

**Stated Annual Meeting
Eaglesham Parish Church
Sunday 26 March 2017**

- Welcome** Wendy Armstrong, Session Clerk and Chairperson, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. Wendy also thanked Craig Wishart for taking the minutes.
- Constitution** Wendy read from Matthew's Gospel, chapter 28, verses 16-20 – 'The Great Commission'. This was followed by a prayer to constitute the meeting in which she made special mention of the Minister Andrew Robertson in view of the recent sad passing of his mother and his resultant indisposition.
- Apologies** Apologies were submitted on behalf of the Rev. Andrew Robertson, Brian and Hannah Fraser and Richard and Sandra Morton
- Agenda** The agenda was adopted as printed.
- Minutes** Minutes of the Stated Annual Meeting of 20th March 2016, having been circulated previously were approved, with the amendment under 'Carswell Project' where the sum raised by the congregation was £200,000 not £2,000 as stated. The minutes were adopted as read on the proposal of Mearns Brown seconded by Giles Blair.
- Chair's Remarks** The past year had been eventful with the induction of our new Minister and his family and the mutual process of getting to know each other. A new stream of services, Kairos, had been successfully introduced and we had taken part in a Church of Scotland initiative, Future Focus, allowing us to reflect on where we are as a Church and to develop future plans. Those developments and initiatives were based on firmly established, existing and firm foundations manifested in a successful and competent team system. Congregational life was overseen and smoothly run. Wendy thanked all the many and varied people who Contributed to the Church's successful organisation. Wendy concluded her remarks by thanking Ian Gray and Ian Cameron on celebrating 30 years service as elders. Wendy's full report is contained in Appendix 1 and 1A attached.
- Roll** Ian Gray, Congregational Rollkeeper, advised the meeting that the roll at 1st January 2016 stood at 518. 5 new members had been admitted, 14 had been removed due to death, 7 otherwise, leaving a total of 502 members at 31st December 2016. There were 45 elders; 19 on the supplementary roll; 2 baptisms had been carried out, 5 weddings and 18 funerals. Ian's report is contained in Appendix 2 attached. Ian was thanked by the Chair for his diligence.

Treasurer's Report Elspeth Napier, Treasurer, thanked the Admin Team, David Reid for his budget work and Ronnie McIntyre for Gift Aid. She thanked Maureen Hunter for keeping everything in check and Jim Alexander for his work in Fabric. Elspeth then presented the 2016 accounts to the Kirk Session. In brief, Elspeth noted that the Church made a loss last year of £11,336 which had the effect of reducing our main reserves from £32,143 to £20,841 with Fabric reserves remaining at £25,739. The major decrease in funds was in the Youth Leader fund and the reserves for that had been reduced by £5,685 to fulfil our commitment. An appeal had been made to the congregation and Elspeth thanked those who had responded. However, there was money in the Reserve account but that was a finite resource. Mission and Aid was up by £6,000 and that together with Presbytery dues amounted to £93,231 and we had no control over that expenditure; staff costs (organist, hallkeeper and secretary) amounted to £18,500 with Fabric for next year being trimmed to £20,000; Fabric costs were up due to exceptional expenditure on the manse consequent on the vacancy; there were other exceptional costs associated with the vacancy and those were non recurring; water and council tax were now back to expected levels after some refunding and a permanent occupation of the manse respectively. With regard to the 'Balance Sheet' on page 4 Elspeth noted that it showed an increase on 2015 but that was due to activity on the Buildings account. Elspeth concluded by stating that the (rolling) budget had been fairly accurate and for next year a shortfall of £6,391 was predicted. On the positive side, use of the Carswell Centre was healthy financially and income for the Gemmell statues would continue at £2,500 per annum. No questions were asked and the 2016 Accounts were then approved by the congregation on Elspeth's assurance that they had been audited and approved by the external examiner. Elspeth was then thanked by the Chair for her diligence. The full Finance Report is contained in Appendix 3 and 3A attached.

Fabric Jim Alexander, Fabric Convener, reported on work carried out during the year on our buildings. The manse was now 25 years old with £11,000 having to be spent on renewing roughcast. A shower, the dishwasher and washing machine had been replaced and problems had been encountered with a toilet, fridge freezer and gas fire. Our new Minister and family were settling in to their new home. At the Church, water ingress problems of the previous year had been resolved apart from an issue internally at the steeple above the clock. Jim noted that the clock had been serviced in January 2017 but the bell hammer required repair. He also drew the congregation's attention to the fact that it had been a long time since the Church had been decorated. During the year walls had been washed, paintwork renewed and holes plastered. Laird Hall: a problem with heating system leaks had been addressed. Carswell Centre: problems with the lift were ongoing and a roof repair would be addressed shortly to stop water ingress. Jim concluded by

thanking his Wednesday team who turned up faithfully saving the congregation a lot of money, farmer friends and Liz MacLachlan who also did a power of work on the congregation's behalf. Jim was likewise thanked by the Chair for his report the full content of which is contained in Appendix 4 attached.

Carswell Project

Jim Alexander gave a brief report, compiled by Brian Fraser convener of the Buildings Committee, intimating the conclusion of the re-configuration and refurbishment of the Carswell building. The project had been completed on time and within budget at a total cost of £687,494.65. Terrific fundraising through efforts made by the congregation and generous support of major funders and individual donors ensured that no money was spent which the project did not have. Remaining works would be completed shortly without any accrual of debt and, perhaps, leaving a small surplus. Anyone with a continuing standing order could now cease payment. Willingness of the congregation and of individuals within the Church and Eaglesham community, combined to influence outside major funders, including the Church General Trustees, to support the project financially. Some issues remained such as solving a problem with the lift which would allow retention money to be paid, plus completion of some works not originally part of the concept but for which funding had been acquired, would be finished: full window replacement (now completed), stone cleaning of the front elevation and an essential roof repair. Housing of the Eaglesham statues, at an annual rental from East Renfrewshire Council of £2,500 (shortly to be cleaned, screened with added interpretative panels), together with permanent display of the Eaglesham Quilt would fit well with our concept of a Church Centre with a strong community focus. Jim was, again, thanked by the Chair for presenting Brian's report. There were no questions and the full content of the report is contained in Appendix5 attached.

A.O.B.

None

Benediction

That concluded the business. Wendy Armstrong thanked the congregation for attending and the meeting was ended with the saying of the Grace.

----- **Chairperson**

----- **Clerk**