

# Allan Park South Church of Scotland, Stirling

Registered Charity No. SC001414

## Minute of a meeting of Allan Park South Church Session

Held in the Church Office  
Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at 7pm

Constitute	The Interim Moderator, Rev Stuart Sharp, constituted the meeting with a bible reading from Galations chapter 6, and prayer.																																																			
Sederunt	The meeting was attended by The Rev. Stuart Sharp and a number of Trustees as recorded in attendance book																																																			
Apologies	Apologies were received by David and Mary Boyd, Hugh Buchanan, Jane and Phil Harris and Ed Morton.																																																			
Previous Minutes	Previous Minutes were approved by John Shaw and seconded by Arthur MacDonald																																																			
Matters Arising from previous minutes	None																																																			
Notification of AOCB	<div>a. Appointment of Presbytery Elder</div> <div>b. Boys Brigade</div> <div>c. Business Plan Development for APS building</div>																																																			
Finance Team report	<div>The Session Clerk reported in the Treasurer’s absence :-</div> <div>Bank balance as at 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2019 £45142.09</div> <div>Of which:</div> <div>Unrestricted funds £20547.09</div> <div>Restricted funds £24595.00</div> <div><table><tr><th colspan="5">INCOME COMPARISON</th></tr><tr><th colspan="5">DATE RANGE 4th May to 3rd May</th></tr><tr><th>INCOME TYPE</th><th>2017/2018</th><th>2018/2019</th><th>VALUE +/-</th><th>% +/-</th></tr><tr><td>Gift Aid</td><td>£28,233.90</td><td>£23,647.69</td><td>-£4,586.21</td><td>-16.24%</td></tr><tr><td>Freewill Offerings</td><td>£1,981.93</td><td>£2,201.40</td><td>£219.47</td><td>11.07%</td></tr><tr><td>Open Plate</td><td>£4,121.58</td><td>£4,524.61</td><td>£403.03</td><td>9.78%</td></tr><tr><td>Mission and Renewal</td><td>£0.00</td><td>£0.00</td><td>£0.00</td><td>0.00%</td></tr><tr><td>Hire of Premises</td><td>£11,720.00</td><td>£13,445.00</td><td>£1,725.00</td><td>14.72%</td></tr><tr><td>Sundry Income</td><td>£1,434.08</td><td>£1,449.53</td><td>£15.45</td><td>1.08%</td></tr><tr><td>TOTALS</td><td>£47,491.49</td><td>£45,268.23</td><td>-£2,223.26</td><td>-4.68%</td></tr></table></div> <div>Observations:</div> <div><div>1. A grant from the VAF fund was received on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May in the sum of £4748.00</div><div>2. A refund of income / capital gains tax was received in the sum of £6418.99 plus £2000.00 (the maximum allowable) under the Gift Aid Small Donation Scheme (GASDS) making a total refund of £8418.99.</div></div>	INCOME COMPARISON					DATE RANGE 4th May to 3rd May					INCOME TYPE	2017/2018	2018/2019	VALUE +/-	% +/-	Gift Aid	£28,233.90	£23,647.69	-£4,586.21	-16.24%	Freewill Offerings	£1,981.93	£2,201.40	£219.47	11.07%	Open Plate	£4,121.58	£4,524.61	£403.03	9.78%	Mission and Renewal	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%	Hire of Premises	£11,720.00	£13,445.00	£1,725.00	14.72%	Sundry Income	£1,434.08	£1,449.53	£15.45	1.08%	TOTALS	£47,491.49	£45,268.23	-£2,223.26	-4.68%	
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	<p style="text-align: right;">/£8418.99.</p> <p>3. During my holiday absence, Jim Steel will be able to reimburse all expense claims in respect of the Lunch Club, BR etc.</p> <p><b>Church Insurance:</b> The insurance for the Church buildings falls due on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2019. A long-term agreement with our current insurers, Ansvar via our agent, Towergate Insurance, ends on this date also. Following an instruction from the General Assembly in 2013, all congregations are required to insure their property through the Church of Scotland Insurance Services. Allan Park South have had permission from 2013 to continue with Ansvar under the long-term arrangement. In conjunction with the Finance Team (who met on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April) and who approved the new COS insurance, I have arranged cover for the Church property including contents to begin on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June. Taken together with the Manse insurance (the Manse being insured for £429,930.46 – index linked) it means an overall saving in total insurance costs of £1200.00 per annum. A copy of the new policy has been retained in the office safe.</p> <p>This note about insurance is for information and does not require Kirk Session approval because the General Assembly, being the highest court, instructed it. For the avoidance of doubt, the Manse building only is insured – the contents being covered by the occupier. Cover was restricted in April 2018 when the Rev Alistair Cowper vacated the property and further exclusions (recorded in the minute) were applied. These included, but were not restricted to, the escape of water; regular weekly inspections etc. When the Manse is re-let, these exclusions will be lifted. The COS insurers will require full contact details of all the occupants of which the Property Convener is aware.</p> <p><b>Pension Auto Enrolment:</b> Every three years employers must reassess ALL employees including those who may have opted out of the Auto Enrolment pension and complete a Declaration of Compliance. Employers must choose their re enrolment date which can either be 3 months before or 3 months after the 3rd anniversary of the staging date.</p> <p>As the Church's staging date was 1st June 2016 we must advise our chosen re-enrolment date which can be from 1st March 2019 to 31st August 2019. The Finance team is aware, and Jim Steel has taken steps to complete this process.</p>	
<p><b>Emerging Church Project Manager's Report</b></p>	<p>Sally Forshaw, our ECPM reported the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A college student starts volunteering with us this week at Bairns Rock initially. Bairns Rock continues to be a great success although the afternoon group has got off to a slow start.</li> <li>• The Wellbeing Choir is holding a fundraiser to purchase a new piano, on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June at 7-9pm in the large hall. Choir continues to be very well attended every week with 24-30 attendees.</li> <li>• Unfortunately we were unsuccessful in getting funding via the Postcode Lottery for the continuation of the Tea Dance. <b>ACTION: Efforts will be made by the ECPM to seek alternative funding.</b></li> <li>• Rev Stuart Sharp, our Interim Moderator, advised that 121 can provide details of all funding available by category. <b>ACTION: Stuart to send details on to APS.</b></li> <li>• K Johnston advised that Dobbies and B&amp;Q both offer outdoor funding programs &amp; contact will be made with them in the near future.</li> </ul>	

