

# 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 12th October 2018 at 7.30 pm

**PRESENT:** Rector (Chairman) Rev Canon Richard Grosse, Mark Seymour, John Willis, Saffrey Miller, Alastair Gardner, Christopher Roads, Nick Cooke, Judith Poulton, Susan Forsyth

1. **WELCOME AND PRAYER** The Rector welcomed everyone and opened with a prayer.
2. **APOLOGIES** Margie Stephen, Mary-Clare Brown, James Gardner
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF VESTRY DATED 29TH JUNE 2018**  
The Rector signed the minutes as a true record of the meeting.

### 4. **MATTERS ARISING**

**CHURCH HEATING** Christopher Roads is to produce a report which will be attached to these minutes. Further discussion took place on the 3 options for heating the Church and Vestry as set out on the Story Board in Church. 2 separate Canon 35 applications are to be submitted to the Buildings Committee applications - for the Church heating and the Vestry heating Discussion took place on the provision of a heating/lighting chandelier and how it would look in the Church.

Saffrey Miller asked that the Rector draws special attention to the Story Board on display in the Church regarding the heating options before the AGM in December, with particular reference to the proposed Chandelier in the transept. The Rector agreed to put this in the Annual Report and also in the Church Bulletin in order that comments can be obtained from the congregation.

**FLOODLIGHTING** George Willis has been in contact with Cotterill's regarding the design of the project and it has been agreed that Cotterill's will supply the lighting and that Tam Mackie will carry out the electrical work after

discussions with 2 other possible contractors whose estimates were much higher. The total estimated cost will be £4,302. A planning application has been submitted to the Loch Lomond and District National Park and a decision is due at the end of October. The Canon 35 application has been approved by the Diocese subject to the granting of planning permission and the approval of the Bishop. The funds will come from the Brown Legacy and it is anticipated that the new lighting will be on most evenings after dark.

## **5. RECTORS MATTERS**

**NEW HYMN BOOKS** Discussion took place and Vestry agreed to the new proposed Resolution suggested by the Rector to be put to the AGM in December, which is now to read "Do you accept the offer of a new hymnbook?"

**VESTRY MEMBERSHIP** This is work in progress. Discussion took place regarding new Members of the Vestry. The Rector intimated that Elizabeth Roads had agreed to be the new Lay Representative and also to be elected onto the Vestry. Christopher Roads had come to the end of his Vestry term and would stand down as a member, but still continue to be involved with the Concert Programme with Mary-Clare Brown and the Heating and Lighting issues along with Nick Cooke who will also be standing down from the Vestry in December. The Rector pointed out that John Dymond had agreed to come back onto the Vestry. Elections will be held at the AGM.

The Rector announced that the Diocese Photo Exhibition will come to St Mary's next Friday and will be displayed at the back of the Church.

The Rector announced that he had been appointed Interim Rector of St James's in Dollar, and that this may affect some mid-week commitments.

## **6. FINANCIAL REPORT AND TREASURERS MATTERS**

Alistair Gardner is to produce a paper which will be attached to these minutes setting out the current financial position. As at September we had £15,346 in the current account with £2,227 in the Restoration Account. At the year end we will have made a £7,000 profit which is extremely encouraging.

The Rector agreed to contact Macdonald's regarding the Annual check of the Church and Rectory roofs.

**ACTION RECTOR**

The Rector thanked Alistair.

## **7. SECRETARY'S CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER MATTERS**

Mark Seymour is in the process of completing the Church Inventory. No further matters. The Rector thanked Mark.

## **8. CONCERTS AND EVENTS**

The attached Concert Report sets out the position. The Rector thanked Christopher for all his hard work in organising the very full concert programme.

Vestry agreed to the use of individual candles during the Carol Service together with the Candelabras in the window alcoves. The Aberfoyle primary school will be holding their own Carol service at St Mary's the week before our own. Some decoration of the Church may be needed for the latter event.

It was agreed to hold the Church Summer Fair on Saturday June 8th 2019.

## **9. FABRIC MATTERS**

It was agreed that Jamie Parker would be approached with a view to storing the Church Fabric files in the Church Room. The Rector agreed to speak to Jamie.

**ACTION RECTOR**

The Rector closed the meeting with the Grace and thanked all for attending.

**DATE OF NEXT VESTRY MEETING** Friday 18th January 2019.

Future Vestry meeting dates were discussed and these are to be:

18th January  
26th April  
28th June  
11th October

## **REPORT TO VESTRY MEETING 12 OCTOBER 2018**

### **CHURCH HEATING, RECTORY FUEL EFFICIENCY, AND FLOODLIGHTING**

#### **CHURCH HEATING**

Although draft texts for the HLF funding application and Canon 35 applications for the church heating and vestry heating have been prepared, the final versions have not yet been completed.

#### **FLOODLIGHTING**

In late July George Willis organised a meeting of himself, Mark, Nick, Christopher, and the Rector to agree the updated design from Cotteralls and agree next steps. The meeting endorsed the Cotterall design. It was also agreed that the installation work should be offered to Sandy Fraser, Tam Mackie, and Sandy Soutar.

Sandy Soutar has declined to quote. Sandy Fraser has quoted £3131 + VAT and Tam Mackie £2270 + VAT. With a difference of nearly £1000, George has therefore offered the work to Tam Mackie once the permissions are granted. Cotteralls have quoted £1315 + VAT for the supply of the lights. The total should therefore come in at £4302, i.e. within budget, plus a small amount for the light sensor and time switch.

