

On behalf of the Rector ST MARYS EPISCOPAL CHURCH,  
ABERFOYLE

Rector: Revd. Canon Richard Grosse

[www.stmarychurchaberfoyle.org.uk](http://www.stmarychurchaberfoyle.org.uk)  
Charity Registered in Scotland: SCO23266

**Minutes of Vestry Meeting held in the Church Room  
On Friday 20th January, 2017 at 7.30pm**

PRESENT: Mark Seymour, Alastair Gardner, James Gardner, Mary-Clare Brown, Margie Stephen, Nick Cooke, Christopher Roads, Anne Winther, Susan Forsyth

1. WELCOME AND PRAYER: In the absence of the Rector, Mark Seymour chaired the meeting and Margie Stephen opened with a prayer.
2. APOLOGIES: Jean Sykes
3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF VESTRY MEETING DATED 21st OCTOBER 2016

Mark Seymour signed the minutes as a true record of the meeting on behalf of the Rector.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT COVERED IN THIS AGENDA

Rectory Insulation - no further progress.

Church Heating. As new grants may now be available it was agreed that a Canon 35 application should be submitted to cover all the work on both the Rectory and Church and Vestry Room. Nick Cooke and Christopher Roads reported that there are now three options for heating the church, convector heaters under the pews (recommended option), overhead infra red heaters/chandeliers, and heated cushions. It was agreed that Electric Heating Solutions should visit the Church and report

on their recommendations. An air source heat pump was still the preferred option to heat the vestry.

Nick Cooke agreed to email information re Electric Heating Solutions to Mark Seymour  
ACTION: NICK COOKE

The Rector was to check that there are still grants available for loft insulation.  
ACTION: RECTOR

The Brown Legacy - Floodlighting the Church was to be followed up, and a new printer purchased.  
ACTION: MARK SEYMOUR/ALASTAIR GARDNER

It was agreed to invest the Brown legacy with Smith and Williamson until the money was needed.  
ACTION: ALASTAIR GARDNER

## 5. RECTORS MATTERS

Review of Christmas Services - It was reported that there was a very low turnout of St Mary's members at the midnight Kirk Service. The Carol Service was a great success and well attended and thanks were due to Mary-Clare for the organisation. The Christmas Day service in St Mary's was well attended. No decision taken re changes. Bring Up Next Meeting

## 6. FINANCIAL REPORT AND TREASURERS MATTERS

Treasurers Report - The Treasurer presented the attached report, and explained that Expenditure from October to December was £15,493.94 with income of £12,507.36. He would be claiming Gift Aid shortly which should bring in over £6,000. A bill for the roof repairs is expected.

OSCR - the Secretary explained that no changes to the Constitution were needed at the moment.

## 7. SECRETARY'S CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER MATTERS

None

We are now Registered under the Data Protection Act.

## 8. CONCERTS AND EVENTS

It was agreed that the Summer Fete was to be repeated, with a mix of local and Church tables. The date of Saturday 17th June was agreed. Susan Forsyth agreed to take this on and organise helpers.

ACTION: SUSAN FORSYTH

Concerts - Christopher Roads presented a paper which is attached. He also circulated the programme to cover 2017. He will be applying for a further grant. Our financial losses this year will be covered by the grant already received. He mentioned that we need to increase attendance but that the concerts are now becoming an established local event and these things take time to build up. Performers had to be paid the going rate, so the concerts are costly to put on. It was suggested that a Jazz concert and/or other music might be included at some stage. Thanks were due to Christopher for all his hard work and enthusiasm in providing an excellent mix of concerts with the help of Mary-Clare. Advertising the events was a problem and it was suggested that a banner(s) be purchased and put near the Rob Roy on a permanent basis and at other roadside locations. Thanks were also made to Melanie Grosse for providing tea at the concerts. ACTION: CHRISTOPHER ROADS

Mary-Clare pointed out that we must start selling the newly acquired St Mary's Mugs perhaps for £7.50

## 9. FABRIC MATTERS

Organ lights and Music Stands with lights - it was agreed to purchase these - a grant may be available

Back stands for the music stands were discussed ACTION: JAMES GARDNER

Miller Windows - The Application was refused by the Diocese and the windows will now go elsewhere.

Tam Mackie has been asked to look at the lighting.

## 10. AOCB

Hymn Books - Discussion took place on the Complete Anglican Hymns Old and New

It was felt the Rector's view should be sought. It was also agreed to purchase a number of copies. No decision was taken by Vestry as to changing to this new book. Margie Stephen had circulated her views on the benefits of the new book but the questions still remained from the previous vestry meeting - what extra hymns do we get, and which hymns do we lose from the existing books if we change.

