

**The Black Isle Charge  
Joint Vestry**

**Minute of the Fifty Sixth Meeting of the Joint Vestry  
Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2019**

**Members Present:** Alan Danson, Gill Pimm, Susanna Leslie, Alison Garraway, Bill Fraser and Ramsay McGhee.

**Lay Reps. Present:** Dr Helen Robinson, Ann Danson, Julie Gamble

**Alt Lay Reps:** Louise Jeffery

**In attendance:**

**Apologies:** Apologies were received from Rev Canon Mel Langille, Peter Furniss, Margaret Pern, Linda Couper, Mairi MacLean,

**Opening:** The Chairman, Alan Danson, opened the meeting with prayer after which he welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **Minute of the Fifty Fifth Meeting held on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

The Minute of the Fifty Fifth meeting of the Joint Vestry held on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2019, was unanimously adopted as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

2. **Matters Arising:**

- a) **Title Deeds** – No further action.
- b) **Historic Scotland** – No further action.

3. **Correspondence:**

- a) All relevant correspondence had been circulated to the Vestry. All other correspondence of a routine nature had been dealt with by the Secretary.

4. **Treasurer's Finance Report**

Due to the unavoidable absence of the Treasurer, Peter Furniss, the secretary had circulated a report from the Treasurer prior to the meeting. The Report, reproduced below, was noted by the Vestry.

- 1. *Our bank balance as at 31 May 2019 was £9,479.51.*

2. *The above balance is below the levels at the end of March 2019 and partly reflects a delay in submission of our Gift Aid claims for the March Quarter 2019. These have now been submitted and a payment of £3,400 should be received in the next week.*
3. *There are signs that the Charity Shop is now slightly under performing last year largely because of the increasing competition from other events taking place in the locality on a Saturday and possibly the poor weather. Traditionally sales are better during the school holidays but if they do not improve we may need to consider advertising it a little more.*
4. *Additionally, Church attendances seem to be a little lower than last year and although we have core congregational giving by standing order which helps to ensure that a minimum level of income is sustained, the same does not apply to those who donate using the envelope system where if any weeks are missed the shortfall is not always made up. I appreciate the sensitivities of mentioning this but I think we might need to discuss this at the next AGM.*
5. *Our expenditure was well contained in the first eight months, but we do have to spend £1,200 on oil for St Andrews before the end of the Summer and we have the cost of boiler servicing at St Andrews and the Rectory to pay for. I am also mindful that there is some electrical upgrading work that needs to be put in hand although as nothing has been recently said on this subject, I am presuming that no work will now take place prior to the year end at the end of September.*
6. *I am grateful to Alan and the congregation at St Johns who have secured funding towards the cost of the new road signs and their replaced altar lighting. Also to St Regulus for their work on self-funding a new Altar Cloth and to Carsten Flieger who secured £100 grant from the Middleton Trust to help with the running costs of their Sunday Club.*
- 7 *Work is still ongoing with securing completed Charity Gift Aid Declaration Forms from all our regular donors and I shall be pursuing this for both St Andrews and St Regulus in the next few weeks.*

*Peter Furniss, Honorary Treasurer*

*16 June 2019*

In accepting the report, the Vestry recorded its thanks to the Treasurer for his sterling work and for appraising the Vestry so meticulously.

## **5 Church Committees:**

- a) **St John's** – Minute circulated.
- b) **St Andrew's** – No meetings had taken place.
- c) **St Regulus** – Minute circulated.

- d) **The Fabric Committee** – Nothing to report
- e) **The Mission and Ministry Committee** – Minute previously circulated to Vestry Members
- f) **Fund Raising Committee** – No report
- g) **PVG Safeguarding** – All administrative matters up to date.

Discussion took place regarding visiting vulnerable adults. It was noted that Ann McGhee had circulated information to all three congregations but agreed that given the importance of the issues involved in visiting vulnerable adults, the subject should be placed on the agenda for all Congregational meetings.

- h) **Health & Safety** – Fire Extinguishers – the new extinguishers for St Andrew’s had been purchased. They have been placed in the church but have still to be fixed to the wall.
6. **AOCB:** It was noted that Inverness Cathedral was running the Summer Lunch Club. Vestry Secretary to make enquiry as to whether assistance is required in running the Club. Information will be circulated through the Newsletter.

The meeting closed with the Grace at 19.55 hours. The next meeting will be on 11<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30 pm in St Andrew’s.