

## **Summary of the Minutes of the Congregational Board Meeting held on Monday 24 August 09.**

The meeting was attended by the Chairman, Minister, Treasurer, Clerk plus 28 Board Members and was opened, as is customary, with a prayer.

### **Opening Remarks.**

New member, William Logan was welcomed to the Board. The church cleaning rota is to continue meantime although the matter is in hand to fill the cleaner's vacancy. Grateful thanks was given to all on the rota. Rates of pay for the new incumbent to be somewhere in the middle of current standards. A cleaning schedule is to be put together. The out of school club is now back.

### **Matters Arising from Minutes of Previous Meeting.**

An objection is to be made by the applicant against the council's refusal to grant permission for a hot food takeaway at Mercer Place .

### **Correspondence.**

Grateful thanks was given to the Ladies Badminton Group for their donation of £100.

### **Treasurer's Report.**

Our current finances are in good shape with assets being up by £9000. The General Fund now stands at some £26,000, the bulk of which is held in the Church of Scotland Deposit Fund. Income to date is £46,317, against Expenditure of £42,902. From the Fabric Fund, £1500 has been removed to the Church of Scotland Deposit Fund in order to maximise our Interest. From the Forrester Bequest of £7847, £2293 has been set aside for the new chair lift with the remainder of £5594 also being transferred to the COS Deposit Fund. The Legacy Fund has continued to improve, although it is still well down from its peak. Current value is £8.47 per unit. The accounts for 2008 have been approved by Presbytery and are ready to go to OSCR before the end of September. An application by the Gift Aid Convenor, Audrey McArthur, to proceed again this year with the Christmas Gift Envelopes, was approved.

The Chairman thanked the Treasurer for his report.

### **Fund-raising Committee Report.**

Money from the 'sunshine' bags is expected to be in by the end of September.

### **Property Convenor's Report.**

The scheduled painting at the manse is underway. The screening for the overhead window in the church above the projection screen is now in position. Work to accommodate a new disabled access from the side door has commenced. This will entail the fitting of a ramp leading to a new, replacement side door. The ramp does require planning permission and the necessary administration is in hand. A portable, hydraulic lift to enable disabled access from the lower to the upper hall is expected to be delivered soon. Painting in the downstairs toilets has been completed by Manuel Giraldas but the remainder of the repainting schedule has been put on hold until he is fit again.

### **A.O.C.B.**

A suggestion has been made by the minister that, whilst we are in the process of re-painting the outside of the main entrance, we give some consideration to improving the overall appearance. The Minister also gave an update on the current status of the Touch Trust now that it has been granted charitable status. The next step is funding and to start this off, it was suggested that we, as a church, 'put some money in the pot' ourselves. It was suggested that £5000 be allowed for this. This was approved by the meeting. It is also usual for the Church of Scotland to contribute. Donations by individuals can be increased in benefit where Gift Aid agreements apply. Contact is also being made with various organisations. A charitable trust meeting will follow later with regard to the employment of the Trust's youth worker. A suggestion was also made that we apply to Touch and Garvock Community Council for some kind of donation.

The Meeting closed with prayer.

The next meeting will be Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> November.