

St. Michael and All Angels' Church, Helensburgh

Minutes of Annual General Meeting of Constituent Members of the Congregation

Sunday 10th December 2017

St. Michael's Church Hall

Item	Discussion	Action	
1.0	Sederunt: 33 members of the St Michael's congregation attended the AGM. There being no Rector, the Vestry Secretary, Nick Davies, was unanimously elected to the chair. Richard Smith volunteered to take the minutes.		
2.0	Apologies: A number of apologies had been received and noted.		
3.0	Minutes of last AGM:		
3.1	The minutes of the AGM held on 11 th December 2016, as published in the Messenger and on the website were approved. Proposer: John Sadden - Seconder: Geoff Mason		
4.0	Matters arising:		
4.1	None		
5.0	Election of Vestry Members:		
5.1	The number of elected members on the Vestry should be between Six and Nine. The current vestry contained seven elected members, all of whom were willing to continue. The constitution requires 3 places to be available each year.		
5.2	Two candidates presented themselves for election, and were duly elected. This brings the vestry up to strength.		
	Name	Proposer	Seconder
	Ann Andrew	Maureen Kyle	Joy Boak
	Sheila Baker	Richard Smith	Jane Davies
6.0	Election of Lay Representative:		
6.1	One candidate presented herself for election to fill the post and she was approved unanimously by the congregation		
	Name	Proposer	Seconder
	Maggie Sheen	James Ashby	Barbara Hoey
7.0	Election of Alternate Lay Representative:		

7.1	One candidate presented himself for election to fill the post and he was approved unanimously by the congregation		
	Name	Proposer	Secunder
	Richard Smith	James Ashby	Sue Hume
8.0	Presentation of Annual Report and Accounts by the Treasurer:		
8.1	<p>The Trustees Annual Report (TAR) and accounts had been made available a week before the AGM on the website and spare copies had been placed at the back of the church. The Hon Treasurer, Janina Duncan, presented the annual report and accounts for the year. Janina explained that, although there was an overall deficit, this was largely due to the church redecoration for which funds had been previously earmarked. Encouragingly we had a surplus of unrestricted income over expenditure for the first time in many years.</p> <p>Janina thanked previous treasurers, Trevor Quickfall and John Sadden for their assistance, other officers of the church for their efforts, and all those who have donated in any way, often anonymously.</p>		
8.2	<p>Questions were put relating to the following issues: -</p> <p>James Ashby asked if it would be a good idea to have a part-time Rector, bearing in mind the financial position of the Church? VSec explained that the Vestry had carefully considered the issue, with the advice of the Bishop and Dean, and concluded that we could afford a full-time Rector and that we could not fulfil our aim to grow the church without one. John Sadden added that of the 23 charges he was able to research, our church had the seventh highest income.</p> <p>Geoff Mason asked whether we have sufficient funds to upgrade the Rectory? VSec replied that the savings of stipend during the vacancy should, with care, be sufficient to cover this.</p> <p>A suggestion was made concerning letting out of a part of the Rectory. VSec explained that the Vestry had considered various options. Dividing the building into 2 flats is not viable and that the practical solution was to maintain the Rectory as it meets the criteria defined by the Diocese regarding size. There is spare space on the 3rd floor, but with no private access.</p> <p>It was asked if Grants for Rectory refurbishment were available. VSec responded that we would be applying for grants from the Diocese.</p> <p>Selina McGeoch asked if the environmental impact of the Rectory would be improved and whether it could be properly established that one room could be set aside for parish use. VSec confirmed that we will make it as 'eco-friendly' as possible commensurate with cost. Regarding use of office and meeting space within the rectory, this will be a matter of negotiation with the new Rector. A suggestion to switch use of rooms by moving the kitchen and putting the office where the current kitchen is located to make access to the office less intrusive was discussed, as was the idea of bringing the original front door back into action.</p> <p>Ben Bellamy asked whether any development of the land was under consideration. VSec explained that access to the lower hall was a priority, perhaps using the</p>		

	<p>current fire door as the entrance with an access path through the Rectory grounds. A proper gate and fencing of the parking area was also being considered.</p> <p>Jo Scott suggested that we install a garden shed for storage of gardening and outdoor equipment.</p> <p>Margaret Horrell proposed that the upgrade of our tea/coffee catering facility should take priority over refurbishment of the Rectory. Ruth Hanks suggested that the solution to the kitchen facilities problem might be to annex the rectory kitchen. VSec acknowledged the importance of getting the tea/coffee servery arrangements improved as soon as possible, but it must be affordable.</p>	
9.0	Appointment of the Independent Examiner:	
9.1	<p>Since the improved service by Clements Chartered Accountants, Janina proposed that Clements be appointed as independent examiner for the 2017/2018 Annual Report and Accounts. This was approved unanimously. Proposer: Mark Duncan – Seconder: Ben Bellamy</p>	
10.0	Rector’s and Congregational Profiles:	
10.1	<p>VSec reminded everyone about the profile documents, which had been updated in accordance with comments received. The profiles were approved unanimously for submission to the Bishop. Proposer: Richard Horrell – Seconder: Margaret Gilbert</p>	
11.0	Lay Reader:	
11.1	<p>The Lay Reader, Kevin Boak, thanked everyone for their support during the vacancy so far. It is hoped that Rev. Pat Smith will be returning to Helensburgh in March and will become available to carry out sacramental services from that time. In the meantime, we have been excellently supported by visiting clergy.</p> <p>Ben Bellamy moved an especial vote of thanks to Kevin for maintaining the House Communions. Kevin said that it had been a privilege.</p> <p>VSec said we have been very lucky to have Kevin at this time, and this was unanimously agreed.</p>	
12.0	Any Other Competent Business:	
12.1	<p>Ann Andrew asked about use of the Helensburgh Advertiser to advertise our services. It was agreed to discuss this at the next Vestry meeting.</p>	
12.2	<p>Ben Bellamy moved a vote of thanks to the Vestry for their work during the year.</p>	
13.0	Close of meeting:	
13.1	<p>VSec closed the meeting by remarking that the strength of our church family is based on the efforts of many individuals, too numerous to mention by name, each of whom do their bit to make things work. He thanked everyone for their contributions to the St Michael’s community.</p>	