



**Church of Scotland  
Presbytery of Edinburgh & West Lothian**

***Steering Group***  
**Newhaven Church (NC)**  
**North Leith Parish Church (NLPC)**  
**South Leith Parish Church (SLPC)**

***Notes / minutes of Meeting No 2 held on Thursday 7 April 2022 @ SLPC***

<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome</b>	The Chair welcomed the representatives of the 3 congregations present (see Sederunt below).
<b>2</b>	<b>Sederunt</b>	Karen McKay (Chair), Rev Peter Bluett, Rev Iain May, John Hodge, Anne Lamont, Anne Rutherford, Susan Edwards, Keith Martin, Jen Robertson, Gavin Booth, Colin MacNeill, Michelle Doig, Sheena Glen
	<b>Apologies</b>	Tim Bell, Stewart Lowe
<b>3</b>	<b>Prayer</b>	The Chair opened / constituted the meeting with prayer.
<b>4</b>	<b>Minutes of previous meeting</b>	The minutes from Meeting 1, held on 14 March 2022, previously circulated, were approved.
<b>5</b>	<b>Introduction - Scribe</b>	It had been previously agreed that a Minute Taker would be appointed, on a congregational rotating basis, for each Steering Group meeting. This placed whoever was nominated to take the minutes in a difficult position as it is not easy to participate effectively in a meeting while attempting to record what is said and decided. For consistency, the Chair had accepted Hugh McDiarmid's offer to act as "Scribe" for the Steering Group, thus removing the need for a rotation of personnel. The Group agreed to Hugh's appointment, on a <i>non contributory</i> basis.

Agenda	Item	Notes
6	The Five Marks of Mission (see Agenda)	<p>The main activity for this meeting was to consider where each congregation was in relation to the Five Marks. Accordingly, the Group split into 2 smaller (mixed) groups to discuss these. The Chair and Ministers present, plus scribe, did not take part in the discussions. The following points were made demonstrating and highlighting current activities:</p> <p><b>Mark 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The need and desire to proclaim the good news through Sunday services, online and websites – a presence in the community</li> <li>➤ The Church as a local hub</li> <li>➤ Formal teaching and worship</li> <li>➤ The Church is open to the community – in particular, Community Cafes</li> <li>➤ Focus on the young - Youth Worker, work in schools, holiday clubs, BBs, Guides, Rainbows, Brownies</li> <li>➤ All age worship, parent and toddler groups</li> <li>➤ Bible studies, Thursday afternoon group, The Haven (for seniors), Womens Group</li> <li>➤ Summer fun days – involving all</li> </ul> <p><b>Mark 2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Baptise, teach and nurture all</li> <li>➤ Sunday services and Bible studies</li> <li>➤ Alpha courses</li> <li>➤ Growth / house groups</li> <li>➤ Blessings, preaching and “Thought for the Week”</li> <li>➤ Relationships – especially with local schools and politicians</li> </ul> <p><b>Mark 3</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Newhaven and South Leith Cafes, Sunday morning breakfasts, Foodbank – including community volunteer</li> <li>➤ Christmas Day meals, coffee mornings</li> <li>➤ Special collections / offerings</li> <li>➤ Overseas partners</li> <li>➤ Night Shelter and Care Van</li> <li>➤ Christian Aid and Water Aid</li> <li>➤ Homeless breakfasts</li> <li>➤ Success stories of individuals “moving on”</li> <li>➤ Foodbank</li> <li>➤ Child development – Toddlers group(s)</li> <li>➤ Café activities</li> <li>➤ The Haven</li> </ul>

Agenda	Item	Notes
6 continued	The Five Marks of Mission	<b>Mark 4 and Mark 5</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Working with other (external) organisations</li> <li>➤ ECO church</li> <li>➤ Pursuit of sustainability</li> </ul>
7	The Five Marks of Mission - feedback	<p>Feedback from the 2 smaller groups are listed above. Further discussion then raised the following points / questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ How can we extend and develop our activities to comprehensively cover the 5 Marks?</li> <li>➤ Is it feasible or practical to try to return to our pre-covid situation(s) and activities?</li> <li>➤ How do / will mission be accomplished, using the hub analogy / model?</li> <li>➤ The Castle Community Bank was identified as a tangible demonstration of mission</li> <li>➤ Although the discussions this evening had been focussed on “what we do just now”, it would be necessary for the Group to revisit the Five Marks, to review and to inform the moulding of our way forward, especially in the development of our (collective) mission narrative</li> </ul>
8	Communication Team	<p>Gavin, Jen and Michelle presented the work they had undertaken since the last Group meeting. Firstly, Gavin issued and spoke to the document “<i>Towards Our New Parish</i>” (amended copy attached). The Group were most supportive of this, but a few suggested wording amendments were made. Gavin agreed that if these were submitted to him, he would incorporate these, and have the revised document issued for use within the 3 congregations, as an update of the Group’s work completed so far, so that everyone in the parishes and wider community were kept as completely informed as possible.</p> <p>Secondly, Jen and Michelle then demonstrated and spoke to the proposed website for our congregational group. This was considered as impressive. The website would contain all relevant and important documents, such as the Presbytery Consultation Document, along with extracts / links to / from other Church of Scotland related files. The proposed frequently asked question (FAQ) section was considered an important inclusion, allowing individual members to ask about issues which concerned them. Answers to such questions would be provided as soon as was practical, and it was agreed that the website should go live, perhaps on Easter Sunday. The cost of supporting the website, quoted at £6.50 permonth, was agreed, with Michelle to take care of this in consultation with Anne Lamont.</p>

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9	<p data-bbox="248 272 539 347">AOCB Deployment Group</p> <p data-bbox="248 632 568 663">Proposed Quiz Night</p> <p data-bbox="248 799 622 831">Steering Group Timeline</p>	<p data-bbox="660 316 2172 571">The Presbytery Resources Committee Deployment Group (DG) had been in touch to organise a meeting with our 3 congregations. It was agreed that the two visiting members of the DG, <a href="#">Rev Derek Henderson, Vice Convener of DG</a>, and <a href="#">Rev Donald Scott, Minister at Edinburgh: Priestfield</a>, would meet the Group on <a href="#">Thursday 28 April, at 7.30pm</a> within the <a href="#">South Leith Halls, Henderson Street</a> to discuss progress to date, and to answer any questions arising. It was made clear the Derek and Donald will <u>not</u> be defending the proposed plan, or entering into discussion in relation to rewriting the plan.</p> <p data-bbox="660 632 2172 730">It was suggested that a <a href="#">Quiz Night</a> would be an important way of involving our rank and file members, to allow them to get to know their colleagues. The Communication Team would take this onboard and come forward with a date, venue and format.</p> <p data-bbox="660 794 2172 893">It was agreed that it would be beneficial to construct a timeline for Steering Group activities. As there was a joint service scheduled for <a href="#">Sunday 22 May</a>, at <a href="#">Newhaven</a>, with the <a href="#">Steering Group meeting after this service</a>, the timeline would be discussed / presented then.</p>
10	Close	The Chair closed the meeting with prayer.

Minutes written: 08.04.2022 by Hugh

Vetted by Karen on 08.04.2022

Issued to Group on 08.04.2022

