

Minutes of Elders Meeting held on the 29th October 2020 at 7.30pm by Zoom

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

Secretary : George Mackenzie

Kenny opened the elders meeting in prayer

1. Opening Devotion

Alasdair read from John 21 v 1-6

Nicky Gumbel thought Alpha on-line wouldn't work but he has discovered Alpha on-line is reaching different people. We don't know what will work until we try it. If we try something and it doesn't work we shouldn't beat ourselves up. Jesus told the disciples to try something different and the disciples caught loads of fish. We need to be obedient to God. We are using new tools such as Zoom and WhatsApp but we need to adapt. God will use these technologies. We need to put our nets down.

Duncan prayed

2. Membership Update

Kirsten Adams became a member, joining the church through an online service in October

3. AGM

The AGM will be held on Wednesday 25th November. This will be an opportunity to connect and to share information

4. Connecting

People are struggling with disconnect, particularly single and young people. A walking group has been set up through the church. We are complying with current Scottish government guidelines which allow organised walking groups of up to 30 people with social distancing measures in place. Graham and Doreen are willing to lead a group. Pre-booking on church website will be required. First walk will be 8th November. Kate Fletcher assist Graeme and Doreen.

5. Finance

All the employees that were furloughed have now returned to work and all the job retention scheme refunds have been received.
For the period 16/9/20 to 15/10/20 the total income including Gift Aid was £18739. Expenditure including capital expenditure was £21321.
Interest free loan outstanding £97,000
The appeal for contributions for the estimated IT equipment cost of £15000 has raised £10519.
The annual accounts to 31 March 2020 have been sent to the members for approval. The buildings insurance has been renewed for a further year.

6. Communion

It is proposed to have communion and prayer on the first Wednesday of each month. Will be on Zoom. The new cameras will allow the service to be held in the church. The first communion service will be on Wednesday 4th November.

7. Verse for 2021

Verse For consideration. 2 Corinthians 4 v 7. This verse talks about the gospel being held by fragile people. How can we be a witness at this time through our own fragility?

8. Evangelism Plan for January 2021

We discussed a plan to run Alpha and Christianity Explored simultaneously on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

- Alpha - Questions and Answers (fluid)

- Christianity Explored - Bible Study (focussed)

After our discussion Alasdair and Angus considered the workload of running both simultaneously the same week. The plan is now amended to run Christianity Explored in January and then Alpha later in the year.

Time of open prayer

9. Youth and Children's Work

Messy church – a total of 50 could attend including team leaders and administrators. The elders appreciated that the event has been considered and give their approval. Further details to be finalised. Nikki and Joan are in charge of the event.

10. Mother & Toddlers Group

Joan will be involved each day. The group will be open for four days each week. The committee to look at setting the group up. The group will use the creche room and the garden outside. Food will be organised according to guidelines. There will be limited numbers. The Target is to open week commencing 9th November. The mother and toddlers group have their own constitution, their own committee, and their own bank account. One church member should be on the committee

11. Appointment of additional Elders

When and how?

Existing elders should consider who might be appropriate as new elders and communication to be made to the church members to ask the same question. The elders should also communicate to Alasdair who they suggest.

The church should be called to prayer on the appointment of elders

Alasdair asked her to prepare a letter to send to the church members.

How do we give opportunity for younger members to become elders?

12. Children's and Youth Ministry

The elders were encouraged by the paper presented by Oscar. It contained a huge amount of information and ideas. What are the priorities? Oskar has met with the leaders of the different groups, listening to what has been done and considered how it might be developed. From the paper it can be seen that there is a desire to have more face-to-face meetings. It was agreed it was important to ensure that Oskar is not overloaded.

13. Coronavirus

Alan Imrie is doing a risk assessment assessment on each room in the church with a view to room letting and for use by church related users. Marion is now running the coffee shop. Norman reviewing salaries of employees connected with the coffee shop, cleaning and maintenance. It was agreed that temporary staff may be paid on an ad hoc basis to cover staff shortages

14. Marriage

Aimee Snoek and Tony Puglisi plan to marry at CCC on the 9th of April 2021. Alasdair and Alison are leading them through marriage preparation.

15. Next Elders Meeting

The next elders meeting will be held by Zoom on 19th November at 7.30pm

Elders Meeting : Wednesday 21st January at 7.30pm

leaders meeting : Wednesday 28th January at 7.30pm

Plan to start the new year with a week of prayer

Meeting closed in a time of prayer