**Minutes of meeting of Unitarians in Edinburgh Church Council**

Meeting held at 7pm, Monday 6th March 2023 on Zoom.

Present; Julie Finneran [Convenor], Brian Robertson, Ann Sinclair, Joan Cook.

Welcome and Apologies

There were no apologies.

Joan read some opening words which were taken from a prayer by Pope John XXIII.

Minutes

The minutes of the Council Meeting of 27th February were confirmed. (Proposed – Ann, Seconded – Julie).

Team Updates (since 27th Feb.)

Management Committee

Ann had circulated a written report. Edinburgh Roofing had visited during the week to do routine maintenance work such as gutter cleaning, removal of vegetation, etc. A short term repair was made to a leak on the hall roof. Several slates were replaced on the roof of the main church building but there was no report of anything that might cause concern.

Discussion of General Meeting held on 5th March.

Minutes had been produced and would be circulated for scrutiny and confirmation in due course. A number of useful questions had been raised which had provided opportunities to clarify certain points.

The motion, as proposed by Council, was approved namely

*to spend the amount of money required, as outlined at the meeting and in the notice to members, with freedom to spend what is required in addition where necessary to repair the Upper Hall Roof.*

Ann will be in charge of taking this forward with Hardies as per previous discussions between Hardies and the Management Committee.

Ann would inform our insurance company that the work would be proceeding.

There was some discussion of how the church finances might be managed to make sure that invoices during the work were paid on time. Brewin Dolphin would be in a strong position to advise as to which investments should be cashed in and when. It was agreed that they would be consulted. It was agreed that Brian would assist Ann where necessary.

Vacant Secretary Post

There was discussion as to the practicalities of how the various secretary tasks could be handled until a new secretary could be found. It was appreciated that until then Council was below quorum.

The weekly Bulletin was discussed. The current situation was that Naomi had passed the final copy over to other members to proof read before she distributed it by email. Work would be done to identify someone who would edit contributions and produce the final copy before distribution.   Naomi would be approached to pass on the distribution list and details of how this was currently done; also regarding the operation of Googledocs. There was discussion about people who may be able to help with the Bulletin and leadership of the Communications Team. Julie would take this all forward.

It was felt that the church Zoom account could continue to operate as it does at present.

Minutes of meetings – it was agreed that the minute-taking job would be rotated amongst Council members.

General Enquiries received electronically through online links to the Secretary would be handled by Joan initially. Any paper/postal communications were few but these would be required to be passed on.

Smart Targets

It was acknowledged that work was ongoing to tackle the various SMART targets that Council had set itself.

AOCB

Council had received Naomi’s resignation with regret but wished to formally acknowledge the considerable hard work, effort and time that Naomi had put in as Secretary for the benefit of the St Mark’s community and for her enthusiastic efforts regarding social events.

Closing Words

Joan read some words by Rev. Myrna Mitchell, a retired Unitarian Minister.

Date of next meeting – 7pm, Monday 10th April 2023 (Subsequent note added that this meeting was delayed to May 2023 due to a Council member being unexpectedly unable to attend)