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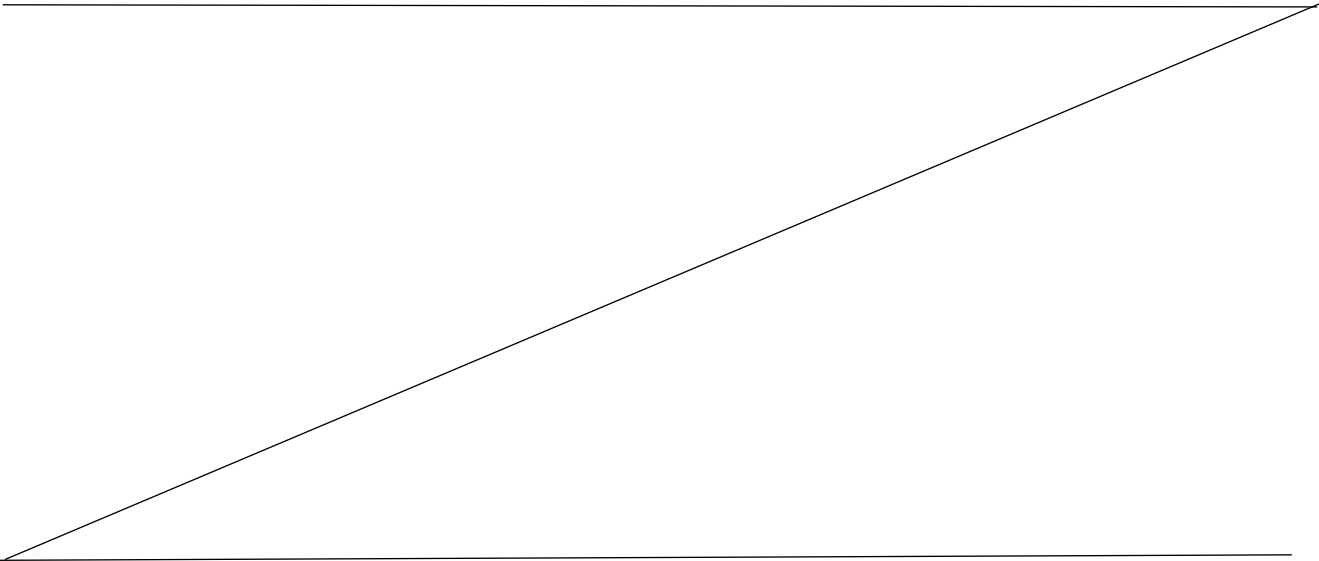
	/2019.	
<b>Presbytery Elder's Report</b>	<p>Arthur McDonald, our Presbytery Elder reported :-</p> <p>STIRLING PRESBYTERY MEETING HELD AT BRIDGE OF ALLAN PARISH CHURCH ON THURSDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> MAY 2019</p> <p>There was not a great deal of business at the meeting and most of the time was allocated to the Radical <b>Action Plan</b> and for the new <b>Local Church Review</b></p> <p>Before we go on to the main events, there were other items which discussed namely</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was no report from the Ad Hoc Committee on the Presbytery Plan.</li> <li>• The Stewardship Committee intimated that the manse at Bannockburn , Allan Church, was given permission to refurbish the manse kitchen and that the Kirk Session of St Columba's are proposing to sell their manse at 5 Clifford Place Stirling and also are proposing the spend £49,000.00 on work to the Sanctuary. The sale of the Manse will be undertaken by the General Trustees and the Law Department.</li> <li>• Church &amp; Global Society reported that Keith &amp; Ida Waddell who are missionaries in Africa, are visiting from 27<sup>th</sup> Sep to 6<sup>th</sup> Oct and are looking to meet with their home church.</li> <li>• A Missionary trip is going to Russia soon – Anyone wishing to join them on this trip should contact A MacDonald in the first instance.</li> <li>• The Local Church Review will be discussed at the General Assembly.</li> <li>• The Radical Action Plan to be discussed at the GA proposes to reduce Presbytery numbers from 44 down to approx. 10-14 and recommends reduction in sizes of Kirk Sessions. Also recommends de-centralising of 121 functions to larger Presbyteries., and reducing number of committies.</li> <li>• It proposes to change the term of active eldership from life serving to 3-5 years.</li> <li>• Proposes to change the Ministries and Mission payment.</li> <li>• Proposes to stop the vacancy allowance.</li> <li>• Proposes a £25m-£30m fund be created for Mission &amp; Growth</li> <li>• The Local Church Review (LCR) is to be revised with a new way of conducting the review. Currently it is a 5 year review.</li> </ul> <p><b>ACTION: Rev S Sharp agreed to send details of the LCR to the Session Clerk.</b></p>	
<b>Rollkeeper's Report</b>	<p>Hugh Buchanan, our Rollkeeper reported :-</p> <p>There have been the following changes to the Roll since the report of 13 March 2019.</p> <p><b>Additions</b> <i>none</i></p> <p><b>Removals</b> <i>none</i></p> <p>There are 153 names on the roll, including 8 adherents.</p>	

