

## LAGGAN AND NEWTONMORE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND KIRK SESSION

### Minutes of meeting held via Zoom on 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2021 DRAFT

**1. Welcome.** Rev. Catherine Buchan welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with a Bible reading and prayer.

**2: Present** Rev Catherine Buchan, Alison Armstrong, Campbell Slimon, Phyllis Henderson, Beth Alder, Morag Barr, Jean Slimon, Graham Grant, Lesley Gorman, Ian Hall,  
In attendance George Alder

**3. Apologies.** Ray Ritchie, Heather Bruce, Roy Alexander, Mary Kirk, Hilda Saunders

#### **4. Approval of Session Minutes held on 16/03/2021**

*March 28<sup>th</sup>*, should be inserted after Sunday services in line 1 of Section 2. Subject to this change minutes were:

**Approved** Phyllis Henderson, **Seconded**, Lesley Gorman

**5. Matters Arising.** Business size church info cards ? To be removed for now. Communications team including Kingussie. Kingussie are happy to be involved, so far Eppy and Roy are on it, Catherine is to ask 2 others. Church website. Helen is working on it. Letter to members re opening of churches and general publicity was sent out by Catherine and put on the website. Completed Buildings checklist for re-opening to Presbytery actioned by George. Laggan toilets all running smoothly Newtonmore Vestibule and Electricity providers are discussed in Property report. Presbytery funds for broadband in church £4000 is available for our linkage, Catherine to talk to Ian and 2 others to form a small team to apply for this to look at putting broadband into the churches. Accounts signed by Catherine, they are on the website, and as there is no Stated Annual Meeting, Catherine will advise in the newsletter that people can see them on the website or contact Roy for a copy. Community Food Table the contact from the Co-op has not been back in touch, Catherine to continue to pursue.

**6: Minister's Report:** An edict was read out on Sunday, proposing Mary Stewart as our Interim Moderator, to steer us through the vacancy left by Catherine's decision to move on. She will oversee worship arrangements and see that everything is dealt with properly. Decisions will have to be made about keeping the manse or selling and buying somewhere else. Charles Finnie is to chair the Vacancy Procedure Committee and will meet with Session to advise on procedure including electing a Nominating Committee. A Parish Profile of the linkage will have to be compiled by both Sessions though as one report. The VPC have the power to act on behalf of Presbytery.

The church roll is up to date which will be important in the electing of a Nominating Committee.

Catherine is going to set up a church email address which can be used for communicating church business. She will also advise Mary Stewart of the topics she has been covering in her sermons for continuation, though any decision will ultimately be Mary's.

Catherine will forward to all elders the Church of Scotland document on re-opening churches. Even in Level 0 at the end of June, there is no singing or teas after church.

Andrew Kimmit from Aberlour Church is travelling the Spey from source to sea in a single day as a sponsored event for Christian Aid. He has suggested all churches along the Spey also cover a portion

of the Speyside Way in Christian Aid week and raise money for them. Catherine will circulate the letter to elders and Alison will put details on the website. Laggan could do the pre Speyside way bit.

**7: Church Sale.** Campbell proposed a date in late September, and that we should get our venison from Jamaha estate, who provided venison for the over 80s last Christmas and will supply it all packaged. Simpsons no longer want to deal with it and there were complications with Gow's. This was agreed, Campbell will liaise with them re price. Campbell will also book the Hall for 25<sup>th</sup> September with the sale being in the morning, and work with the Outreach team re arrangements. There is the possibility the sale may have to be modified depending on any covid restrictions.

**8: Safeguarding Report:** No updates.

**9: Financial Report:** no updates

**10: Property Report : (report attached)**

4 Green energy companies have been approached, George will circulate Session when he has received their quotes and a decision can be made without the need to wait for a session meeting. The property register is being reviewed and will be signed by Catherine when completed and sent to Presbytery.

The Newtonmore bells and garden table need attention. Catherine will speak to Mary as the table belongs to Rhyme Time, and George will investigate the bells.

**11: Reports from other Session Groups:** Outreach group reported that the Highland Games are not being held, so there will be no church stall. The next event is the church picnic, it will depend on the covid status as to whether this will be possible, it will be reviewed regularly

**12: Presbytery Report : (attached)** Ian highlighted some of the matters discussed. The buildings report which is mentioned has already been circulated to elders and will be discussed in more detail at the next session meeting.

**13: AOCB** - It was agreed that humming hymns worked, especially with Catherine reading the words.

**15. DONM** Monday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2021 7.00pm

The meeting closed in prayer. **DRAFT**