Application to the planning authority was submitted on 27 August and they are to report by 26 Oct. The Canon 35 application followed shortly after, and Nick has been told that the DBC has approved the application subject to +Ian's endorsement.

## CONCERT REPORT DATED 12 OCTOBER 2018

### GENERAL

This report covers the period 30 Jun 18 to 12 Oct 18.

### DETAILED REPORTS

**15 July:** Feis Fhiort: A much more polished performance than last year. Clearly the points previously raised had been taken on board, resulting in a very enjoyable performance. Audience: 19, income: £180 (including donations of £30 by non-attendees), of which £145 eligible for Gift Aid, resulting in £36.25 GA, therefore total income including GA = £216.25. Cost (fees) £120. **Gross profit: £196.25.** (N.B. Of those attending, average donation = £7.90.)

**19 August:** Ulrike Wutscher, mezzo-soprano, and Alistair Warwick, organ. A most entertaining concert which was very well received. Audience: 46, income £420 of which £350 eligible for Gift Aid = £87.50. Total income = £507.50. Cost = £280 (fee) + £30.72 expenses and organ tuning fee of £162. **Gross profit: £34.78.** Average donation = £8.70.

**16 September:** Alastair Savage and Friends. Another enjoyable concert, with an audience from as far afield as Auchterarder! Audience ~46, income was £270 of which £213 was gift aided, i.e. £53.25. Total income = £323.25. Fees were £600. **Gross loss = £276.75.** Average donation = £5.87. N.B. I underpaid AS last year, which was a bit embarrassing so had promised him £600. Last year they were 4 players, which would have worked out at £150 each, our usual payment, but this year they were only 3, so perhaps an overpayment.

N.B. Please note that the 'voluntary donations' seem to be very variable. This should be kept under review, and if there is a marked decline we shall have to revert to a fixed price ticket.

### OTHER INCOME

We have received £500 against last year's loss from EMS. We have received a grant from EMS for this year's concerts (to April) of £2,750. We also received from the Scottish Churches' Trust a grant of £200. Total grant money received: £3,450.

### VAT on Organ Tuning

I undertook to investigate whether we could reclaim VAT on organ tuning, so approached the SCT for advice. They have sent one comment but promised another which I await. The comment reads:

"If the church is a limited company and registered for VAT then they can reclaim this through their normal tax reporting structure. I would be surprised if many churches were registered as such though – it's a monstrous paperwork faff.

For those who aren't VAT registered, <http://www.lpwscheme.org.uk> makes grants to cover the cost of VAT for repairs to fabric, organs etc. This definitely covers rebuilding and major maintenance projects, but I'm not sure if regular tuning visits are always applicable? The H&H invoices state that regular tuning 'might' be reclaimable under the LPW scheme, and that invoices (with a combined minimum net cost of £500) must be submitted within a year of receipt. Worth a punt, for sure!"

## **FUTURE CONCERTS**

### **2018:**

21 Oct: Monzani Trio (flute, violin, cello)	Fee £450
18 Nov: St. Petersburg Resurrection Choir Russian Choir.	Fee £600

### **2019:**

20 Jan: Les Trois Blondes	Fee: 70% of ticket sales
17 Feb: Kevin Duggan and Ines Zimmerman;	Fee: £200 + £100 expenses
17 March: Allander Jazz;	Fee: £240
28 April: Kentigern Quartet;	Fee: £600
19 May: David Hamilton (Organ);	Probably nil
June: No Concert	
21 July Feis Fhiort;	Fee: £120
18 Aug: Sax Ecosse;	Fee: £600 + expenses
15 Sep: Pure Brass;	Fee: £600 + expenses
20 Oct: Atholl Duo (flute and marimba);	Fee: £300 + expenses
17 Nov: Pistons & Pipes + Sally Carr (soprano & timpani)	Fee: £600 + expenses

## **CONCERTS for 2020**

Some concerts have already been pencilled in for 2020:

16 Feb: Enggard String Quartet	Fee £600
15 Mar: Les Shankland's Chapterhouse Singers: Faure Requiem	TBC - possibly expenses only
19 April: Palisander recorder quartet	Expenses only
17 May: Andrei Soyuz Lyra vocal quartet	£600.00

I have bid for Palisander in either January or April. They are Tunnell Trust winners so any concert would be subsidised, i.e., expenses only - no fee.

Also proposed are the Fyrish string quartet and Sarah Harrington, cello. Various other groups are also interested in visiting Aberfoyle.

St Mary Vestry Meeting – 12<sup>th</sup> October 2018  
Treasurer Report

**1. Headlines**

- Current balances (as at 31/09/18):
  - a. Restoration Account - £2,227
  - b. Vestry Account – £ 15, 346

Year end Surplus : £7,557

**2. Smith and Williamson / Robert Sutherland Investments Income**

Smith & Williamson (St Marys)		Smith & Williamson (R Sutherland)	
Jun 18	£465	Jun 18	£271
Sep 18	£608	Sep 18	£359

**3. Recent Income & costs highlights**

**Expenditure:**

SOUTHERN ELECTRIC  
736116621 £99.49  
SOUTHERN ELECTRIC  
928075621 £122.34

PM Pipe organ Maintenance - £168  
Expenses £123  
Maintenance – lightbulbs - £43  
Hayes and Finch - £144  
White Envelope printing £43

**Income**

July – EMS - £500  
Aug – EMS - £2,750  
Donation : £432  
Funeral fees : £487

Alastair Gardner  
Treasurer