

Minutes of Meeting of Churches Together in Glenrothes and District

March 8th 2023, 7.30 p.m., Trinity Church, Leslie

Sederunt:

Richard Gilmour (Chair), John Baker (Treasurer), Bill Devlin, (Secretary),
Wilma Page, John Simpson – Christ's Kirk,
Allen Phillips – Church of Christ,
Ryan Robertson – Holy Cross,
George Carratt – King's Covenant Fellowship,
Conor Fegan, Nancy Munro – Markinch and Thornton
Steve Saunders – Salvation Army,
Alan Kimmitt – St Columba's,
Philip Kerr, Sally McElroy – St. Mary Magdalene Parish,
Mary Patey – St Ninian's,
Alec Redpath, Robert Paton – Trinity, Leslie

Apologies: Ruth Anderson, Lorna Baker, Allan McDonagh, Ian Morgan, Davina Saunders, David Smith, Miriam Smith

Opening worship: Robert Paton led us into the meeting with a reading, a short prayer.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved by George Carratt, seconded Alan Kimmitt.

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 there was nothing new to report.

Treasurer's Report: John Baker reported income of £150 from Carol Singing, £188 from Fellowship Meal. Expenditure of £50 (CARE donation), £100 (Markinch Café donation), £215.54 (Friendship Meal), £150 (YMCA carol singing donations). The balance closed on 8th March at £9792.06

Secretary correspondence:

Our Carol Singing event went very well with music supplied by George Carratt and Steve Saunders and the event drawing a very respectable crowd. The sum of £150.00 was raised in our collection and that amount sent, as agreed to Glenrothes Y.M.C.A.

Letter written in my capacity as Secretary for Churches Together, Glenrothes to Altany Craik to enquire about the possibility of securing funding from Fife Council to support the invaluable community support being provided by our Warm Spaces initiatives. A letter from Altany was received in response saying that he had passed the request to the relevant Area Service Manager. Follow-up letter to Altany also sent as no further response received.

Application submitted by Secretary to Fife Council for licence to hold the Walk of Witness on Good Friday.

Email correspondence from John Baker advising members of the Friendship Meal in January and seeking volunteers to make soup for the event.

Letter from Ian Morgan advising that Wilma Page will be the Christ's Kirk contact for the Walk of Witness.

Email received from Wilma Page regarding Walk of Witness readings.

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Matters Arising

Bill Devlin confirmed that the application to hold Walk of Witness on Good Friday, 7th April had been approved by Fife Council. Discussion ensued about arrangements for the event.

The three crosses which will be carried by the three separate walking groups are currently stored at St. Columba's Church. Each group will arrange for the delivery of a cross to the starting points - St. Ninian's, St. Margaret's and Christ's Church. The crosses can be picked up at St. Columba's at a suitable time (e.g., between 11am and 2pm on a Wednesday when the Haven Café is on).

George Carratt will arrange for delivery of a cross to Christ's Kirk and John Baker to St. Ninian's. St. Margaret's is yet to be agreed.

There may also be a representation from Leslie on the walk, Joyce Nicol from Leslie Baptist Church, Robert Paton from Trinity and Ryan Robertson from Holy Cross will liaise on this.

Stewards will be required in each group and each church walking group has the responsibility of organising their own. High visibility jackets and mobile phones to enable communication and to liaise between stewards is a pre-requisite. Each church will require a qualified first aid practitioner.

The service of worship after the walk will be held at St. Columba's. The service is open to all – whether engaged in the walk or not. A buffet will also be provided – arranged by John Baker. This is open to all as well. It was agreed that the buffet will be financed from our funds (estimate is circa £200).

Sally McElroy raised the question of contacting the other Christian communities specifically to give them the information about the Walk for Witness on Good Friday and to ensure they were welcome to come along. Some unrepresented Churches were brought to the attention of the group: The Free Baptist Church in Queen Margaret Drive; Mustard Seed Hall in Well Gardens, Woodside, and Collydean Baptist's Church. Several of those present at our meeting volunteered to inform these churches via someone known to them.

Note from secretary – please let me know if help is needed with this.

Mary Patey had asked about current developments associated with The Church of Scotland Covenanted Fellowship. Rev. Alan Kimmitt advised that there is a meeting of the Steering Group planned for 9th April and more would be known then. The question will be raised again at our next meeting.

The annual Easter service on East Lomond (Falkland Hill) is planned to go ahead again this year meeting in the car park there at around 7:00 am for a short worship service and an Agape communion. Everyone is welcome. St Luke's have agreed to supply the bacon rolls this year.

'Thy Kingdom Come' - the nine days of prayer before Pentecost was raised by Fr. Philip Kerr. This celebration has been hosted in the past online via Zoom by St. Columba's. The sharing of prayer was co-ordinated by Irene Ure. It was agreed that Bill Devlin and Sally McElroy would contact Irene about shared prayer groups on iure@churchofscotland.org.uk

Church marking and celebration of Holy Week was also discussed. Services in all churches are to be advertised when finalised. Email event details to George at gkcarratt@blueyonder.co.uk with pdf or jpg poster/flyer attachments.

AOCB

S.A.M.H. is holding a series of online courses and details can be obtained directly from Allen Phillips at Church of Christ at the Glamis Centre. The course lasts for ten to twelve weeks. All that is required to enrol is a name and an email address and SAMH will follow up. This course is open to anyone with any interest in or experience of mental health issues.

Steve Saunders remarked on the disappointing response to the invitation to house prayer group meetings and it was agreed that Bill Devlin would issue another email to renew the invitation. It was suggested that one meeting a month might be held.

Members were reminded that GROW are still trying to recruit a youth out-reach worker. It was agreed that we will advertise this on our website.

John Baker mentioned that there had been a bit of a saga regarding a missing soup pot following the friendship meal in January. It was agreed that a donation of £50 would be made from our funds as compensation for the missing pot.

Dates and venues for meetings:

- May 10th, 2023, 7.30pm, St Luke's Church, Warout
- AGM, 14th June.7.30pm at the Church of Christ, Glamis Centre, Glenrothes

The meeting closed with the sharing of the Grace together at 8:30 p.m.

Web page - <http://gkc82.atwebpages.com/gct.html>