

Yester, Bolton and Saltoun Kirk Session Minute

Annual Congregational Meeting 2018

1 Sederunt The meeting took place following the morning service in Yester on 10 June 2018, at 12.05pm. Rev Sandy Horsburgh, Moderator, presided, with John Macfarlane acting as Session Clerk *pro tempore*, and Finlay Marshall, Treasurer, presenting the Annual Report and Accounts. A further thirty three congregational members were present.

2 Opening Rev Horsburgh opened the meeting with prayer and explained that John Macfarlane was acting as Session Clerk *pro tempore* on this occasion in place of Alastair Wyllie who was unavailable. It was also confirmed that John Macfarlane had taken the oath for this temporary appointment.

3 Apologies Apologies were received from Alastair Wyllie, Margaret Wyllie, and Anne Wood.

4 Minutes The Minutes of the 2017 AGM were taken as read and approved by the congregation.

5 Accounts The Report and Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2017 in the required form were presented by Finlay Marshall, copies being circulated. Mr. Marshall began by first referring to the regrettable fraud and defalcation which had recently occurred at Chalmers Memorial Church at Port Seton, which had been facilitated by the Treasurer and Independent Examiner having a family or personal relationship, and the Accounts being handed over for what seemed to have been a very cursory examination late and without proper back up financial documentation: these circumstances did not apply in our own case where there was no connection of that kind and the independent examination was carried out at appropriate length, supported by full bank statements, vouchers etc and with ample time for the independent examiner to do what was necessary and request further information if required. He hoped that this would provide appropriate reassurance in relation to our own finances.

Mr. Marshall then turned to the Accounts and reported that the outcome on the General Fund (being the day to day operations of the church) was very nearly the same as last year, apart from heating expenditure, which reflected the bulk purchase of fuel for Yester. The Restoration & Ceiling Fund figures reflected the fundraising and expenditure associated with the restoration of the ceiling at Saltoun, and the rebuilding of former fabric reserves, in a manner which it was hoped would not incur liability for Ministries and Mission contribution. Mr. Marshall recorded his thanks to James Paterson and his committee for all their work in connection with the Saltoun Church ceiling restoration: it was anticipated that the VAT incurred on the works would be recoverable but a claim had not yet been made. Overall, he hoped that the finances would break even in the present year and that this could be maintained.

No questions were raised and the Accounts were accepted without further comment.

6 Thanks The Moderator expressed the congregation's thanks to the Treasurer, and also to John Macfarlane, Deputy Treasurer, and to Andrew Gobourn, the Independent Examiner, for their efforts in preparing and presenting the Accounts in the approved form.

The Moderator took the opportunity also to express his thanks to Alastair Wyllie as Session Clerk for his assistance in relation to his time as Interim Moderator. Mr. Macfarlane expressed the congregation's thanks to the Moderator for re-arranging his diary to facilitate today's meeting and for fulfilling his other duties as Interim Moderator on the congregation's behalf.

7 Closure The meeting then closed with the Benediction.

..... Rev Aniko Schuetz Bradwell, Moderator

..... Alastair J Wyllie, Session Clerk

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