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	<p>/ adherents.</p> <p><b>Eldership</b> Joyce Badenoch and Agnes Wilson have each indicated that they no longer wish to be a Trustee, and are therefore now on the roll as Elders Emeritus.</p>	
<b>Worship Team's Report</b>	<p>Our Worship band leader, Jim Steel reported that we are continuing with the 3 ministers supporting us as we have over the past 6 months, these being Rev Gordon Mathew, Rev Mike Dawson and Very Rev Albert Bogle. Currently June is not filled with exception of 1 week.</p> <p>Rev S Sharp recommended an accredited 'Reader', Darren Jalland, who he has worked with before.</p> <p><b>ACTION: J Steel to liaise with Darren Jalland to see if he will work with us on our worship services.</b></p>	
<b>Union Update</b>	<p>The Session Clerk reported that there had been two meetings to date mostly 'getting to know you' meetings. We did find in our second meeting of the Basis of Union joint team, that our view of what our mission and purpose is as a church, was very similar. In practice the way we achieve that currently is fairly different. Rev J McCormack, our lead facilitator will send on the minutes of both meetings to date.</p> <p>We discussed that it may be possible to have an 'addendum' to the Basis of Union agreement to define our 'working agreement' and how this will be in practise, especially in the early months/years of our union.</p>	
<b>Correspondance</b>	None	
<b>Other Competent Business</b>	<p>It was agreed by the Kirk Session that Arthur MacDonald should remain our Presbytery Elder for the year to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020.</p> <p>Our Boys Brigade captain, I. McCallum, has handed in notification of his formal resignation to take effect on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2020. We will need to discuss between the Kirk Session and Mr McCallum, who would be a suitable successor.</p> <p><b>ACTION: J. Steel, Session Clerk, to meet with I. McCallum to discuss his thoughts on this. Also to write to I. McCallum thanking him for his years of service as Captain.</b></p> <p>Jim Steel raised the possible creation of a SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation) as a management umbrella for future use of the united congregation, in running outreach projects. This is a useful organisational structure to reduce any future monetary burdens to the church, and also to attract external funding for mission and community outreach work.</p> <p>The Kirk Session agreed that Jim Steel pursue progressing this further.</p>	<p><b>Pres. Elder</b></p> <p><b>Boys Brigade</b></p> <p><b>SCIO</b></p>
<b>Blessing</b>	The meeting was closed by the saying of The Grace by all.	

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**MODERATOR**

**CLERK**

**Date**

**Date**