

St. Andrew's Kirk, Glass
Potential trust Members

Meeting 12th December 2019
at Glebe House, Glass

Minutes

The meeting was held at 1100, present were:

Ted Andrews EAA

Pam Ingleby PI

Tom McWilliam TW

The meeting discussed the duties as laid out by OSCR for trustees and all confirmed their desire to be trustees provided that they will be protected from personal liabilities as laid out in the Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO).

EAA undertook to confirm with Burnett and Reid that SCIO is the appropriate way forward to meet their requirements and to report back.

It was agreed that EAA would be the primary contact.

It was agreed that it should be a single layer trust.

It was agreed that the primary aim of the trust is to preserve the church as a church and accordingly no physical changes to the interior of the building (excepting the potential installation of washing and toilet facilities in the vestry) would be made. This to include the possible removal of pews.

It was agreed that uses such as exhibitions of appropriate art, stained glass etc would be encouraged

It was agreed that the use of the building for choirs, musical events and the use of the existing organ would be welcome.

The use of the church for planned events e.g. Christmas carol service would continue as at present.

EAA explained that visitors to the graveyard researching ancestry were encouraged to enter the church to view the records collected so far and that this could be developed into a more extensive exhibit and eventually all these possible uses would be advertised on a dedicated website.

Ongoing costs of the building were currently being met by the owners and EAA detailed the 2 major items: insurance and electricity supply.

The on-going insurance is presently bundled in with the insurance for Glebe House and is thought to be in the region of £2000 per annum. It was

explained that insurance for the church for the period 25th September 2019 to 25th September 2020 is provided by Hiscox and unlimited cover is provided. A recent inspection was made by a Hiscox representative and a written report is expected although when leaving the inspector had nothing to say about the church.

EAA explained that the high cost of this insurance reflects the listed status of the building and its unusual (for insurers) use. He also explained that specialist ecclesiastical insurers were available but not for privately owned churches. He cited the example of the community-owned church at Clochan which had obtained insurance cover at a cost of £1600.

The electricity supply (lighting and off peak energy) is approximately £160 standing charge plus any usage which is currently recovered from users e.g. the community association.

Rates are not payable on the empty building.

EAA undertook to draw up the business plan as required for the OSCR submission and there was some limited discussion regarding potential income and funding. The George Gordon legacy was discussed and it was agreed to try to find out what had happened to it. EAA also mentioned the book written by Elizabeth Lawson which is a detailed history of the church. EAA will attempt to contact Ms Lawson with a view to asking for her agreement to resurrect the book so that it could be sold for potential income. TW suggested contacting both Amy Simpson and Marina Alexander who might well have knowledge of the legacy and information about Ms Lawson.

The information provided by Angela Dow (architect) was discussed and it was agreed that taking steps for the provision of toilet and washing facilities should wait until it is clearer regarding the outcome of the OSCR submission. EAA undertook to find out from Angela Dow if her fee would be part of or separate from any grant funding that she might undertake to obtain. Her excellent track record in obtaining funding for churches was discussed.

The potential need for a website and a face book presence was discussed and it was agreed that we should try to find a friendly advisor on using face book.

There being no further business the meeting was closed with no date set for another except when more information is available.