

# Netherlee and Stamperland (Church of Scotland)

## Kirk Session at Stamperland

7.30pm on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020

### 1 CONSTITUTION

Scott welcomed everyone to the first Kirk Session of the recently united charge of Netherlee and Stamperland. The meeting was constituted by Rev Scott Blythe with Prayer.

### 2 SEDERUNT & APOLOGIES

There were 62 Elders present with apologies from 8 Elders as per the Sederunt Sheet. It was intimated that an offering for Tear Fund would be collected (Netherlee tradition) but that this could be reviewed for future meetings if this was the wish (or not) of the Kirk Session.

### 3 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

The draft Agenda was agreed with 8 additional items under AOCB.

### 4 DISCUSSION TOPICS – please also refer to APPENDICES A, B and C

Scott organised the Kirk Session into 6 groups for the discussions to follow, and asked that the groups be remembered for use at the upcoming Elder's Conference on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March. Scott then presented some thoughts and areas for discussion on the future of our united church. Whilst discussing our purpose, structure and worship Scott made it clear this was the start of a journey. It was unlikely we would decide everything tonight, in fact he rather we didn't. Tonight we hope for ideas to emerge and be considered. They are not top secret, so between now and the Elder's Conference and beyond please keep talking with colleagues, members of your district, and the congregation in full. When change takes place it is inevitable that not everyone gets what they want, everyone is going to have to compromise. Our hope is that by this September we will at least have the new group and committee structure in place to support the purpose we decide to move forward with.

1. **Define an overall vision and purpose for our new united church** – Scott reminded us that our reflection process had come up with the following directions and aims:

- **Need to be working more together**
- **Need to be 'seen' to be working more together**
- **Need to be worshipping more together**

We also need to be thinking about how church has changed:

- **No longer the monopoly of Sunday mornings that we had**
- **Churches have lost connection with culture at large in terms of spirituality**
- **We are no longer the only community resource**
- **We are competitors with what the modern economy provides for people to do**

We need to develop a purpose in which we seek to offer something that cannot be found anywhere else and speaks to our faith:

- **For example, become 'A means of Grace in this Place' which applied to say the work we do with Food Banks – is it gracious? YES – is it generous? YES**
- **Another example, 'We are folk who care for this community, with whom we share our space' – is what we do and believe in supported by these words?**

- *The task for the 6 groups, wherein lie many clever word-smiths and creative people, is to come up with ideas for a short statement that describes our purpose going forward.*

- **see Appendix A for an overview of the responses from all 6 groups**

2. **Begin to decide the committee and group structure we will need** – Scott explained that the two congregations have some similarities in their committee and group structures. Naturally there are differences as well. Looking forward it makes sense to take the time now to review what we have that we need to keep, and what we need to take us on our new journey. We need to cover the areas shown below in any structure we create for the next few years. It is OK to suggest merging some of these areas into ‘reasonable’ combined working groups.

WORSHIP	WIDER MISSION	LOCAL MISSION
FABRIC	EDUCATION	FINANCE
TIME TOGETHER	YOUTH WORK	PASTORAL CARE

- *The task for the 6 groups is to discuss what structure you think would work best, including any combined areas you think would fit well together.*
  - **see Appendix B for an overview of the responses from all 6 groups**
3. **Agree the worship schedule** – Scott began by pointing out that joint worship meets all the expressed wishes of our reflection process, and in addition:
- **People enjoy the larger numbers present within the worshipping community**
  - **It prevents first service providers losing minister for second service**
  - **It prevents heating two churches for same service**
  - **It allows minister to have time with whole community after the service – helpful for planning the following week**
  - **It will allow the Sunday schools to work together, which we know both will appreciate**

Scott suggested that options including an odd number of ‘blocks’ in a year would work best as this would prevent key dates (e.g. Christmas, Easter or Remembrance) always being in the same space. He is getting tired from the work involved with the current dual services and that short (e.g. weekly) swaps would likely cause confusion. Consideration could be given to the acoustics of the two spaces and the choral tradition that we have. Whether we use ‘seasons’ or time blocks we should strive for a 50/50 sharing – we do not want a solution that creates winners and losers. No-one will get all they want, it has to work and feel fair, so there needs to be compromise from us all.

- *The task for the 6 groups is to present ideas that will help us make this happen.*
  - **see Appendix C for an overview of the responses from all 6 groups**
4. **Feedback on what it might mean to be a church with 2 buildings** – Scott noted that there had been feedback on this tonight via the discussions already held. He asked that if anyone had further comments to make could they **send them direct to himself and/or the Session Clerk.**

## 5 WRITTEN REPORTS

Scott intimated that the current format would continue until our new structure is in place.

- **Stamperland**  
Scott asked the Conveners for any motions to propose or highlights to mention. There were none.  
Scott asked the Trustees if they had any questions. There were none.  
Scott asked the Trustees if they accepted all reports as presented. Those present agreed.

- Netherlee

Scott asked the Conveners for any motions to propose or highlights to mention:

Allan Mathieson (Treasurer & Finance Convener) requested approval for the Finance Committee's suggestions for the retiring collections at Communion:

- March – East Renfrewshire Foodbank
- June – Glasgow South East Foodbank
- September – Water Aid
- December – Lodging House Mission

Session Clerk raised a request to include Leprosy Mission following last year's presentation by Rev Stewart Smith. The month of May was proposed, perhaps with another presentation. Alistair Gow pointed out that as these choices were for Netherlee and Stamperland then all Trustees should be consulted rather than just those from Netherlee. This was accepted as the correct procedure, and all those present agreed with the proposed suggestions.

Scott asked the Trustees if they had any questions. There were none.

