

Minutes of the Church Meeting July 1st 2025 at 7pm

Present Rev Elsie Fraser and 18 members, no non-members

Apologies from 7 members

Rev Elsie Fraser opened the meeting with a reading from Hebrews chapter 10 v 19-25 followed by prayer.

The minutes of the church meeting for December 5th 2024 and the minutes of the AGM of March 18th 2025 were accepted and signed as a correct record after one small amendment to finance that Elsie's stipend is set by the BU.

Matters Arising

The card reader is still ongoing

Computer

Elsie, Les & Tony have met together to discuss what computer would be best for the church needs. They had decided that two computers was the best way to meet our needs. This means that one computer would be for church service use only and a second one in the office for general use. Tony has obtained a grant to cover the cost of the general use one and a donation of £500 had already been received which means that there was no cost to the church. If the computer screen on the church one is not large enough then we will need to purchase a monitor which would mean a cost of around £200.

Community Pastor

We were sorry to learn from Les that he had not renewed his contract at the end of June. We need a larger team to operate the multimedia on Sundays. Stephen volunteered to join a team. Les to arrange a training session for those interested.

We need someone from the church to take over running Daniels Den from the restart in September. Some of the adults who attend are willing to help. We are asked to pray about this. We record our thanks to Les for all the work he has done for our church. We also thanked Paul for his work with Daniels Den.

Membership and Pastoral Matters

The service for Phil Dennet was held at the church on June 5th 2025. Three new members have been received into the church Stephen McGill and Elsie and Alex Fraser.

Several of our congregation need our prayers at this time. Elsie then led the meeting in prayer. Thanks are recorded to the caring committee for the work they do. Urgent

prayer request should have the consent of the person needing prayer so that it can be sent out to the church people by email.

Safeguarding

All the DBS checks have now been completed. We are still in need of a designated person. We were asked to pray about this. Elsie will update the church safeguarding policy.

Fabric

Paul had got Chris Mills to try and seal the baptistry, but this was not successful. Paul has contacted Baptistry Uk for a quote to laminate the inside of the baptistry. The quote is for £5,376; we have received a donation of £1000 towards this. The radiator would need to be removed. It would be possible to borrow a portable heater from another church when required. After discussion a vote of members was then taken with the majority and just one abstention in agreement that we go ahead with this work. Thanks to Paul Gardner and David Ballard for their work on this. They hope to receive samples of colours later this week.

The fuses at the manse have blown again and it was agreed to get three quotes to replace the circuit board. The manse side gate will be fitted on July 16th. Alex and Stephen were thanked for the work they have done at the manse.

Community Hall

Paul and David to look at what work needs doing in the hall. Stephen offered to do the decorating. Tony said that it may be possible to get a B&Q grant towards the cost, maximum limit £10000. Any Issues with IT or Tranquility Cafe, Tony is the budget holder for these. Paul and David for fabric maintenance. There are problems in the hall with condensation during the winter.

Ministry Update

Elsie will be starting a new series based on 1 Peter for the Sunday services. If anyone has a topic, they would like to follow please let Elsie know. Elsie has drawn up a questioner about the weekly bible study, a new plan will be drawn up for September.

It has been nice to welcome some of the people who come to the tranquility cafe to our Sunday morning services. It has been good to befriend and talk to these people. Tony & Pam were thanked for the work they do at tranquility.

Room Bookings

Margaret and David Ballard have been responsible for the bookings of the hall for the last 15 years and would like to step down from this job. We now need someone to take

over this task, we were asked to give this serious prayer. David and Margaret were thanked for their work.

Finance

The independent report has been put on the members section of the church website. If anyone has any issues please speak to Janet or Christine by July 20th, all agreed.

At this point Elsie and Alex left the meeting while we discussed a proposal for Elsie to become our full-time minister at a new stipend of £29,575. A discussion then took place on our finances for paying this. It would mean that there would be a shortfall that would need to be made up from church funds. The finance committee stated that this would be feasible although it would be good if members could reconsider their giving.

Paul then proposed and Tony seconded that we invite Elsie to become fulltime minister. It was agreed by all. Elsie and Alex where then asked to rejoin the meeting. Elsie was then told of the decision and agreed to become our full-time minister.

Padley

May stated that she would like someone to help transfer the items collected for the Padley Centre. Stephen offered to help.

First Aid

It was stated that we should have some people trained to do first aid. We may be able to get financial help for this training. Sheila is already a first aider.

Phone Number

Pam informed the meeting that her phone number in the new directory is wrong, it should be 01332 792174.

Date of Next Meeting

Sunday September 21st after the church service

Christmas donations to be considered at this meeting.

Elsie closed the meeting with prayer

Signature -----

Date -----

