

ST MARYS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, ABERFOYLE

Rector: Revd. Canon Richard Grosse

www.stmarychurchaberfoyle.org.uk

Charity Registered in Scotland: SCO23266

**Minutes of Vestry Meeting held in the Church Room
on Friday 17th July at 7.30 pm**

PRESENT: Mark Seymour (Chairman), Susan Forsyth, Jean Sykes, Christopher Roads, James Gardner, Nick Cooke, Anne Winther, Peter Joynson, Margie Stephen, Richard Grosse (Rector)

1. The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and The Rector opened with a prayer
2. **APOLOGIES:** Alastair Gardner
3. MINUTES OF VESTRY MEETING HELD ON 8TH MAY 2015: The Chairman signed these as a true record of the meeting.
4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: None
5. SECRETARY'S BUSINESS: None
6. TREASURER'S REPORT:
 - 6.1. The Treasurer was unable to attend tonight's meeting and had intended to send the Chairman a full report for discussion at the meeting. But this had not been received in time. The Chairman informed the meeting that the Quinquennial Survey had been paid for and also the rewiring of the Rectory - a contribution of £250 (+VAT) had been made by St Andrews in Callander for this. The only outstanding work to be completed was the replacement Emergency Exit Sign in the Church Room - the estimated cost was £200 - for which Vestry approval was given. **ACTION:** Treasurer

The Chairman pointed out that the electrician had recommended track lighting to replace the present lighting in the Rector's study.

6.2 CHURCH GIVING FUND: The Chairman pointed out that a updated Application had been received from the Chesney Trust who had applied to us at the January meeting.

Applications had also now been received from Art Link and Callander Youth Project and Vestry had received details regarding these. It was assumed that the fund may stand at approximately £700 which included a proportion of the organists fees which Jean Sykes kindly contributes.

The Chairman agreed to confirm the current amount available in the fund and subject to availability Vestry agreed to donate £200 to Artlink, £200 to the Chesney Trust and £250 to Callander Youth Project.

ACTION: Chairman and Treasurer

Discussion took place regarding the collection taken at the Harvest Service, as this used to be put into the Church Giving Fund. Vestry agreed that collections now taken at Harvest Festival and the Carol Service at Christmas were to be put into the Fund. **ACTION:** Treasurer

Margie Stephen raised the issue of the Loan of £15,000 to St Marys.

The Chairman pointed out that this year's expenditure was high and that the lender is happy to wait for repayment. Nick Cooke felt that this loan should be included in forward budget figures and annual budget projections should be provided by the Treasurer. **ACTION:** Treasurer

Discussion took place regarding charges for hiring out the Church Room and the Chairman agreed to check again about the Insurance position. **ACTION:** Chairman

7. EVENTS:

7.1 Feis Fhiort on 31st July 2015 - no food or wine was being provided

7.2 Les Trois Blondes on 30th October

7.4 The Chairman had agreed that the Russian Choir should return on 11th November 2016.

Discussion took place regarding events and whether an organising working group should be set up. It was felt this should be raised at the AGM in December. Volunteers and Ideas would be welcome as this is all done by the Chairman at present. It was felt that St Marys should decide whether our wish is to have an events programme in order to raise funds for the Church and this could be part of the Treasurers Report at the AGM. The Chairman felt that we should go to the AGM with a proposal and Margie Stephen agreed. The Chairman agreed to provide a written note of what is entailed in running the events.

ACTION: CHAIRMAN and TREASURER

8. COMMUNICATIONS:

8.1 **AREA CONTACTS:** It was agreed an Area Contact meeting should take place. **ACTION:** NICK COOKE

9. GODLY PLAY

James Gardner reported that planning was underway to start again in September on the 4th Sunday of the month. James agreed to inform the Chairman of the dates so that these could be entered onto the website. **ACTION:** JAMES GARDNER

9. FABRIC

9.1 The Rectory rewiring had been completed and paid for. The hob in the Church Room has been disconnected and a free standing 2 ring hob could be purchased if desired and run off the socket above the old hob. The electrician had confirmed that the socket is rated for this use.

