

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ELGIN HIGH CHURCH  
CONGREGATIONAL BOARD  
HELD IN THE CHURCH HALL ON TUESDAY 19<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2007.**

The Minister, Rev. Julie Woods opened the meeting with a reading and a prayer.  
The Minister welcomed Ms Libby Mitchell to her first Board meeting.

**APOLOGIES**

Apologies were accepted on behalf of A Chapman, G Farquhar, L Fyffe, P Fyffe, A Grant, A Hyland, G Irvine, M McGarrie, F Oswald, G Rae, M Robertson, E Roger, G Roger, J Roger, N Roger, M Smith, C Stewart, M Stuart, N Sutherland.

**ATTENDANCE**

There were 42 members in attendance.

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the previous meeting, having been displayed in the Hall for over a month, were accepted as a true record. Proposed by D Russell, seconded by A Rae.

**MATTERS ARISING**

In the interests of saving time A Allardyce asked whether it was necessary for the Property and Finance Convenors to mention all the items listed in their comprehensive reports. Although some Board members were sympathetic to this suggestion both Convenors felt that it was important to continue to outline the contents of their reports.

An article regarding Mr Evans's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations has gone to Life and Work but has not yet been published.

**CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk intimated that he had written to Ms Libby Mitchell inviting her to join the Board as a co-opted member and she had confirmed her acceptance in writing.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer gave a report of the financial transactions that had taken place since the previous meeting. He indicated that offerings had reduced by 10% from 2004 while expenditure continues to rise. The upgraded sound system has been installed in the Hall and the costs of £707 have been met by High Spirits.

It was agreed that £2,000 received from the late Mrs J Mortimer's estate and £200 from Mrs A Stewart in her husband's memory should go to the Fabric Fund. A cheque for £300 had been received from the Social Committee and it was agreed that this would go to the Minibus Fund

**PROPERTY REPORT**

Mr Urquhart briefly summarised work in hand and mentioned that special funds are set aside for the work required to create the Prayer Corner and the area for use by the disabled.

Mr Urquhart then spoke to the paper provided regarding the future of the Church buildings. Two options were proposed as follows:

Option 1

Dispose of the existing Church and ancillary buildings and acquire a site on which a new multi-purpose building would be erected.

Option 2

Retain the existing Church complex with a view to carrying out certain developments to make it more user friendly and capable of fulfilling the multi-purposes functions of a contemporary Church and socially orientated building.

A general discussion then took place when Board members expressed opinions and requested clarification regarding some of the proposals. Mr Urquhart indicated that professional advice may need to be sought but this could be funded by the General Trustees so there would be no cost to the congregation. Similarly if Option 2 is pursued the considerable cost implications could be offset by applications for 'match funding' from various sources. Any funding requested from the General Trustees needs to show that the Church congregation has been consulted.

Board members unanimously decided that the Property Committees' recommendation of Option 2 should be adopted.

It was agreed that a congregational meeting to consider the two options should be held on Tues. 25<sup>th</sup> September 2007 at 7.30pm. Mr Urquhart and his committee were thanked for their hard work in taking this matter forward.

**SOCIAL REPORT**

Mrs Rae mentioned the successful congregational walk held on the 9<sup>th</sup> June 2007, although it was not as well attended as last year. This was possibly due to it being held on a Saturday rather the traditional Sunday. Work is underway in planning events for next year.

**HALL REPORT**

Mrs Garrow indicated that a forward programme of bookings will be provided at the next Board meeting.

**FUND-RAISING REPORT**

Mrs Urquhart reminded Board members of the family ceilidh due to take place on Sat. 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2007. Mention was also made of the photo competition with entries due to be submitted by the 15<sup>th</sup> August 2007. The photos receiving the most votes will be used to create a 2008 calendar.

The Minister reminded Board members that the Fund-raising Committee has only three members including herself. Any more volunteers, or ideas for fund-raising opportunities, would be greatly appreciated.

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS**

A) In order to have Sunday school/Toddler group representation on the Board it was agreed to co-opt Mrs L Jackson and Mrs M Rankine as Board members. They can then be considered for election at the next Annual Stated Meeting.

B) Board members were reminded of the Calendar Planning Group meeting due to be held on Mon. 25<sup>th</sup> June 2007.

C) Dates for future Board meetings were agreed as follows 11<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2007, 13<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2007, 12<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2008, 8<sup>th</sup> April 2008 and 17<sup>th</sup> June 2008 (joint meeting with Session).

The Annual Stated Meeting to be held on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2008 at 12pm. following the Church service.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

After announcing that the next meeting will take place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2007 at 7.30pm the Minister closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Minister

Clerk to the Board

Date