

**Minutes of Meeting Glenrothes Churches Together  
September 14<sup>th</sup> 2022  
Holy Cross Church, Leslie**

Sederunt:

Richard Gilmour, Chair, Bill Devlin, Secretary, Ryan Robertson, Alan McDonagh, Miriam Smith, Stephen Saunders, Fiona Lawrenson, Robert Paton, Arlene Russell, Gerry Dillon, Alan Kimmitt

Apologies:

John Baker, Lorna Baker, George Carratt, Nancy Munro, Fr. Phillip Kerr, Sally McElroy, Mary Patey

Opening worship: Ryan led us into the meeting with a reading and a short prayer.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved by Robert Paton and seconded by Ryan Robertson.

Matters arising from previous meeting: it was noted that Christian Aid are looking for new members for their committee.

Chair's Report: Richard Gilmour spoke briefly to confirm his appointment as Chair.

Treasurer's Report: John Baker sent his apologies so it was agreed correspondence received by our previous treasurer be held until November's meeting. John, in the interim, communicated that there had been no income or expenditure that he was aware of since the last meeting and that the current balance of the group remains at £9,969.60. Any suggestions as to how this might be spent to progress the work of the group would be welcome.

Secretary correspondence: Bill Devlin advise he had not been in receipt of any correspondence

Matters arising

Prayer Time Together: Steve Saunders had written on the subject.

*'A wee while ago I suggested that members of Churches Together might like to get together for times of prayer. There was little feedback but perhaps COVID was still on peoples' minds. Those keen to pray do not necessarily have to be ministers but those individuals who have a passion for prayer. Heavens knows that there are plenty of reasons to come before the Lord. Can you please, therefore, add an item in the agenda for the next meeting to raise this suggestion again. I was thinking that the prayer times could be rotated around the houses of individual members rather than holding in church buildings.'* his opened up a general discussion.

This prompted a general discussion which generally supported this initiative. The matter was left with Steve, who is shortly going on holiday and will pursue on his return.

Transgender and Assisted Suicide Talk: Steve Saunders spoke again on the possibility of such a talk by Stuart Weir, who had been previously approached. There was some debate about how such a talk might be presented, with a suggestion that the two matters subsumed under the title heading, might benefit from being addressed separately. There was also an opinion that both sides of the questions raised might benefit from being separately represented, speakers for and against. After discussion, it was agreed that the group was in favour of Steve following up the matter with Stuart Weir.

## Christmas Carol Singing at the Town Centre 2022

Mary Patey had advised that she had attempted to contact David Carson, the centre manager. It was agreed that Bill Devlin would pursue this initiative on behalf of the group. A number of opinions were expressed about the positive aspects of such a venture. The possibility of obtaining Nativity Figures for a Carol Singing performance had been discussed previously, and the group received, this evening, a communication about the plan from Sally McElroy.

*'I have done a bit of research and the materials are mostly moulded resin or wood. There is a huge variety of sizes and this affects the cost. The price can be as much as £15,000 for the wooden ones. The smaller (28 inches) resin ones are around £2,000. I haven't been able to identify a local artist as yet. So, we need a decision on budget and maybe if anyone knows a local person for a quote.'*

Alan McDonagh was asked about his sponsored walk on behalf of MacMillan Cancer Support. Alan advised he had closed his 'Just Giving' site after successfully raising the sum of £345.00.

AOB: Robert Paton mooted the suggestion that Churches Together unite to try to accommodate young families and older generation during these particularly difficult times. Miriam Smith from The Salvation Army advised of a drop-in centre held at that venue on a Monday, Ryan from Holy Cross, Gerry Dillon and Ryan Robertson spoke of similar initiatives in planning and already existing. It was agreed that Bill Devlin would send an email to all the individual churches in the group to ascertain what can be done by each of the churches to support this initiative.

### **Dates and venues for meetings after the summer:**

**November 9th, 7.30pm at St Ninian's, Tanshall, Glenrothes (TBC)**

**January 21st, St Columba's Church for the FRIENDSHIP MEAL- details to follow**

**March 8th, 2023, 7.30pm, Trinity Church, Leslie**

**May 10th, 2023, 7.30pm, St Luke's Church, Warout, 2023**

**AGM, 14th June.7.30pm at the Church of Christ, Glamis Centre, Glenrothes**

**The meeting closed with the sharing of the Grace together.**