The Chairman thanked Margie for her input and advice.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

24th January 2017

Next Meeting 21<sup>st</sup> April

## CONCERT REPORT DATED 19 January, 2017

### SUMMARY

This brief report follows on from that of 21 Oct 16.

### DETAILED REPORTS

There have been two concerts since Oct 16:

**Sun 20 Nov 16: Kentigern Quartet.** An excellent performance by Kentigern, with a very good programme. Good audience interaction, and the concert was very well received. The performers stayed on for tea afterwards although they had to get back for babysitters etc. Audience numbers were disappointing, though - only 32 – but Kentigern would love to come back.

**Result:** Ticket sales: £320, cost £480 + £50 expenses. **Loss £210.**

**Sun 15 Jan. Pistons and Pipes.** Again, a very good concert with virtuoso playing on trumpet, clarinet and organ, and a good mix of programme. The organ worked well and swelled magnificently during the Mendelssohn. Calum Robertson was very impressed with the organ. "Like all organs of course there can be issues but he was really able to be very creative with it."

Another quote from George Willis: "Callum's efforts on *our* organ left me nearly speechless - what an utterly fantastic performance ! It has clearly justified the £ 20,000 investment we made in it, as part of our major renovation programme !"

P & Ps were not cheap, although they hope they justified their fee. They also would like to come back, possibly at a discounted rate! Audience numbers were slightly better at 42 (of which 10 are in our congregation), but still rather low.

**Result:** Ticket Sales: £420. Performers Fees + expenses: £593.10. **Loss: £173.10**

### FUTURE PROGRAMME

Publication of the future programme was delayed due to the difficulty of finding organists, However, this problem has been rectified for 2017, and probably for 2018 also. Sixty copies of the 2017 programme were printed for the P & P concert and it has been reproduced on the website. Already, it is due an update, and it is intended to do a print run of 1000 copies once we have our new printer (and a final version).

### MATTERS ARISING FROM THE OCT CONCERT REPORT

No further invitations to children have been issued. Kentigern declined to accept this obligation, and it was not felt appropriate for Pistons & Pipes; it was also very close to the start of term. All the performers for 2017 have agreed to this. It was also mentioned that some of the audience would like to attend this session, so I mentioned it at the start of the last concert.

The organ tuner was consulted about placing a small heater in the organ during winter but gave the idea an emphatic NO.

**Feedback.** It is intended to distribute a feedback form to future audiences.

St Mary Vestry Meeting– 20<sup>th</sup> January 2017  
Treasurer Report

**1. Headlines**

- Current balances (end Dec):
  - a. Restoration Account - £2,227
  - b. Vestry Account – £7,241.25

**2. Actuals year to date**

The table below is an extract from on-line banking where I have summarised the total income and expenditure by month for the financial year.

<b>Month</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Income</b>
<b>Oct Total</b>	£4,325.78	£3,559.10
<b>Nov Total</b>	£5,467.26	£4,821.00
<b>Dec Total</b>	£5,700.90	£4,127.26
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£15,493.94</b>	<b>£12,507.36</b>

**3. Headline Items for Oct-Dec**

For Expenditure;

Oct	Nov	Dec
Pipe organ Maintenance - £162	Pipe Organ Maintenance - £126	Electricity bills - £144 / £295
BT - £172	Electrical works - £48	Ind Examiner - £268
	Mugs - £501	Eco -congregation - £25
	Donation £150	Clergy Conf - £105
		Data Protection Registrar - £35
		Kentigern Concert fees - £530

For Income

Oct	Nov	Dec
		Kentigern Concert Income - £320
		Carol Service - £342 (Church Giving Fund aligned)

#### 4. Smith and Williamson / Robert Sutherland Investments Income

Smith & Williamson (St Marys)		Smith & Williamson (R Sutherland)	
Dec 16	£397	Dec 16	£237

#### 5. Summary Jan costs (todate)

Xmas taking (paid into account Jan) - £517

Donations £457

Pipes and Pistons concert - £420 Income; £593 Expenses

CCLI membership £107

Viking stationary £212

Hayes and Finch £114

Henderson £580

#### 6. HMRC

12 months of Gift Aid for @£6,212 being submitted this coming weekend covering giving over the period Oct 15 to Sept16.

Alastair Gardner  
Treasurer