Scott asked the Trustees if they accepted all reports as presented. Those present agreed.

## 6 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

Kirk Session minute of 04/11/2019 was approved.

Kirk Session minute of 01/12/2019 had not been circulated in advance of the meeting, therefore it will be circulated and approval sought at the next Kirk Session (see below).

## 7 ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

1. The new Netherlee and Stamperland Elder's Directory is available at this meeting – please advise the Church Office of any errors or omissions.
2. Reminder to inform Patricia McKenzie or Grace Scott of anyone who would benefit from support available from our Pastoral Care teams.
3. Reminder to inform Vicky Anderson of anyone who would benefit from support available from our Care & Share team.
4. Shrove Tuesday (25<sup>th</sup> February) pancakes, coffee and chat at Netherlee from 10am to 12 noon and from 2pm to 4pm. Help required at 9am and 4pm with setting up and taking down the tables and chairs. Stuart Buchanan, Niall and Helen Illingworth volunteered.
5. Christian Aid Art Exhibition on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March from 10am to 4pm. Help required on the day with serving tea and coffee, and importantly with the set up during the day on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March – please contact Marjorie Lang or Vicky Anderson.
6. Iain Alexander (Fabric Convener) intimated that after many years of hard work and helpful guidance, Alan Edgar is stepping down from the Fabric Committee. Iain will write to Alan on behalf of the Kirk Session thanking him for his service. Iain appealed for a volunteer to replace Alan, assuring everyone that having actual property or building knowledge is really not necessary.
7. Insertion for the Inspection of Records – ***It is certified that Safeguarding recruitment procedures are being adhered to, an accurate record is being held of all persons doing regulated Work with Children and Protected Adults in organisations under the jurisdiction of the Kirk Session and that the Congregation's Safeguarding Coordinators are appropriately trained to allow these persons to be accredited as authorised signatories for PVG record check.*** A Safeguarding Panel has been formed. The Minister cannot be a member as following any situation there is likely to be a pastoral role. To date the members are Bruce Young, Glenda Cook and Stuart Buchanan.
8. Insertion from Glasgow Presbytery – **Union of Netherlee Parish Church and Stamperland Parish Church** *Formal notification is given for the minutes of Netherlee/Stamperland of the union of the parishes of Netherlee and Stamperland. The service of union having been held in Stamperland Parish Church on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020, the parishes of Glasgow: Stamperland and Glasgow: Netherlee are now united as Netherlee and Stamperland (Church of Scotland).*

## 8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING(S)

- Elder's Conference from 12:30pm to 4pm on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at Netherlee
- Netherlee
  - Trustees Meeting at 7:30pm on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at Netherlee
  - Stated Annual Meeting at 11:30am on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020 at Netherlee
- Stamperland
  - *Trustees Meeting held at 12:30pm on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2020 at Stamperland*
  - Stated Annual Meeting at 12:30pm on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at Stamperland
- Kirk Session at 7:30pm on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020 at Netherlee
  - Wider Mission Group on teas and coffee – many thanks
- Group and Committee meetings as per schedules issued

## 9 CLOSE

The meeting was closed with all present saying the Grace.

### APPENDICES A, B and C DISCUSSION NOTE(S)

### ANNEX WRITTEN REPORTS PRESENTED TO THE MEETING

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Scott Blythe  
Minister

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Stuart Buchanan  
Session Clerk

# Appendix A

purpose

PUTTING U AT THE  
HEART OF COMMUNITY

OPEN  
WELCOME  
CARE + SHARE  
HEART FOR ART  
LUNCH CLUB  
SERVE

WE ARE FOLK WHO CARE FOR COMMUNITY,  
WITH WHOM WE SHARE OUR SPACE

NEIGHBOURS  
TIME + TALENTS  
FOOD  
ISOLATION  
LONELY PEOPLE  
COMMUNITY  
PASTORAL CARE  
BE RADICAL ?

YOU MATTER, WE CARE,  
NOT JUST ON SUNDAY

ADVERTISE  
PUBLICISE  
COMMUNICATION

RESIDENTS PACK  
COMMUNITY MAGAZINE  
FAITH IN ACTION

? steering/business committee

structure

Appendix B

SAFEGUARDING  
ECO  
H + S

FABRIC  
+ FINANCE

JOIN  
?

FINANCE  
+ FABRIC  
EMPLOYEES

WORSHIP  
+ EDUCATION ✓  
+ YOUTH ✓  
+ FAMILY  
+ TIME TOGETHER

MISSION  
LOCAL + ✓  
WIDER? ✓  
FUND RAISING

TIME TOGETHER  
+ LOCAL MISSION

YOUTH

PASTORAL CARE ✓

COMMUNICATION  
CONNECTIONS  
DIGITAL  
BANNERS...

? fund raising  
? stewardship

1 website

1 facebook

FINANCIAL PROJECTION FOR LONGER TERM THOUGHTS/GUIDANCE:

worship

Appendix C

+ WEDNESDAY SERVICE, at building not used on the previous Sunday.

GO MONTHLY? ← Christmas always at...  
Odd at one  
Even the other.

BLOCKS OF WORSHIP

JAN - APR
MAY - AUG
SEP - DEC

ADVENT - LENT
LENT - SUMMER
SUMMER - ADVENT

- Joint Sunday School ✓
- More joint services ✓
- Save heating costs ✓
- Spend Ⓢ acoustics X

TOO MUCH/TOO SOON  
some folk won't go to other church (whatever we do?)

COMMS. IS KEY  
TO ENSURE  
ALL ABLE TO  
ATTEND + TRANSPORT

SP/SD SPLIT TO BE FAIR

ONLY NEED 1 SANCTUARY  
STILL LOTS OF RESISTANCE \*