The Chairman pointed out that there were a few issues with slates on the roof and the nesting birds in the eaves had to be dealt with later.

10. **RECTOR'S REPORT:** The Rector produces the weekly bulletin and he pointed out that there are still places available on the Linkeage Outing to Dunfermline Abbey. The Rector reminded the meeting that the Manchester Lads would be joining the congregation on 26th July.

Discussion took place regarding a relief organist for Jean Sykes. James Gardner agreed to get contact details for Matthew Beetchan who

is returning to Dunblane and becoming a freelance organist. It was agreed that the Rector should then approach possible candidates with the intention of finding someone to play at regular intervals to enable Jean to have a break. ACTION: RECTOR, JEAN SYKES, JAMES GARDNER

Susan Forsyth reported that Michael Forsyth is compiling a book of Barbara's weekly pew leaflet pieces which could be sold to raise funds for St Mary's. Jean Sykes pointed out that there were still cards and postcards available for sale.

11. ECO CONGREGATION

The Chairman thanked Christopher Roads for his report circulated to the Vestry on the meeting he attended at St Columba's in Bridge of Allan. Christopher briefly explained the situation which he found very useful. Nick Cooke agreed to investigate funding available and Anne Winther agreed to investigate the SCCF Fund. Christopher Roads asked for a list of meter readings over the last few years to establish whether we should switch to a Green Tariff. The Chairman thanked both Christopher Roads and Anne Winther. ACTION: ANNE WINTHER and NICK COOKE

12. AOCB :

Susan Forsyth and James Gardner attended the recent " Gathering" at the Cathedral in Perth which was useful in gaining ideas for Mission outwith the Church and with young people.

James updated the meeting on Glenalmond Youth gathering and the Church of Scotland Youth Summit at Gartmore House which he is very much involved with.

Eco Congregation Scotland Seminar to be held on 23rd September in Edinburgh for Church Leaders. Nick Cooke agreed to circulate details if relevant. ACTION: NICK COOKE

It was felt that the Rectors Report should be brought higher up the Agenda to 3rd on the agenda.

The Chairman thanked all for attending and the meeting closed with members saying The Grace, led by Margie Stephen, in the absence of the Rector.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Friday 23 October 2015

St Mary's budget / Accounts Position – at 30th June 2015
Vestry Meeting: 13th July 2015

Current balances at 30 June 2015:

Vestry account: **£2,685.58**

Restoration Account : **£2,227.37**

Income outstanding:

HMRC : £740 (small donations Apr 14-Apr 15)

St Andrews contribution to Electrical works £895.20

Outstanding debts

Electrical Works £2538

Therefore working balance for Vestry Account : **£1,782**

Actuals (last 9 months)

Month	Income	Expenditure
Oct	£9,792.48	£4,658.10
Nov	£4,411.10	£4,282.48
Dec	£4,805.68	£5,092.09
Jan	£3,202.20	£4,948.20
Feb	£4,227.90	£5,604.01
Mar	£5,536.42	£5,347.42
Apr	£5,474.19	£4,341.10
May	£3,528.76	£5,839.41
June	£3,103.62	£5,403.30
	£44,082.35	£45,516.11

Recent items of Expenditure

April

Organist £450

Chubb Fire Extinguisher checks £195

May

BT - £161

Roof Repairs £343

Quintennial Report £1200

S Nisbit (financial accounts) £275

Yellow gift aid envelopes (printing)£71

June

Rayburn Maintenance £683

Eco Congregation membership £50
Scott Audio £60
CINI Donation £200
Electricity Bills : £502
Cleaning £120

As a result of the cash flow, a further HMRC gift aid for @£3500 has been submitted. A further gift aid claim will be made in October 15 at the start of the new financial year.

Serious consideration should be given to a stewardship campaign in 4Q15 as additional income is required in 2015/16. This needs to be a key agenda item at the next Vestry meeting

Alastair Gardner,
Treasurer

