Scottish Episcopal Church

Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway

All Saints, Lockerbie

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Sunday 27th November 2016**

**Present**: I & B Stewart, R Ritchie, A Fairn, E MacDonnell, E Wilderspin, K Leadbeater, M Buchanan, M Macgregor, Rev Macleod, L Prhal, D Rose, O McCallion, Rev M Callaghan

1. Rev John Macleod opened the meeting with a prayer
2. Apologies were received from Helen Jeffries, Di Endacott and Pauline Rose
3. Minutes of the AGM held 15th Nov. 2015 were approved as a correct record, Prop. R.Ritchie, Sec, I. Stewart
4. Matters Arising – loss of members was noted both through leaving the area and death and thanks were expressed to all those mentioned in the Minutes
5. **Treasurers Report** – I. Stewart referred to the generosity of members which helped to minimise the cost to the Church for the new chairs and pew removal. There was now a need to use our financial reserves with a projected deficit of £4000 as ‘giving’ declines as a result of fewer members. Referring to the Shared Ministry Account for the Annandale Group Ian indicated that this will need supplementing from the reserves held by the group. Approx £5000 is required to fill the shortfall in All Saints Gretna’s estimated revenue for the coming year. Ian expressed concern about a possible withdrawal of Employment Allowance payments to individual churches by the Government. Such a move is being contested and may take some time for an agreement to be reached but potentially could cost the Group £5,500. Ian was thanked for his contribution to the All Saints and the Group. The Treasurer’s Report was approved, Prop. D.Rose, Sec. Olwyn McCallion
	1. **Lay Representative’s Report** – D.Rose noted that there had been four meetings of Galloway Regional Council, all chaired by Rev John Macleod, and one Diocesan Synod since the last AGM. Topics discussed were the situation in Palestine and Israel, Industrial Chaplaincy and Healing Ministry. It was also noted that Rev Stephen Hazlett had been instituted to the Episcopal Churches in Kirkcudbright and Gatehouse of Fleet. Reference was made to the Diocesan Synod held March 2015 at Paisley. Though discussed there was no resolution to the Diocesan Constitutional Review of Regional councils. It was noted that a local Ecumenical Partnership had been established between St Mark’s East Kilbride and Righead United Reformed Church. Rev Canon Anne Tomlinson was now Principal of the Scottish Episcopal Institute.
	2. **Wardens Report** – I. Stewart highlighted the number of events held in the Church since the removal of the pews. In particular he mentioned the very successful Gift Day, the wedding, ‘bring a friend Sunday’, Red Cross Fashion Show, BBQ for members of St Mary’s, Hamilton and a Shakespeare Evening. A Songs of Praise event was held at Rammerscales by the Annandale Group, we celebrated the Queen’s 90th birthday with a BBQ along with local residents and provided a stall at the turning on of the lights in Lockerbie. Ian noted our outreach programme with the Bishop’s Lent Appeal, a collection made to assist Syrian refugees with a cheque for £300 sent to John Stevenson in Ankara, the Shoebox Appeal and the continued donations of food to the Salvation Army Foodbank. Thanks were expressed to all those who had contributed to events, fund raising, food collection, flower provision, cleaning of the Church, readers, sidesmen and all involved with services. It was noted that the Website was going from strength to strength and particular thanks were given to our two organists who travel from Dumfries each Sunday to enrich our services. The Wardens will be carrying out a review of financial challenges facing the Church to see where savings can be made.
	3. **Secretary’s Report** – R. Richie confirmed the thanks of the Salvation Army for the donations to the Food Bank, thanks to Barbara Stewart for cleaning the Church in his absence and reported he had attended the Guild of Servers celebration in Edinburgh Cathedral.
	4. **Protection of Vulnerable Groups.** P. Rose reported that there were still no young people attending Church and therefore no need for a Sunday School. Two more members have been through Disclosure allowing them to work with children and vulnerable adults. Rev Macleod and Rev Callaghan, Kath Leadbeater and Pauline had attended a course on Safeguarding issues which stressed the importance of protecting all Church members. It was noted that several members visit and keep in touch with members who no longer attend services.
	5. **Property Convenor’s Report.** I. Stewart reported that we had undertaken recommended work indicated in the Quinquennial Survey. In particular, all external paintwork has been completed. Church gates have been painted and the radiant heaters have had some elements renewed. It was planned to look at internal decoration in the Rectory which would be a Group cost.
	6. **Annandale Group Report** – The Group are working hard to understand the changing pattern of ‘church attendance’ and have had discussions with Diocesan officials including the Bishop, Diocesan Treasurer, Canon Missioner, Rev Audrey Stewart and Convener of the WINGs Team, Rev Drew Sheridan.
	7. **Associate Priest’s Report** - Rev John Macleod referred to our need to extend the use of our church building in reaching out to the community, possibly offering talks with visual aids such as data projectors. Particular thanks were expressed to Kath Leadbeater for her work on the Website which had had some 5000 hits in the last year. We had sadly lost Teresa Cunningham Jardine and Janet Handley but had our first wedding for many years – Chris and Julianne. School chaplaincy was now well developed at Lockerbie Academy with John undertaking 5 assemblies. Liz MacDonald and Ron Ritchie thanked John for his support with hospital and home visits.
	8. **Rector’s Report** – Rev Martin Callaghan echoed the thanks given to everyone and suggested there was a depth of talent at All Saints. He highlighted the Website as probably the best in the Diocese. In thanking Rev John Macleod and Ministry Team he paid tribute to the work with schools, their visits to Group churches, the work of Maggie Macleod and the volunteer clergy. Martin complemented All Saints for the care of its grounds.
6. **Elections and Appointments**

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|  |  | Proposer | Seconder |
| Lay Representative | David Rose | I Stewart | R Ritchie |
| Alternate Lay Rep | Ron Ritchie | M Buchanan | E Wilderspin |
| Congregational Member to Regional Council  | Pauline Rose | I Stewart | K Leadbeater |
| Peoples Warden | David Rose | I Stewart | K Leadbeater |
| Rector’s Warden | Ian Stewart | - | - |
| PVG Co-ordinator | Pauline Rose | E McDonnell | R Ritchie |
| Independent Examiner | Armstrong Watson | I Stewart | R Ritchie |
|  |  |  |  |
| Vestry Members | Marjorie Macgregor | I Stewart | R Ritchie |
|  | Kath Leadbeater | I Stewart | R Ritchie |
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1. **AOCB** – Discussion about a poster at the back of the Church to inform members regarding events. Members to contact Rev Martin if they would like Pew Notes by email. Elizabeth MacDonnell wished special thanks to Maggie MacLeod to be recorded.
2. Rev John Macleod gave a **Sending Out and Blessing**