

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ELGIN HIGH CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL BOARD  
HELD IN THE CHURCH HALL ON THURSDAY FEBRUARY 2ND 2006.**

The Minister, Rev Julie Woods opened the meeting with a Bible reading and Prayer.

Apologies were accepted on behalf of Mrs Stuart, Mrs Cooke, Mrs Junor, Mrs McGarrie, Mrs Cameron, Miss Auld, Mr and Mrs G Roger, S McKay, N McLeod, J Morrison, W Shand, and P Fyffe.

There were 47 members present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted on a proposal by C Fraser seconded by Mrs Smith.

The Clerk reported that as a result of a meeting with the Minister, Minutes of Board meetings will no longer be read out. They are now available for everyone to read in a folder placed on the Hall notice Board and can also be read on the Church Web site. Agenda's of Board meetings can also be found in the Hall folder about two weeks prior to a meeting.

Mr Crossland then spoke of all the mail he has sent and received since the last meeting.

The Treasurer gave a report of all the financial transactions that had occurred since the previous meeting. He presented details of the General Fund expenditure for the year 2005 and a Budget for 2006. Sadly he said that expenditure far exceeded the income and he felt there was a need to be very careful over the raising and spending in the future. The Treasurer, his committee and Auditors were thanked for all the hard work they had done. Members approved the accounts and they will be presented to all church members at the Stated A.G.M. which will be held after morning worship on Sunday March 12th.

The Property convenor then gave a report of matters that had been taken care of since the previous meeting and reported on all the money that has been spent during 2005. He reported that a number of Bills were outstanding and it would be impossible to do all the work they would like to undertake on the Building in 2006 due to a lack of money being available. Mr Urquhart then presented a Budget for 2006. He said that based on the Income being currently generated it will be necessary to limit spending on the Property to £15986.00. and a lot of outstanding work will have to be carried forward.

A Social report was given by G Rae who spoke of the recent successful quiz night. He reported that the programme for the Social evening on February 25th will now consist of "Call my Bluff" and "A Matter of Opinion" he hoped members will support the Committee at this event.

Mr Harris then addressed the meeting and said he was standing down from the office of Convenor of the Hall committee. Mrs Anne Garrow has kindly agreed to fill the vacancy.

The Clerk reported that Anne Drysdale had been forced to resign from Tradecraft for a while due to health problems but Charles and Maureen Fraser would take over Anne's duties until she feels fit enough to return to them.

Mr Morrison, Mini Bus convenor then addressed the meeting regarding the state of the Mini Bus and the expected cost to keep it on the Road. It was agreed to discuss the matter again once it had undergone an M.O.T. test next week. The vehicle is now worth little, even if there were no mechanical problems it would still cost £1000 to keep it on the road. There are very few people using it now. The Board will have to consider if it would be more beneficial to sell the vehicle and transport the few who use it by volunteers or Taxi.

The Minister then reported on another item discussed with the Clerk, The Structure of the Board. She felt that it was not necessary to have all Elders on the Board of Management but a few to serve for three years then rotate with others. Rev Woods asked for comments and the Clerk said he thought the present system was fine. There are only 20 elected members of the Board of Management and only 9 of them were present. If only a few Elders were to attend it could possibly result in there not being a quorum to deal with Business. He also felt that having all Elders on the Board ensued that many knew what was being done and planned. Members agreed that the present system should continue.

A short discussion took place regarding a desire for more people to become involved in Church Business and this will be looked at in more detail by the Minister and Clerk.

Mr Farquhar reported that in the first few weeks of ensuring that the Doors are not locked during Morning Worship, someone who had to leave during the Service came face to face with a stranger in the building, who then took off.

The Minister announced that due to holidays the Church Planning meeting scheduled for July has been re-arranged and all committees should note the new date for the meeting is Thursday June 15th.

After announcing that the A.G.M. will be on Sunday March 12th and the next Board meeting will take place on Thursday April 27th, the Minister closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Minister.

Clerk to the Board.

Date.