

Minutes of Elders Meeting held on the 17th December 2021 at 7.30pm by TEAMS

Elders : Norman Cordiner, Alan Cuthbert, Allan Dunbar, Jonathan Dunbar, Duncan Dundas, David Goudie, William Hamilton, Angus Jamieson, Alasdair MacLeod and Daniel Stephen.

Secretary : George Mackenzie

Alasdair opened the elders meeting reading from Hebrews 12, focussing on "Perseverance", and Angus prayed.

1. Events

The funeral service for Anne Macnaughton confirmed 10.30am at CCC on 24th January. Church volunteers will provide refreshments for the immediate family.

The church weekend at Faskally has been postponed (pandemic).

Family Sundae event on 9th January cancelled (pandemic).

The week of prayer will continue commencing 9th of January with an evening service.

Prayer meeting on 5th January cancelled.

Prayer meeting on 12th January will be held with several groups made up from 3 households - socially distanced.

2. Pandemic Guidance

William had circulated by email the latest government guidance. Church services will continue with the following recommendations :

- Encourage lateral flow testing
- 2 metre distancing on stage
- For the church services the card system will be used again to allow people/ families to be socially distanced.

Teas and coffees will not be served after the service and this will be under review each week.

Allan & Norman prayed

3. Facilities

It was agreed to proceed in January with the re allocation of rooms options as presented and discussed at the November elders meeting. This will create more meeting rooms/useable space for different groups/activities.

4. Oliver Vellacott

Alasdair acknowledged the gracious email sent by Oliver following the death of Isabel. It will be encouraging to everyone who knew Isabel. The email will be circulated by church email.

5. Church Services

Norman noted that during the past 18 months several ministries had been very effective in communicating with those connected with the church and that their input was and continues to be very valuable

Numbers returning to church have dropped from around 350 to 200. There are several reasons for this including a fear or of meeting in groups (pandemic) and disconnection from the church.

As people return to church it is important that the church connects with them. The morning service is core to church life and it should be welcoming, well organised and incorporate the youth. Praise is important to allow the congregation to participate. Timing is a consideration both for the congregation and those involved in youth activities.

The question was asked if communion is appropriate at a busy morning service with people attending that aren't able to participate.

It was agreed to discuss this further in 2022.

William advised 40-50 people are watching the online service weekly.

6. Week of Prayer 9th – 16th January

The week of prayer will commence at the evening service on 9th of June. Most of the prayer meetings will be held on line and several elders volunteered to lead them. Jonathan will lead a prayer group in the church during the day on Wednesday 12th. Alasdair will set up a rota.

Alasdair highlighted prayer before the Sunday morning service and the blessings that came from this.

7. Finance

For the month of November:

Income £22475

Expenditure £21544

In addition – Donations to the local CAP Hamper appeal was £2020

8. Outreach events including Easter

A welcome meeting to be organised early 2022

Screw tape letters production at CCC Friday 25th March

Alasdair and Angus to discuss possibility of:

- Evangelistic Meal in a hotel possibly with Smithton Free Church on Friday 1st April
- Morning conference at CCC with Andy Bannister on Saturday 2nd April

CAP HQ have requested possibility of meeting at CCC and filming some of the work that takes place.

David closed the elders meeting in closed in prayer

Next Elders Meeting

Thursday 17th February 2022 7.30pm at Culduthel Christian Centre

Dates for Diary

Week of prayer – Monday 10th – Sunday 16th January 2022

Elders & Ministry team leaders meeting 27th January 2022