answer" meeting on third September to cover various areas such as church services, coffee shop, opening up the church building etc.

The elders discussed Alasdair's email on children's work.

## **9. Children's Work**

Alistair and Allan to meet with Alison Shanks to discuss future children's work and how this will integrate with Oscar Forbes as he joins the church in September.

Allan prayed

## **10. Teaching Plan**

Alistair presented the teaching plan for the next nine Sundays from passages in Nehemiah.

## **11. Communion**

The Scottish government is allowing community services for limited numbers. This will not be all-inclusive meantime. It was decided that the morning service on the 30th of September will include communion.

## **12. Employees**

Oscar Ford is starting on 7th of September. He has short-term accommodation. Equipment will be provided for him.

Meeting with Helen on 26th August to get her views on how Oscar will integrate with the youth work.

Communication with the existing teams is very important.

Oscar will be welcomed in on the church service of 20th September.

A meeting will be held with Jenny Sinclair to discuss her return to work.

## **13. Next Elders Meeting**

The next elders meeting will be held at Culduthel Christian Centre on Saturday 19th September from 8.30 til noon. The aim is to reach consensus on church leadership through the Bible.

David closed in prayer